



Los Angeles Behavioral Economics Laboratory (LABEL)

<http://dornsife.usc.edu/label>

Experimental Methods II

ECON 620bL

Organizer: Juan D. Carrillo
Time: Thursday 10:00am - 1:00pm
Location: KAP335

Objectives:

The primary objective of this class is to train students to experimental design and methods. The class is organized as a lab meeting. Each week, we will discuss the ongoing projects in our LABEL group. Given those projects are at different stages, a meeting may involve formal presentations of existing literature or completed projects, informal discussions about ongoing specific issues related to projects, or general issues about our equipment, software etc. Occasionally, external speakers will give talks in our LABEL seminar series.

Who can participate?

PhD students: the class is open for enrollment to PhD students from the Economics department in their second year and up. Students who would like to write their dissertation at LABEL and become member of the LABEL group should complete this class in their second year. All graduate students involved in the LABEL group and who have already taken the course for credit are expected to attend all sessions, as the course material will be based on their own projects. We also encourage PhD students from other departments to audit the class or take it for credit as a lab rotation.

MA and BA students: the class is open for enrollment to MA students in Economics. Undergraduate students may be eligible for enrollment on a case-by-case basis.

Projects:

Ongoing projects in our group involve different types of non-choice data (mouse-tracking, reaction times, fMRI, skin conductance) and/or study economic paradigms on special populations (children, older adults, behavioral disorders). For more information about our research, please visit:

<http://dornsife.usc.edu/label/home/>

<http://www.neuroeconomictheory.org/home.html>

Areas of expertise:

Through our classes, students will discover methods and techniques and they will be trained to run experiments. They will learn the general methodology used in the field and attend experiments from the experimenter's side. They will also discover how economic theory is used to guide experimental studies and how econometrics is applied to the field.

Requirements for credit:

- i) Attending lab meetings is compulsory. Please arrive on time.
- ii) Participate in discussions during lab meetings.
- iii) Take part in a LABEL project (small literature review, software design, piloting, etc.).
- iv) Be involved in day-to-day lab activities (assist in running experiments, lab and subject pool maintenance, web design, etc.)

Becoming a member of LABEL:

Students who would like to write their dissertation at LABEL should set up a time with us early in their second year to discuss possibilities.