

First Term, Academic Year 2024-2025

Introduction to Quantitative Methods

Given by Alexandra Jabbour, Max Weber Fellow

Tuesdays, 11:00-13:00 & Fridays, 9:00-11:00

The course aims to provide a solid foundation in the quantitative methods commonly used by social scientists. The focus will be mainly on the reasoning behind hypothesis testing, causality issues, and linear regression (including estimation, interpretation, diagnostic tools, and interactions). The course will be structured around lectures and lab sessions. Often, the weekly reading will be a peer-reviewed article with a method we will discuss in class. Therefore, it is very important to read the assigned material before the course to benefit fully from the class. As for the lab sessions, the aim is to help researchers improve their coding skills in either Stata or R. During lab sessions, I will also emphasize the importance of reproducibility in social science research by, for instance, providing recommendations on how to set up data files for replication. These skills will help researchers during the publication process and assist them in developing good coding habits early in their PhD training. This seminar is for researchers with little to no knowledge of quantitative methods. Knowledge of R or Stata is not required, as the course will provide the necessary background to perform the analyses.