

2nd Term, Academic Year 2024-2025

Causal Inference

Given by Sascha Riaz

This seminar will take place on the following dates: 6+10 Jan, 13+17 Jan, 20+24 Jan, 27+31 Jan, 3+7 Feb 2025

This course provides an introduction to causal inference in the social sciences, equipping students with the skills to critique methods used in contemporary academic work and apply these methods in their research. It begins with an overview of causality in the social sciences, covering the potential outcomes framework and randomized experiments. The second part of the course delves into the most widely used approaches for drawing causal inferences from observational data, such as "selection on observables" (regression, matching, and subclassification), difference-in-differences, instrumental variables, and the regression discontinuity design. Students are expected to have a basic understanding of probability, statistics, and the R programming language.