



ANNOUNCEMENT

PhD course

Perspectives from Behavioral and Experimental Economics on Child Development and Education

Aarhus University, Denmark

December 2-6, 2013

Funded by CSER and CARE@AU

The course is intended to provide an overview of the recent and rapidly growing literature on child development and education from an economic perspective. The economics perspective – and, in particular, the behavioral and experimental economics perspective – adds, on a very general level, two important features to the existing literature in developmental psychology and pedagogics: (i) the focus on questions that are economically relevant in the context of child development (such as the preferences of children, their development when they grow up, and the analysis of social returns of investments in child education programs); and (ii) the introduction of new empirical tools from experimental economics or econometrics to analyze and organize data.

The course puts an emphasis on the discussion of open questions that we believe worth exploring in future research, thus hoping to excite your interest and creativity related to this topic. The course as such will be preceded by an international workshop “Self-control, Self-regulation and Education” that takes place December 2-4, 2013 at Aarhus University. Participants in the PhD course are encouraged to attend the workshop and should indicate in their application whether they will also register for the workshop.

Lecturers: **Martin G. Kocher, University of Munich and University of Gothenburg**
Daniel Schunk, University of Mainz and University of Zurich

Target group: PhD students, Post Docs and junior faculty

Course credits: For students who want to obtain credits, there is the possibility of submitting a paper on a research idea after the course (5 ECTS, pass-fail grading)

Program outline:
December 2-4, 2013

International workshop “Self-control, Self-regulation and Education”

Confirmed speakers include: Eric Bettinger (Stanford University), Phil Oreopoulos (University of Toronto), Martin Kocher (University of Munich), and Daniel Schunk (University of Mainz)

Participants in the course are encouraged to participate in the workshop

Dec 4, 1pm

Start of the PhD Course

Dec 6, 1pm

Closing of the PhD Course



AARHUS
UNIVERSITY

BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

Application deadline: **September 15, 2013**

Send the application form¹ for the PhD Course to Mette Vad Andersen, mvandersen@econ.au.dk (acceptance decisions and program will be made available around October 1, 2013)

Overview of the course content

Part I (Daniel Schunk). I provide you with an overview of the recent and rapidly growing literature on the intergenerational transmission of human capital. In doing so, I will try to review and provide links between literatures from three fields: (i) the literature on skill formation in labor and education economics, (ii) the literature on the measurement of cognitive and non-cognitive skills, and, in particular, (iii), the literature on heritability in economics, genetics and epigenetics.

The following specific topics will be covered:

- Intergenerational transmission of human capital: The equality of opportunity perspective and the child development perspective.
- Intergenerational transmission of cognitive and non-cognitive skills
 - Measurement of cognitive and non-cognitive skills.
 - Methodological aspects related to the identification of intergenerational transmission channels.
- Life-cycle development of skills, when do gaps open up, and to what extent are they inheritable?
 - Adoptee studies.
 - Twin studies.
 - Quantitative and molecular genetic as well as neuroeconomic studies.
 - The nature vs. nurture debate and its implications for economics and early childhood interventions.
- Evidence of intervention effects: What do we know about the success, the sustainability and benefit-cost ratios of early childhood intervention programs?
- Evidence of intervention channels: What do we know about specific transmission and intervention channels?

Part II (Martin Kocher). I aim to discuss, in particular, the experimental literature on child development from an economic perspective and the methodological challenges when running economic experiments with kids from different age groups. I plan to start out with an overview of the effects of age in economic decision making in general, with special emphasis on kids and teenagers. Another important topic in the course will be the attempt to link data elicited from controlled experiments to real-world behavior of kids and teenagers.

The following specific topics will be covered:

- Economic decision making of kids and teenagers: risk attitudes, trust, cooperation, negotiations, bargaining, social preferences, ...
- Methodological challenges when running economic experiments with kids
 - Reward mechanisms.
 - Instructions.
 - Cross-section versus longitudinal studies.
 - Research ethics.
- Linking data from economic experiments with kids with data from their real-world behavior
 - Why is this important?
 - What mileage can economists get out of linking experimental with field data, specifically in the context of decision making of kids?

Please feel free to forward this invitation to any PhD, Post Docs or junior faculty who might be interested. Participation is limited. Preference will be given to participants who are also willing to participate in the workshop.

We hope to see you in Aarhus in December.

Best regards,

Helena Skyt Nielsen (hnielsen@econ.au.dk) and Alexander Koch (akoch@econ.au.dk)

¹ The application form is available at this [page](https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/3169247/PhDcourseApplication%20%282%29.doc) (or enter this link: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/3169247/PhDcourseApplication%20%282%29.doc>)

PhD course
**Perspectives from Behavioral and Experimental
Economics on Child Development and Education**

Aarhus University, Denmark

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APPLICATION FORM

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

Postal code:..... City:.....

Country:

E-mail:.....

Phone:.....

Current position: please select

PhD Student Post Doc Assistant Professor Other Indicate _____

Please notice: there is no registration fee for the course (participants however need to cover expenses for travel and accommodation)

Participants in the course are encouraged to participate in the international workshop “Self-control, Self-regulation and Education” (no fee for participation): <http://econ.au.dk/currently/events/event-item/artikel/workshop-on-self-control-self-regulation-and-education/>

I will participate in the international workshop “Self-control, Self-regulation and Education” that takes place December 2-4, 2013 at Aarhus University yes no

I would like to present a poster in the workshop (attach a one-page abstract in pdf format):

yes Title _____

no

Send this application form for the PhD Course **as soon as possible and before September 17, 2013** to Mette Vad Andersen, mvandersen@econ.au.dk
(acceptance decisions and program will be made available around October 1, 2013)



CALL FOR PAPERS

Workshop on Self-control, Self-regulation and Education

Aarhus University, Denmark

December 2-4, 2013

Funded by CARE@AU

The workshop will consist of specially invited papers as well as contributed papers that provide insights into the field of behavioral economics of education. We especially invite papers related to time preferences and self-control in education, and the program is thought to embrace research concerning all stages in the education system: pre-school, compulsory schooling and post-compulsory education.

Confirmed speakers include:

Eric Bettinger, Stanford University
Phil Oreopoulos, University of Toronto
Daniel Schunk, University of Mainz
Martin Kocher, University of Munich

Important deadlines:

September 15, 2013

Send an abstract or preferably a draft paper to Susan Stilling, sti@asb.dk (acceptance decisions and program will be made available around October 1, 2013)

October 15, 2013

Send an email to Susan Stilling, sti@asb.dk, to sign up for the workshop (please indicate any special dietary requests and whether you stay for the whole workshop in your email)

November 15, 2013

Send an up-to-date version of your paper

Please feel free to forward this invitation to any colleagues of yours who might be interested. Participation is limited. Preference will be given to presenting participants.

We invite you to submit your work for the special issue of the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* entitled *Behavioral Economics of Education*. Guest editors are Eric Bettinger, Helena Skyt Nielsen and Daniel Schunk, and the deadline for submission will be February 1st, 2014. Consult the journal website for further details.

We hope to see you in Aarhus in December.

Best regards,

Helena Skyt Nielsen (hnielsen@econ.au.dk) and Alexander Koch (akoch@econ.au.dk)