

Master Thesis Supervision Plan
 Academic Year 2024-25
MIA/MPP/MDS

Name:	Egon Tripodi
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Advisor Information

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Office Hours	Schedule at this link: calendly.com/egontripodi/oh

Research & Advising Profile:

General Academic Field: What is your academic field, and what are your areas of supervision?

I am a microeconomist working on social influence. Most of my recent research sheds light on how individuals behave in social environments to impress or persuade others. I am interested both in basic behavioral questions and in policy applications of these ideas. My research primarily employs experimental methods. Often these experiments take place in partnership with firms, government agencies, and NGOs. Some of my recent collaborations include blood collection agencies (e.g. the German Red Cross, the Italian AVIS), pension funds, governmental lifelong-learning agencies, and online psychotherapy firms.

Specific Expertise: What is your specific area of expertise, and what topics are you supervising?

- ◆ Social interactions
- ◆ Polarization
- ◆ Mental health
- ◆ Incentive design
- ◆ Social media
- ◆ Charitable giving
- ◆ Opinion and cultural dynamics
- ◆ Misperceptions

Methodology: What methodologies and methods are you able to supervise?

- ◆ Quasi-experimental methods for causal inference
- ◆ Experimental methods (inc. survey-, online-, lab- and field- experiments)
- ◆ Behavioral economic theory

Supervision Style:

I welcome students working individually or in teams of two. Supervision will normally feature 6 sessions: 2 colloquia + 4 individual meetings. The first colloquium will introduce students to common strategies to find a research question and expectations in terms of research design. The second colloquium will serve for all my supervisees to present the final outcomes of their master's thesis project. Please check below what are the assignments for each session; assignments of the session should be handed in via email 48h ahead of the session.

Should you be considering an experimental thesis, let me stress that substantial data collection for their experiment is not expected. In fact, often, even just an experimental design will be sufficient to write outstanding theses, provided that the experimental design and empirical analyses are adequately reasoned and presented.

Examples of Previously Supervised Thesis Topics:

- ◆ Is financial inclusion the answer? A quasi-experimental approach to understanding M-Pesa's relationship with Kenyan women's empowerment
- ◆ Perceptions of economic inequality and social mobility in Ciudad Juárez, México
- ◆ The Berlin rent cap and renter mobility: An observation of the Berlin housing market from 2018-2022
- ◆ Universal childcare and mothers' labor market trajectories: A natural experiment across German counties

Recommended General Readings:

Bellemare, Marc F. "How to write Applied Papers in Economics." Recuperado de <http://marcfbellemare.com/wordpress/13712> (2020)

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is an infringement of § 11 Good Academic Conduct, 2a: "Infringements of the standards of good academic conduct include for instance to use wordings, ideas or other intellectual work of others in an academic work without clearly indicating the author. The obligation to indicate the authorship of others shall apply irrespective of whether or not the sources used are protected by copyright" (See: Exam Rules, § 11 Good Academic Conduct for more information). It is vital to keep track of your sources and to cite all material properly. The Library will offer a session available to all students on resource management and proper citation.

Participation & Milestones:

See Colloquium Sessions Section

Colloquium & Meeting Information:

	Colloquium Dates	Session Title
Meeting times (suggested)	Mid-November	Colloquium 1. Research questions & research design.
		Meeting 1. Preliminaries.
		Meeting 2. Research question and preliminary design.

		Meeting 3. Final design.
		Meeting 4. Preliminary draft.
	Mid-April	Colloquium 2. Project presentations.

Colloquium Sessions:

Session 1: Research questions & research design.		
Aim	Introducing strategies to find a research question and appropriate research design.	
Assignment	No assignment.	

Session 2: Preliminaries.		
Aim	Preliminary meeting to discuss research ideas.	
Assignment	No assignment.	

Session 3: Research question and preliminary design.		
Aim	Discussing a more concrete research proposal.	
Assignment	Project outline and literature review.	

Session 4: Final design.		
Aim	Discussing your final research design and your data and descriptive statistics (if data collection is involved).	
Assignment	Short presentation.	

Session 5: Preliminary draft.		
Aim	Discuss the preliminary draft.	
Assignment	Submit preliminary draft	

Session 6: Project presentations.		
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Aim	Discuss final project to peers and supervisor.
Assignment (e.g. thesis proposal)	Final presentation.