Bachelor Seminar WS 24/25: Understanding Social Preferences

In this seminar, students shall acquire the skills necessary to conduct an empirical study to measure people's **social behavior** (e.g., altruism, discrimination) and **socio-emotional skills** (e.g., grit, patience, team spirit). In addition, students will familiarize themselves with existing interventions designed to foster such behavior and skills. For this purpose, students will conduct some **reading of assigned studies**. They will go in more depth with one study of their choice and summarize this study in form of a **podcast**.

The seminar will resume in a **one-to-two-day workshop** (depending on the number of students) where students will present their **own research idea** extending the existing literature (ideally building upon the study of their choice) and receive feedback. Thereafter they are required to summarize their research idea in written form (3 pages). This research idea can develop straight into a bachelor thesis.

Important Dates:

Kick-off meeting: October 24, 2024: 10:00 - 11:30pm Introduction (online)

Zoom-Link: https://uni-konstanz-de.zoom.us/j/9852063420?pwd=YjNVMVlpRTdDQnVBWXNST1BhSnduQT09

Confirmation of selected study: October 31, 2024

Via email to office.applied-microeconomics@uni-konstanz.de

Submission of podcast: January 15, 2025

Deposit in the cloud, specific folder https://cloud.uni-konstanz.de/index.php/s/naXHqtjxdjD9jKp

Student presentations: January 17, 2025, 08:15am - 16:45pm; Room H304

Student presentations (if needed): January 24, 2025, 08:15am - 16:45pm; Room H304

Submission of written report: January 31, 2025 midnight Via email to office.applied-microeconomics@uni-konstanz.de

Examination:

Podcast plus a short summary of a pre-registration (seminar thesis)

Supplementary courses:

Ask me anything about ... preregistration; November 7, 2024, 11:45am -12:45pm in Y2229 Stata Bootcamp - Answering causal questions – January 24 + 25, 2025, 08:15am – 21:45pm in room BS217

Developing writing skills: Workshop organized upon demand, time and room tba

Selected readings for student presentation:

Below you can find a list of selected papers. Papers can be selected after the first introductory session and should be confirmed **by October 31, 2024**. Feel free to suggest another study. As long as it is related to the development and promotion of social preferences or socio-emotional skills (and of sufficient scientific rigor and quality), this is great. Otherwise you can also approach the lecturer to find an appropriate paper related to your topic of interest.

Prosocial Behavior

- Fehr, E., Bernhard, H. and Rockenbach, B. (2008). Egalitarianism in young children. Nature 454: 1079–1083
- Bindra, Glätzle-Rützler, and Lergetporer (2020). Discrimination at young age: Experimental evidence from preschool children Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization 175: 55-70
- Cappelen, List, Samek and Samek (2020). "The Effect of Early Education on Social Preferences, Journal of Political Economy 128(7)
- Kosse, Deckers, Falk, Pinger and Schildberg-Hörisch (2020). "The formation of prosociality:
 Causal evidence on the role of the social environment", Journal of Political Economy, 128 (2), 434-467

Cooperation/Social Cohesion:

- Basic, Bindra, Glätzle-Rützler, Romano, Sutter and Zoller (2021), "The roots of cooperation." University of Innsbruck Working Paper No. 18, 2021. (link)
- Alan, Baysan, Gumre and Kubilay (2021). "Building Social Cohesion in Ethnically Mixed Schools: An Intervention on Perspective Taking", Quarterly Journal of Economics, 136(4),
- Boucher, V., Tumen, S., Vlassopoulos, M., Wahba, J. and Y. Zenou (2022). "Ethnic mixing in Early Childhood: Evidence from a randomized field experiment and a structural model
- Anderberg, Dahl, Felfe, Rainer and Siedler (2024). "Diversity and Discrimination in the Classroom." NBER WP 32177
- Felfe, Kocher, H. Rainer, J. Saurer & T. Siedler (2021) "More Opportunity, More Cooperation?
 The Behavioral Effects of Birthright Citizenship on Immigrant Youth". Journal of Public Economics 200: 104448

Grit/Patience:

- Alan and Ertac (2018), "Fostering Patience in the Classroom: Results from a Randomized Educational Intervention", Journal of Political Economy, 126(5)
- Alan, Boneva and Ertac (2019) "Ever Failed, Try Again, Succeed Better: Results from a Randomized Educational Intervention on Grit", Quarterly Journal of Economics, 134(3).
- Dobronyi, Oreopoulos, and Petronijevic (2019). "Goal Setting, Academic Reminders, and College Success: A Large-scale Field Experiment." Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness 12: 38-66

Impulse control/Self-regulation:

- Berger, Fehr, Hermes, Schunk and Winkel (2022). "Teaching Self-regulation", Nature Human Behaviour
- Eisner, Ribeaud, Sorrenti and Zölitz (forthcoming). "The Causal Impact of Socio-Emotional Skills Training on Educational Success", Review of Economic Studies (IZA DP No. 13087)

Background reading:

-	List, Petrie and Samek (2021). "How experiments with children inform economics." NBER WP 28825