Syllabus

Descrizione corso

Titolo insegnamento	Valutazione di impatto
Codice insegnamento	27612
Titolo aggiuntivo	
Settore Scientifico-Disciplinare	SECS-P/02
Lingua	Inglese
Corso di Studio	Corso di laurea magistrale in Politiche Pubbliche e Governance innovativa
Altri Corsi di Studio (mutuati)	27507 Methods for Public Policies Evaluation (LM-DATA)
Docenti	prof. dr. Alexander Moradi, Alexander.Moradi@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/39937
Assistente	
Semestre	Primo semestre
Anno/i di corso	2
CFU	6
Ore didattica frontale	36
Ore di laboratorio	6
Ore di studio individuale	
Ore di ricevimento previste	18
Sintesi contenuti	The course: a) explores how impact evaluation answers the question "what works?" in public policy, introducing Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) as the gold standard approach; b) covers additional quantitative techniques for causal analysis, training students to design, implement and analyse evaluations with statistical software; c) develops skills for critically appraising evidence and translating empirical insights into clear, actionable recommendations for governments, public administrations, NGOs and international agencies.

Argomenti dell'insegnamento	1) The Experimental Ideal: Causal Effects and the Selection Problem 2) Randomized Control Trials, ethical and practical challenges, communication and policy consulting 3) Natural experiments (discovering, analyzing, evaluating) 4) Panel, Difference-in-Differences, Instrumental Variables 5) Regression Discontinuity Designs 6) Synthetic Control
Parole chiave	Policy Evaluation, Causal Inference, Data Analysis
Prerequisiti	
Insegnamenti propedeutici	
Modalità di insegnamento	lectures, labs, projects.
Obbligo di frequenza	Attendance is recommended, but not mandatory.
Obiettivi formativi specifici e risultati di apprendimento attesi	
Obiettivi formativi specifici e risultati di apprendimento attesi (ulteriori info.)	
Modalità di esame	For Attending and Non-Attending Students: Project Development: Students will choose a topic relevant to the course and develop either: (a) an evaluation plan for a public policy of their choice, which includes a comprehensive methodology section detailing the proposed data collection and analysis methods using R, or (b) a replication of an existing public policy evaluation, including a critical reflection on the original study's methodology, findings, and implications. For Attending Students: 1. Presentation: Students must present their project plans or replication studies to the class. The presentation should succinctly summarize the project's purpose, methodology, expected outcomes (for evaluation plans), or main findings and critique (for replications). This will account for 30% of the final grade and will be evaluated on clarity, engagement with the audience, and the depth of understanding demonstrated.

	2. Project Report: A 1,500-word report must be submitted, documenting the project in detail. For evaluation plans, this should include background, methodology, expected results, and potential impact. For replications, it should discuss the methodology, analysis in R, findings, and a critical reflection. The report counts for 70% of the final grade and will be assessed for thoroughness, insightfulness, and the ability to convey complex information effectively. For Non-attending Students: 2. Extended Project Assignment: Non-attending students will submit a longer project report of 2,500 words that covers the same criteria as above but should also include a more detailed literature review to contextualize their project within the current research landscape. This report will count for 100% of the final grade. Initial Contact: Non-attending students must contact the lecturer within the first four weeks of the course to discuss their project topic and receive guidance. Project work and classroom presentations are valid for 1 academic year and cannot be carried over beyond that time-frame.
Criteri di valutazione	Presentation: 1. Clarity of Presentation (20%): The student must present content in a manner that is both clear and comprehensible. Complex concepts should be articulated in a way that is accessible to all audience members. 2. Quality of Argumentation (20%): Arguments should be presented in a logical and persuasive manner, with adequate support from empirical data or scholarly literature. 3. Mastery of Technical Terminology (20%): Usage of technical terminology should be precise and contextually appropriate. 4. Interactive Communication Skills (20%): The student's ability to engage with the audience through responsive Q&A, as well as the effective use of visual aids, will be evaluated. 5. Structure and Organization (20%): The presentation should have a coherent structure with a clear narrative thread throughout. Project Report: 1. Correct Application of Methods (25%): The report should

	demonstrate that Impact Evaluation methods have been accurately applied and thoroughly described. 2. Depth of Analysis (25%): The report must reflect a comprehensive analysis and profound understanding of the chosen subject matter. 3. Critical Thinking (25%): The report should critically examine the methods employed and the results achieved, showcasing analytical depth. 4. Accuracy and Completeness (25%): The report must be meticulous in considering and presenting all relevant aspects of the project with precision.
Bibliografia obbligatoria	Cunningham, S. (2025), Causal Inference. The Mixtape.
Bibliografia facoltativa	Dunning, T. (2012). *Natural Experiments in Social Sciences*, Cambridge University Press. Gertler, Paul J.; Martinez, Sebastian; Premand, Patrick; Rawlings, Laura B.; Vermeersch, Christel M. J.. 2016. Impact Evaluation in Practice, Second Edition. Washington, DC: Inter-American Development Bank and World Bank. Further supplementary reading material will be published regularly on OLE.
Altre informazioni	
Obiettivi di Sviluppo Sostenibile (SDGs)	Sconfiggere la povertà, Partnership per gli obiettivi, Buona salute, Istruzione di qualità, Parità di genere, Acqua pulita e servizi igenico-sanitari, Energia rinnovabile e accessibile, Buona occupazione e crescita economica, Utilizzo responsabile delle risorse, Lotta contro il cambiamento climatico, Innovazione e infrastrutture, Ridurre le disuguaglianze, Città e comunità sostenibili, Utilizzo sostenibile del mare, Utilizzo sostenibile della terra, Pace e giustizia, Sconfiggere la fame