<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Overview</th>
<th>Reading Material</th>
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| 1       | M 9/27 | Introduction to the experimental approach | Course overview and objective Overview of the timeline for an RCT ● how a randomized evaluation (RE) can lead to large-scale change ● a road map for an evaluation | - Book Chapter 1*  
- Glennerster, Murray, and Pouliquen (2021), *The Media or the Message? Experimental Evidence on Mass Media and Modern Contraception Uptake in Burkina Faso* |
- Duflo, Glennerster, Kremer (2008), *Using Randomization in Development Economics* (pages 1-13)*  
- Athey and Imbens (2016) *The Econometrics of Randomized Experiments* (pages 1-10)*  
- Deaton (2020), *Randomization in the Tropics Revisited: A Theme and Eleven Variations*  
- Olken (2009), *Do Television and Radio Destroy Social Capital?*  
- Almond, Doyle Jr, Kowalski, and Williams (2010), *Estimating Marginal Returns to Medical Care: Evidence from At-Risk Newborns*  
- *Indonesia Family Life Survey*  
- Lazear, Malmendier, Weber (2012), Sorting in experiments with application to social preferences |
| 3       | M 10/4 | Randomizing (part 1) | ● Opportunities to Randomize ● Choosing the Level of Randomization ● Deciding Which Aspects of the Program to Randomize | - Chapter 4.1 – 4.3*  
- Kopper and Sautmann (2020), *JPAL randomization resources*  
- Duflo and Saez (2003), *The Role of Information and Social Interactions in Retirement Plan Decisions: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment* |
| 4       | W 10/6 | Randomizing (part 2) | ● The Mechanics of Simple Randomization ● Stratified and Pairwise Randomization ● A catalogue of Designs | - Chapter 4.4 – 4.6*  
- Glennerster, Murray, and Pouliquen (2021), *The Media or the Message? Experimental Evidence on Mass Media and Modern Contraception Uptake in Burkina Faso* |
| Class 5 M 10/1 | Ethics | - Leaver, Ozier, Serneels, and Zeitlin (2020), Recruitment, Effort, and Retention Effects of Performance Contracts for Civil Servants: Experimental Evidence from Rwandan Primary Schools  
- Bruhn and McKenzie (2009), In the Pursuit of Balance: Randomization in Practice in Development Field Experiments  
- Bai (2020), Optimality of matched-pair designs in randomized controlled trials |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Class 6 W 10/13 | Outcomes and principles (part 1) | - 2 chapters from The Oxford Handbook on Professional Economic Ethics  
  - Glennerster and Powers (2013), Balancing Risk and Benefit: Ethical Tradeoffs in Running Randomized Evaluations  
  - Alderman, Das, and Rao (2016), Conducting Ethical Economic Research: Complications from the Field  
- Deaton (2020), Randomization in the Tropics Revisited: A Theme and Eleven Variations |

| Class 5 M 10/1 | Ethics | - How to think through the ethics of REs  
- The Belmont principles / IRB form  
- Why people criticize REs |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Class 6 W 10/13 | Outcomes and principles (part 1) | - Specifying Outcomes and Indicators  
- Specifying Data Sources  
- Chapter 5.1 -5.2*  
- Buchmann et al (2018), Baseline parent survey  
- Singh (2015), How standard is a standard deviation?  
- Demographic and Household Survey questionnaires  
- World Health Organization (WHO) Child growth standards  
- Angrist, Evans, Filmer, Glennerster, Rogers, and Sabarwal (2020), How to Improve Education Outcomes Most Efficiently? A Comparison of 150 Interventions Using the New
| Class 7 M 10/18 | Outcomes and principles (part 2) | - Learning-Adjusted Years of Schooling Metric  
- Book Chapter 5.3*  
- Townsend (2013), Chronicles from the Field  
|---|---|---|
| Class 8 W 10/20 | Outcomes and principles (part 3) | - Book Chapter 5.4*  
- Casey, Glennerster, Miguel (2014) Reshaping Institutions: Evidence on Aid Impacts Using a PreAnalysis Plan  
- Buchmann et al (2021), A Signal to End Child Marriage: Theory and Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh  
- Beaman et al (2009), Powerful Women: Does Exposure Reduce Bias?  
- Breza, Kaur, and Shamsadani (2017), The Morale Effects of Pay Inequality |
| Class 9 M 10/25 | Statistical power | - Book Chapter 6*  
| Class 10 W 10/27 | Increasing statistical power in practice | - Glennerster, Murray, and Pouliquen (2021), The Media or the Message? Experimental Evidence on Mass Media and Modern Contraception Uptake in Burkina Faso  
- Banerjee, Cole, Duflo, and Linden (2007), Remedy Education: Evidence from Two Randomized Experiments in India |
| Class 11 M 11/1 | Threats | - Book Chapter 7.1 – 7.2*  
- Miguel and Kremer (2004), "Worms: Identifying Impacts on Education and
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<td>Class 14 W 11/10</td>
<td>Analysis (part 3)</td>
<td>Pre-analysis plans (PAP):  ● Why, whether and how to use a PAP  ● Examples of designing PAP <em>Student presentation of proposed RCT</em></td>
<td>- Book Chapter 8.3  - Casey, Glennerster, and Miguel (2013), <em>The GoBiFo Project Final Report: Assessing the Impacts of Community Driven Development in Sierra Leone &amp; Pre-Analysis Plan</em></td>
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<td>Class 15 M 11/15</td>
<td>Meta-analysis</td>
<td>Guest lecture from Professor Michael Kremer</td>
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| Class 16 W 11/17 | Generalizability | Designing an experiment to achieve maximum generalizability:  
  - Internal and external validity  
  - The commonality of generalizability to all forms of evaluation  
  - Designing randomized evaluations with an eye toward generalizability  
  - Combining information from randomized and nonrandomized studies  
  - Testing whether results generalize  
  - The multiple paths from research to policy change |
| Wk 11/22 | Thanksgiving break |
| Class 18 M 11/29 | Cost effectiveness | Comparative Cost-effectiveness Analysis  
  - When to use cost-effectiveness analysis or Cost-benefit analysis  
  - Issues to consider when design  
  - Sensitivity analysis  
  *Student presentation of proposed RCT.* |
| Class 19 W 12/1 | Conclusio and student presentations | From Research to Policy Action  
  *Student presentation of proposed RCT.* |

- Olken (2015) *The Promise and Perils of PreAnalysis Plans*
- Finkelstein et al (2010), *The Oregon Health Insurance Experiment: Evidence from the First Year & Pre-Analysis Plan*
- Olken et al (2014), *Generasi Pre-Analysis Plan*
- *Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences*

- Book Chapter 9  
  - Bates and Glennerster (2017), *The Generalizability Puzzle*  
  - Banerjee et al (2016), *Mainstreaming and Effective Intervention*  
  - Piper et al (2018), *Scaling up successfully*  
  - JPAL *Pathways to policy change*

- Book Chapter 9.3  
  - Dhaliwal et al (2012), *Comparative Cost-Effectiveness Analysis to Inform Policy in Developing Countries: A General Framework with Applications for Education*
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<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Finals week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/6</td>
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