

Quantitative Research Methods

Lecturer: Michale Goldberger (michaleg1@mail.tau.ac.il)

Course Description

The course will introduce students to the basics of data analysis and empirical program evaluation, with a focus on field work in low income settings.

The course will focus on hands-on work, to ensure that students are comfortable putting theory into practice. Most weeks, there will be a homework assignment as well as an in-class quiz to start the lecture.

The final grade will be composed of in-class quizzes (10%), home assignments (40%) and a final project (50%).

Week 1 (March 6): Visualizing Data, Asking a Research Question

- Quiz 1 (not counted)

Week 2 (March 13): Basic Statistical Concepts

- Quiz 2
- Homework Assignment 1: Basic Graphing

Week 3 (March 20): How to create a survey

- Quiz 3
- Assignment 2: Survey design

Week 4 (March 27): Linear regression and hypothesis testing

- Quiz 4
- Assignment 3: Providing Feedback

Week 5 (April 3): How to read a paper

- Quiz 5
- Assignment 4: Paper review

Week 6 (April 10): Working with (your) survey data

- Quiz 6
- Assignment 5: Paper review

Week 7 (April 17): In-Class Data Assignment (groups of 2)

- Quiz 7
- Assignment 6: Final Project Assigned

Week 8 (May 1) : Research designs and causal inference (before-after, diff-in-diff, randomized control trials)

- Quiz 8
- Assignment 5: Paper review – specifically RCT

Week 9 (May 8): Additional research tools

Beyond: TBD