



Group Coursework Workshop



Lecture Outline

Introduction

Structure

Data & Research Questions

Group Coursework

4.

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Structure Coursework

- **Words Count:** max 6,000 words (not counting Tables, Figures, References and Appendix)
- Should include:
 - Abstract (max 250 words)
 - Introduction (ca. 1000 words)
 - Literature Review (ca. 1000 words)
 - Data Description (ca. 500 words)
 - Methodology (ca. 750 words)
 - Results (ca. 1000 words)
 - Conclusions (ca. 500 words)

Abstract

Presentation Title: Adhering to the Formatting Requirements Set by the Conference Organisers

Your name, and any co-presenters' names, along with your title/s, university affiliation/s, and contact details (following the instructions of the conference organisers)

These opening sentences summarise the current state of knowledge on your topic. They describe what researchers already know, with reference to the literature (Reference, Year; Reference, Year). These opening remarks are not as comprehensive as a full literature review of course, but they bring readers quickly up to speed. However, we (researchers) don't know everything; so this next part segues into a brief discussion of the gaps or limitations in current knowledge. Fortunately, your presentation addresses these gaps and limitations, and you clearly state the purpose of your presentation here. Now you need to explain how you conduct your research (or will conduct, or have conducted, depending on your stage of research). This section briefly describes your methodology in broad terms so that readers can have some confidence in the rigour of your work. This next part will differ depending on your stage of research; it will either give your hypothesis, or your findings (either preliminary or final); but either way, it describes what you have found, or what you expect to find. This section will take up a bit more of your word count, since it describes the meat of your research. It will be written at a level that is well-pitched to the expertise of your expected audience, whether they be highly specialised researchers, or educated laypeople. Finally, you will need to comment on the significance and/or implications of your research, in order to leave readers with an understanding of why your work is important.

CONTEXT

PURPOSE

METHODS

FINDINGS

SIGNIFICANCE

Keywords: keyword or phrase 1; keyword or phrase 2; keyword or phrase 3

References:

Reference (Year). This will need to be formatted according to the conference organisers' instructions.

Reference (Year). Ensure that you respect any limitations imposed on the number of references in your abstract.

Introduction

- **Context:** Why is this a relevant topic? Provide some numbers.
- **Previous Literature:** What previous studies have said about this, what is missing?
- **Contribution:** What is your contribution? What are you going to do?
- **Methods:** How are you going to do it? Summarise Data and Methodology.
- **Findings:** Summary of Key Results. Link them back to existing studies/predictions.
- **Significance:** What's the significance of your results? Policy Implications? Limitations and Future Research.

Literature Review

- Brief overview of what previous studies have said about this topic.
- Mention and discuss most related and similar papers (research questions, data, methods, results).
- What is missing? Need to identify research gap or contribution.
- Formulate testable research hypothesis (?)

Data Description

- **Datasets:** Describe datasets, observation level, time periods, sample size, sources, variables included, strengths and weaknesses.
- **Data Management:** Merge, Cleaning, Sampling, Resulting sample size.
- **Summary Statistics:** for most important variables provide Tables, Graphs, Maps that might help to set the scene.

Methodology

Core part of your research paper: present specifics of econometric analysis.

- Write **econometric models** (mathematical equations + in-depth explanation).
- Describe **variables** included and their transformations (logs, shares, intensity, interactions, non-linearity, fixed-effects).
- Discuss **econometric methods**: suitability, references, strengths and limitations.
- **Endogeneity**: sources, problems for identification, solutions.
- **Additional analysis and Robustness Tests**.

Results

- Include both **econometric** and **economic interpretation** of your results.
- Start from simple baseline and then more sophisticated models.
- Link back to findings in previous studies.
- Clear, neat presentation of results using tables and (if possible) graphs.
- Briefly discuss additional results and robustness tests (which could be included in appendix).

Conclusions

- **Summary** of what you have done and what are the main results.
- Discuss **academic significance** of your findings and potential **policy implications**.
- Highlight **limitations** of your research and venues for **future research**.

Further Guidelines

- **Writing Tips:**
 - Plamen N. (2013). *Writing Tips For Economics Research Papers*. Harvard University.
 - Thompson Writing Program (2014). *Writing in Economics*. Duke University.
- **Models:**
 - Best past year coursework (available on Blackboard).
 - Papers provided as references for datasets and research questions.

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Data & Research Questions

Data Blocks

- **Data Blocks** on several research topics:
 - Sub-Saharan African firms performance
 - Chinese outward FDIs
 - Mexican municipalities economic performance
 - UK Housing Market
 - Brexit and economic uncertainty
 - COVID-19 spread in the UK
- Each data block includes:
 - Different Datasets;
 - Research Questions Tips;
 - Reference Papers.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT in MEXICO

- **Reference Papers:**

- Utar H. and Torre ruiz L.B. (2013). International Competition and Industrial Evolution: Evidence from the Impact of Chinese Competition on Mexican Maquiladoras. *Journal of Development Economics*, 105: 267-287.
- Utar H. (2018). Firms and Labor in Times of Violence: Evidence from the Mexican Drug War. CESifo Working Paper no.7345.
- Bajgar M. and Javorcik B. S. (2019). Climbing the Rungs of the Quality Ladder: FDI and Domestic Exporters in Romania. EBRD Working Paper No. 235.
- Neffke F., Hartog M., Boschma R. and Henning M. (2018). Agents of Structural Change: The Role of Firms and Entrepreneurs in Regional Diversification. *Economic Geography*, 94(1): 23-48.
- Javorcik, B. S., A. Lo Turco, and D. Maggioni (2018). New and improved: Does FDI boost production complexity in host countries? *The Economic Journal*, 128 (614): 2507–2537.
- Lo Turco, A. and D. Maggioni (2018). Local discoveries and technological relatedness: the role of MNEs, imports and domestic capabilities. *Journal of Economic Geography* 19 (5): 1077–1093.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN FIRMS

- **Datasets:**

- World Bank Enterprise Survey - firm-level balance sheet data (panel and cross-section) for 25 SSA countries over the 2002-2018 period.
- SSA countries imports data at industry-level (China/OECD/Africa/ROW) for trade in final and intermediate products.
- China outward Foreign Direct Investments in SSA countries by country and industry.
- Possibility to link to other data sources (Ease of Doing Business, WB data, etc.)

- **Research Questions:**

- Impact of import competition on SSA firms productivity.
- Impact of import competition on SSA employment and skills.
- Impact of Chinese FDIs on SSA firms productivity, employment and skills.
- Impact of import competition on SSA industrial transition.
- Other firm or region-industry level analysis.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN FIRMS

- **Reference Papers:**

- Darko C., Occhiali G. and Vanino E. (2021). The Chinese are Here: Import Penetration and Firm Productivity in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Journal of Development Studies*, forthcoming.
- Buckley et al. (2017). A retrospective and agenda for future research on Chinese outward foreign direct investment. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 49: 4–23.
- Chen W., Dollar D. and Tang H. (2018). Why Is China Investing in Africa? Evidence from the Firm Level. *The World Bank Economic Review*, 32(3): 610–632.
- IGC (2016). Harnessing FDI for job creation and industrialisation in Africa. Growth Brief, FIRMS, May 2016.
- Lin Y. (2015). Firm heterogeneity and location choice of Chinese firms in Latin America and the Caribbean: Corporate ownership, strategic motives and host country institutions. *China Economic Review*, 34: 274–292.
- Autor, D., Dorn, D., Hanson, G. (2013). The China Syndrome: Local Labor Market Effects of Import Competition in the United States. *The American Economic Review*, 103(6): 2121–2168.

BREXIT & TRADE

- **Datasets:**
 - COMTRADE monthly bilateral trade statistics for the UK (trade flow, destination/origin, product classification, value).
 - CEPII trade-gravity data (borders, market size, tariffs, trade agreements).
 - Brexit-induce political uncertainty: Economic Policy Uncertainty (EPU) Index + Google Trends Indexes.
- **Research Questions:**
 - Impact of policy uncertainty on trade destruction and diversion.

BREXIT & TRADE

• Reference Papers:

- Crowley, M. A., Exton O., and Han L. (2020). The Looming Threat of Tariff Hikes: Entry into Exporting under Trade Agreement Renegotiation. *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 110: 547-51.
- Douch M., Du J. and Vanino E. (2019). Defying Gravity? Policy Uncertainty and Trade Diversion. *LBGCBP Research Paper*, no. 3.
- Douch, M., Edwards, T.H. and Soegaars, C. (2018). Estimating the trade effects of the Brexit announcement shock. The UK in a Changing Europe.
- Sampson T. (2020). Brexit and UK Trade: The story so far. UK in a Changing Europe. Available at: <https://ukandeu.ac.uk/brexit-and-uk-trade-the-story-so-far/> .

BREXIT & INNOVATION

- **Datasets:**
 - PATSTAT: all patents registered by UK, EU and US organizations between 2012-2018 (owners, inventors, patent office, technological class).
 - Brexit-induce political uncertainty: Economic Policy Uncertainty (EPU) Index + Google Trends Indexes.
- **Research Questions:**
 - Effect of policy uncertainty on firms' innovation and international R&D collaborations.

BREXIT & INNOVATION

- **Reference Papers:**

- Pertuze J.A., Reyes T., Vassolo R. and Olivares N. (2019). Political uncertainty and innovation: The relative effects of national leaders' education levels and regime systems on firm-level patent applications. *Research Policy*, 48(9).
- He F., Ma Y. and Zhang X. (2020). How does economic policy uncertainty affect corporate Innovation? Evidence from China listed companies. *International Review of Economics Finance*, 67: 225-239.
- Bhattacharya, U., Hsu, P., Tian, X., Xu, Y. (2017). What Affects Innovation More: Policy or Policy Uncertainty? *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, 52(5): 1869-1901.

UK HOUSING MARKET

- **Datasets:**

- Land Registry: All housing transactions in England since 1995 (postcode, time, price, property type, etc.)
- UK Finance postcode-level data on quarterly Household (personal loans and mortgages) Finances 2013-2020.
- Possibility to link with many different datasets (floods, infrastructure, etc.).

- **Research Questions:**

- Impact of policy uncertainty on the housing market.
- Impact of Natural Disasters on housing market.
- Effect of infrastructure/amenities improvements on housing market.
- Effect of policy interventions on housing market.

UK HOUSING MARKET

- **Reference Papers:**

- Pinchbeck E.W., Roth S., Szumilo N. and Vanino E. (2020). The Price of Indoor Air Pollution: Evidence from Radon Maps and the Housing Market. *IZA Discussion Paper*, no. 13655.
- Szumilo N. and Vanino E. (2021). Are government and bank loans substitutes or complements? Evidence from spatial discontinuity in equity loans. *Real Estate Economics*, 49(3): 968-996.
- Szumilo N. and Vanino E. (2021). Mortgage affordability and entrepreneurship: Evidence from spatial discontinuity in Help-to-Buy equity loans. *Journal of Business Venturing*, 36(4).
- Carozzi F., Hilber C. and Yu X. (2020). On the economic impacts of mortgage credit expansion policies: evidence from help to buy. CEP Discussion Papers dp1681.
- Beltran A., Maddison D. and Elliott R. (2019). The impact of flooding on property prices: A repeat-sales approach. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 95: 62-86.
- Bohman H. and Nilsson D. (2016). The impact of regional commuter trains on property values: Price segments and income. *Journal of Transport Geography*, 56: 102-109.

COVID-19 in the UK

- **Datasets:**

- Weekly COVID-19 Positive Cases and Monthly Death Rates by MSOAs in England.
- Socio-economic characteristics of neighborhoods in England at the MSOA level (deprivation, population and employment structure, density, ethnicity, pollution....).
- UK Finance data on households and SMEs finances at the MSOA-quarter level 2013-2020.

- **Research Questions:**

- The role of employment and population density in the spread of COVID-19 in the UK.
- Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on households and SMEs finances.

COVID-19 in the UK

- **Reference Papers:**

- Corradini C., Matheson J., and Vanino E. (2021). Disentangling the role of population and employment density in the spread of COVID-19. Available [here](#).
- Carozzi F., Provenzano S. and Roth S. (2020). Urban Density and COVID-19. *IZA Discussion Paper*, no. 13440.
- Wheaton W. C. and Thompson A.K. (2020). The Geography of COVID19 growth in the US: Counties and Metropolitan Areas. SSRN Working Paper no. 3570540.
- Papageorge N. et al. (2020). Socio-Demographic Factors Associated with Self-Protecting Behavior during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Institute of Labor Economics (IZA).
- Matheson J. and Vanino E. (2021). COVID-19 Places Economic Recovery Index (CoPERI). Available [here](#).
- Centre for Cities (2021). How has the pandemic affected spending, savings and debt in the UK's largest cities and towns? Available [here](#).
- Matheson J., Nathan M., Pickard H. and Vanino E. (2020). Why has coronavirus affected cities more than rural areas? Economics Observatory. Available [here](#).

Next Steps

1. Speak with your group: have a **look at the data, read some of the papers.**
2. Group meeting to **brainstorm ideas about research question** to investigate and data to use.
3. **Ask me for help** about suggestions, additional data, feedback about new research ideas, STATA and econometric tips. Book **group C&F hours.**
4. When you **study theory** think about how you can **apply it to your research!**
5. Start drafting sketch of **literature review/theoretical background.**
6. Start playing with the data and produce first **summary statistics.**

Group Coursework Research Proposal

- Formative Assessment;
- Submission deadline: end of week 6 (07/11).
- Need to include:
 - Well defined research question;
 - Draft of introduction;
 - Draft of literature review;
 - Draft data description;
 - Summary statistics (tables, graphs, maps);
 - Sketch of econometric model.