Location, tuition fees, accommodation

The IRVAPP Winter School is held in Venice (Italy) at Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti. The prestigious palace, erected in the 15th century, is situated on the Grand Canal of Venice and close to the Ponte dell'Accademia. In 1999 it was acquired by the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti and regularly houses cultural events.

To enroll in the course, interested candidates are invited to email a one page CV together with a one page summary of their PhD programme, subject of their thesis and research interests to Silvia Girardi (girardisil@irvapp.it) by December 3, 2010. The final decision about the list of participants will be made by December 7, 2010.

Tuition fees: €600. Fees include coffee/tea breaks and lunch. Fees do not include accommodation and dinner. However, the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti can reserve in advance a sizable number of single and double rooms in suitable hotels in the immediate neighborhood of Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti (*www.donorione-venezia.it* and *www.ciliota.it*). Accommodation can be arranged on request until January 10, 2011 by sending an e-mail to girardisil@irvapp.it

For updated information on the School, please go to:
http://irvapp.fbk.eu/en/winter_school

For information on how to get to Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti, please check the IVSLA website:
www.istitutoveneto.it/roomsfacilities/information.htm

Grand Canal, Venice

irvapp

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Winter School

Fundamentals and Methods for Impact Evaluation of Public Policies

irvapp

IstitutoVeneto diScienzeLettere edArti

14-19 February 2011

Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti
Sala Alta
Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti
Campo Santo Stefano—Venice

Course description

The Research Institute for the Evaluation of Public Policies (IRVAPP) and the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti (IVSLA), under the partnership of the Centro Interuniversitario di Econometria (CIdE) and the Italian Econometric Association (SIdE), organise a Winter School on *Fundamentals and Methods for Impact Evaluation of Public Policies* for a class of about 20-25 participants.

Ron Eardely, Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti

The School is designed to be of particular benefit to PhD students as well as researchers in the Social Sciences, Economics and Statistics, willing to learn how to use micro data to inform policy making.

The School will present 1) the fundamental principles of impact evaluation with a specific focus on the counterfactual theory of causal inference and 2) a variety of statistical tools for counterfactual analysis (including difference-in-differences and matching methods, regression discontinuity designs and quasi experimental/natural experiments settings).

Extensive laboratory sessions will provide the opportunity to apply the various techniques to specific labour market, education and industrial policies.

The School will run over 6 consecutive days of theoretical and practical sessions from 14 to 19 February, 2011. Training will require previous knowledge of basic principles for quantitative methods that correspond to those taught in introductory courses of statistics and econometrics at the undergraduate level. At the very least a working knowledge of OLS regression and multivariate analysis is expected. Although the exercises will be guided, basic familiarity with Stata is strongly recommended.

Programme

a.m. Introduction to impact evaluation and counterfactual analysis: concepts and notation. Conditions to learn about the causal effects of a programme.	**Monday** **14 February**
p.m. Causal parameters of interest, selection bias and maturation bias. Internal validity and external validity of an evaluation design.The identification of causal effects in experimental and observational settings: a taxonomy of identification strategies.	
a.m. Impact evaluation in an experimental setting. Impact evaluation in an observational setting, selection on observables (I): regression; the common support issue.	**Tuesday** **15 February**
p.m. Impact evaluation in an observational setting, selection on observables (II): stratification and matching; curse of dimensionality. *Practical session* Introduction to regression; estimation of the Average Treatment effect on the Treated (ATT) via regression.	
a.m. Impact evaluation in an observational setting, selection on observables (III): propensity score matching; operationalising matching.	**Wednesday** **16 February**
p.m. Free	
a.m. Impact evaluation in an observational setting, the case of selection based on discontinuity rules: Sharp and Fuzzy Regression Discontinuity Design . Impact evaluation in an observational setting, the case of selection on unobservables (I): longitudinal estimators: difference-in-differences.	**Thursday** **17 February**
p.m. *Practical session* First case study: the Italian "Mobility Lists" programme. *Practical session* Sharp RDD.	
a.m. *Practical session* Second case study: the UK "Employer Training Pilots". *Practical session* Propensity score matching and difference-in-differences.	**Friday** **18 February**
p.m. Impact evaluation in an observational setting, the case of selection on unobservables (II): the IV estimator; heterogeneity of the causal effect and characterization of the sub-population to which the IV estimator refers to. Evaluation designs, testable implications and over-identification tests.	
a.m. The debate on the use of experimental *vs.* non-experimental designs to evaluate public policies. The importance of heterogeneity of programme effects: evidence from a case study.	**Saturday** **19 February**
p.m. Questions & Answers session. Closing.	

Instructors

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IRVAPP & Università degli Studi di Padova

Enrico Rettore
IRVAPP & Università degli Studi di Padova

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