



Summer School in Impact Evaluation

Presented by

Trinity College Dublin, Irish Aid, and the Trinity Impact Evaluation Unit
August 26th – 29th, 2019

The summer school is a unique opportunity for development practitioners, NGO personnel, and policy makers interested in acquiring the **skills needed to conduct, evaluate, and manage impact focused research**. While the course will draw heavily on developing country examples, the content is relevant to many contexts and will be of interest to domestic policy makers and NGOs, and a broad range of PhD students.

The Summer School embraces mixed methods combining the quantitative expertise of TIME with international expertise in qualitative methods. Upon completion, participants will:

1. Understand various techniques of impact evaluation and the criteria used to select the appropriate method;
2. Understand the practical challenges of implementation;
3. Develop skills to design impact evaluations;
4. Acquire tools necessary to be critical of impact evaluation research.



Instructors:

Dr. Tara Bedi (TCD), Prof. James Copestake (University of Bath),
Prof. Nicola Mastroiocco (TCD and TIME), Prof. Tara Mitchell (TCD and TIME),
Prof. Gaia Narciso (TCD and TIME), Prof. Alejandra Ramos (TCD and TIME).

Deadline for Applications: July 20th, 2018
Limited places available



Summer School Structure

The summer school will be run over three days and will be preceded by an optional one-day statistics boot-camp to help prepare participants with less quantitative backgrounds.

The course will include a mix of lectures and group work. The lectures will cover both experimental (e.g. randomized control trials), and quasi-experimental (e.g. regression discontinuity designs) quantitative methods as well as qualitative methods and the interaction between the two. Sessions will be interactive with participants working in groups to solve exercises based on the methodologies that have been introduced.

A preliminary outline of the course is as follows:

Monday August 26th - Statistics Boot-Camp

(attendance voluntary, but highly recommended)

- a. Topics covered will include random variables, distributions, linear regression and inference

Tuesday August 27th

- a. Why evaluate?
- b. Randomization
- c. Sampling
- d. Data Analysis

Wednesday August 28th

- a. Design of survey instruments
- b. Potential issues in the field
- c. Qualitative methods
- d. Lessons from the field: an NGO perspective

Thursday August 29th

- a. Quasi-experimental methods for impact evaluation
 - i. Difference-in-Differences
 - ii. Instrumental Variables
 - iii. Regression Discontinuity Design
- b. Wrap-up and Q&A

Applications

To apply please send a short CV to impactevaluation@tcd.ie. As **places are limited**, we encourage interested applicants to apply as soon as possible. Please also indicate in your email whether or not you will attend the Statistics Boot-Camp. Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis and should be submitted **no later than July 20th, 2019**. Applicants should have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent. All applicants will be informed of their acceptance onto the course by email.



Logistics and Fees

The Summer School will take place at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

The fee for the Summer School is €650. In the acceptance email you will receive the details regarding payment methods. Your place will not be guaranteed until payment is received. Lunch and refreshments will be provided for the duration of the summer school. A limited number of places for students are available at a rate of €450. Please indicate on your application if you are a student.

Workshop in Applied Evaluation Methods in Health

In addition to the core summer school, we are also offering an additional workshop in applied evaluation methods in health which will take place on August 30th. This workshop will be focused on recent impact evaluations that have been carried out in the field of health.

Sessions will build on the evaluation methodologies that were introduced in the summer school and will discuss how they can be applied to the field of health. In addition, the workshop will discuss recent evidence on policies in health that have been found to be most effective, and why.

The fee for this workshop for summer school participants is €250 (€200 for students). If you are interested in attending the workshop, please indicate it in your application for the summer school.