Orazio Attanasio & Marcos Vera-Hernandez

Programme evaluation Summer Course.
Universidad de Los Andes July 12-July 28.

The scope of the course is to review the main issues in the impact evaluation of social interventions. While the course will start with a revision of basic econometric techniques, students are expected to be familiar with the general linear model and multivariate regression.

1. Introduction and Objectives of the Course.
2. The general linear model and multivariate regression: a quick revision
3. The evaluation problem:
    a. Potential outcome problem
    b. Parameters of interest
    c. The selection problem
4. Evaluation methods
    a. Social experiments and randomization
    b. Non experimental methods
        i. Selection on observables
            - Ordinary least squares
            - Matching methods
        ii. Longitudinal methods
            - Before – After
            - Diff in Diff
        iii. Selection on unobservables
            - Instrumental variables
            - Econometric Selection Models
        iv. Structural behavioural models
    c. Bounds
5. General equilibrium effects

For most of these topics we will cover the main techniques and illustrate them with some practical examples. The students will be given practical demonstrations of the methods studied. They will also be given data and programs to replicate the examples studied during the lectures.