

MANUEL HOFFMANN

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EMPLOYMENT

Harvard University, Harvard Business School, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Postdoc	2021-now
Princeton University, The Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice, Visiting Postdoc	2020-2021
Stanford University, College of Medicine, Center for Population Health Sciences, Joint Postdoc	
University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg Institute of Global Health, Joint Postdoc	

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Behavioral Economics at the intersection of Health, Labor, Innovation

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, Texas A&M University	2020
European Master in Labour Studies, London School of Economics and University of Trier (<i>top of my class</i>)	2015
M.Sc. in Survey Statistics, University of Trier	
M.Sc. in Economic Analysis and Measurement, University of Trier (<i>top of my class</i>)	2014
M.Sc. in Business Administration, University of Trier (<i>first in my class</i>)	
- Study Abroad: Texas A&M International University, Laredo, TX (<i>top of my class</i>)	
B.Sc. in Business Administration, University of Trier	2011
- Study Abroad: Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania (<i>top of my class</i>)	

WORKING PAPERS

Vaccines at Work (with Roberto Mosquera and Adrian Chadi) - Under Review

Influenza imposes substantial costs in terms of human lives and productivity losses. Vaccination could be a cost-effective way to reduce these costs, but low take-up rates, particularly of working adults, and vaccination unintentionally causing moral hazard may decrease its benefits. We ran a natural field experiment with employees of a large bank in Ecuador where we experimentally manipulated incentives to participate in a flu vaccination campaign. We find that reducing opportunity costs of vaccination doubled take-up. Coworker peer take-up also increased individual take-up significantly. Contrary to the company's expectations, the effect of vaccination on health outcomes was ineffective with no measurable health externalities. Using administrative records on sickness diagnoses and employee surveys, we find evidence consistent with vaccination causing moral hazard, which could decrease its effectiveness.

Private Health Insurance under Universal Health Care

While the purchase of private health insurance is clearly beneficial in the absence of public insurance, it is difficult to evaluate individual costs and benefits when baseline coverage exists for everyone. I study the consequences of being privately insured when universal health care is the baseline. The problem of selection is approached through a regression kink design in conjunction with a policy implemented in Australia in the year 2000, punishing agents for delaying the purchase of private health until later in life. By investigating the benefits with an administrative tax panel, this study reveals potential hidden costs and unintended consequences of private health insurance under universal health care.

Television, Health and Happiness (with Adrian Chadi) - Under Review

Watching television is the most time-consuming human activity besides work but its role for individual well-being is unclear. Negative consequences portrayed in the literature raise the question whether this popular activity constitutes an economic good or bad and is a prime example of irrational behavior reducing individual health and happiness. We are the first to comprehensively address this question by exploiting a large-scale natural experiment in West Germany, where households in a few geographically restricted areas received commercial television via terrestrial frequencies. Rich panel data allow us to determine how signal availability over time changes individual time use and well-being. Contrary to previous research, we find no health impact when television consumption increases. For life satisfaction, we even find positive effects. Additional data supports the notion that television is not an economic bad and that non-experimental evidence may be driven by negative selection.

Fairness Preferences Revisited (with Catherine Eckel, Yinjunjie Zhang, Raisa Sara) - Under Review
Overcoming Peer Pressure to Drink (with Vanessa Mertins, Bernd Leisen)

PUBLICATION

The Pro-Russian Conflict and its Impact on Stock Returns in Russia and the Ukraine,
Journal of International Economics and Economic Policy with Matthias Neuenkirch (2015).

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Active Peer Pressure: A Loan Repayment Field Experiment (Roberto Mosquera and Daniel Stephenson)
- The Value of Open Source (Frank Nagle and Yanuo Zhou)
- TV and the Labor Market, Two Natural Experiments from Germany (Adrian Chadi and Sven Hartmann)
- Surrogate Indices, Government Policies, and Health (Susan Athey, Alice Milivinti, Rebecca Hasdell)

RESEARCH AFFILIATION

Harvard University, Laboratory for Innovation Science at Harvard *2021-now*
Stanford University, The Center for Population Health Sciences, Researcher
Australian National University, Tax and Transfer Policy Institute (TTPI), Research Affiliate
University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg Institute of Global Health
U.S. Veterans Affairs, Palo Alto, Researcher
Victoria University of Wellington, Research Associate *2019-now*
European Commission, Behavioral Insights Team, Nudge Unit, Expert Consultant *2020*
Duisburg-Essen University, CINCH, Health Economics Fellow
University of Melbourne, Melbourne Institute, Visiting Researcher *2018*
German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Visiting Researcher
Texas A&M University, Center for Field Experiments and Design (Profs. Petrie & Castillo) *2018-2020*
Texas A&M University, Economic Research Laboratory (Prof. Eckel) *2015-2020*
University of Trier, Experimental Economics Laboratory (Prof. Mertins) *2013-2015*
University of Trier, Institute for Labor Law and Industrial Relations in the EU (Prof. Goerke) *2013-2015*

HONORS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

Harvard University Research Funding (\$6,000) *2022*
Stanford Spectrum NIH Grant with Susan Athey, Alice Milivinti, Rebecca Hasdell (\$20,000, Co-PI) *2021*
Royal Economic Society Conference Travel Grant (£500)
Texas A&M Graduate Assistantship *2015-2020*
Public Choice Society Graduate Student Fellowship (\$700 - Covid-19 cancellation) *2020*
European Economic Job Market Travel Grant (\$200)
Princeton University & New York University Abu Dhabi, WESSI Workshop (\$2,000) *2019*
SEA Graduate Session Nomination (Funded, incl. Membership)
Texas A&M University, 3 Minute Thesis Competition, Finalist
Texas A&M Student Research Week, 2nd Prize for Graduate Oral Presentation (\$150)
Bush Foundation, Summertime for Advancement in Research (Star) Award *2018*
Texas A&M Student Research Week, 1st Prize for Graduate Oral Presentation (\$300)
Texas A&M SAAER, 1st Prize for Economics and 2nd Prize for Lightning Round (\$1,650)
London School of Economics, Erasmus Plus scholarship and Tuition Waiver, *2015*
Texas A&M International University, 1st Prize LBV Conference *2013*
Texas A&M University Kingsville, 2nd Prize Javelina Research Symposium
Texas A&M Int. University, DAAD Promos and ISEP scholarship, Tuition Waiver
University of Trier (Dr. Rieger), Financial Economics Experiment (€1,000)
Bloomsburg University, PA, DAAD Promos Scholarship, Tuition Waiver
Recommendation for scholarship at the "Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes" *2010*
Aristotle University, Thessaloniki, Greece, Erasmus Scholarship *2008*
National and Kapodistrian University, Athens, Greece, Language Scholarship *2007*

PRESENTATIONS (INCL. INVITED AND COVID-19 CANCELLATIONS)

ESA World Meeting, Boston, Advances with Field Experiments (AFE), University of Chicago	2022
ESA Special Meeting, University of Chicago, UCEMA (JILAEE), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), Royal Economic Society conference (RES), ESA Asia-Pacific Meeting, Ghent University, Economics Department	
University of Chicago, John List Experimental Group, Online, Allied Social Science Association (ASSA), Online Presentation (2), Royal Economic Society virtual conference, 8th IZA Workshop on Environment, Health, and Labor markets, IZA Workshop: Economics of Time Use and Mental Health: Stress, Sleep, Fatigue and Employment, Australian National University (ANU) seminar, Western Economic Association International (WEAI) ESA sessions, North American Meeting, Economic Science Association (ESA), Tucson, Arizona, Southern Economic Association (SEA), Houston, Texas, Public Choice Society (PCS), Savannah, Georgia, European Association of Labour Economists (EALE) conference, Padua, Italy, virtual presentation, Laboratory for Innovation Science at Harvard, Online Seminar (2), Symposium on Experimental Economics in Developing Countries (SEEDec), <i>Covid-19 Cancellations</i> : Colloquium on Personnel Economics (COPE), Aarhus University, Denmark	2021
Southern Economic Association (SEA), Georgia, Center for Experimental Economics, University of Oxford, Online Presentation, Allied Social Science Association (ASSA), San Diego, Virtual Society of Labor Economists (SOLE), Berlin, Germany, University of Alberta, Canada, Seminar Presentation, Boston College, for Retirement Research, Online Presentation, CINCH Duisburg-Essen University, Germany, Online Presentation (3), <i>Covid-19 Cancellations</i> : Public Choice Society (PCS), Newport Beach, California; Royal Economic Society (RES), Belfast, United Kingdom, Student Research Week, Texas A&M University, Colloquium on Personnel Economics (COPE), University College London, Unintended Consequences of Regulation, Cambridge University, United Kingdom; Spring Meeting of Young Economists 2020, Bologna, Italy	2020
Allied Social Science Association (ASSA), Atlanta; Winter Institute (WESSI), New York University, Florence; Southern Economic Association (SEA), Fort Lauderdale; Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), Denver; Western Economic Association International (WEAI), San Francisco; McMaster University, Canada; Public, Labor, Industrial Organization (PLIO) Conference, Texas A&M University; Applied Economics Research Symposium, and Student Research Week, Texas A&M University, Organization (PLIO) Conference, Texas A&M University; Applied Economics Research Symposium, and Student Research Week, Texas A&M University and Student Research Week, Texas A&M University	2019
Allied Social Science Association (ASSA), Philadelphia; Advances with Field Experiments (AFE), Boston; Southern Economic Association (SEA) Washington DC; Economic Science Association (ESA), World Meeting, Berlin, Germany; Economic Science Association (ESA), North-American Meeting, Antigua, Guatemala; Graduate School of Economics (GSE) Summer Forum, Barcelona, Spain; University of Melbourne, Australia; University of California, Irvine; TEXAS Conference, San Antonio; Symposium for Agricultural and Applied Economics Research, and Student Research Week, Texas A&M University	2018
Symposium for Agricultural and Applied Economics Research, Texas A&M University Economic Science Association (ESA), North-American Meeting, Richmond, Virginia	2017
Workshop on Self-Control, Self-Regulation and Education, Aarhus University, Denmark	2013

PARTICIPATION AT CONFERENCES, WORKSHOP, SEMINARS AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

ASSA 2022 Virtual Annual Meeting, NBER Productivity Seminar, Junior Applied Micro Seminar at Harvard University, University of Chicago John List Experimental Economics Seminar	2022
Behavioral Game Theory Workshop from University of East Anglia, NeuroPsychoEconomics Conference	2021
Choice-Process Data Workshop, Post conference, ESA, Tucson	
Virtual Market Design Seminar, Virtual Advances with Field Experiments, Essen Health Economics Seminar Series, HEaLth and Pandemics Econ Working Group, MidExLab Virtual Seminar	2020
International Week in Vechta, University of Vechta, Germany; Experimetrics Workshop by Peter Moffat and Open Source for Open Science Workshop, Texas A&M University	2018
Experimental Economics Workshop IFREE, Chapman University, California; Technion Summer School on Decisions, Laws, and the Big Data Revolution, Haifa, Israel	2017
Workshop on Sickness Absenteeism and Presenteeism at the IAAEU, Trier, Germany; eFrame Summer School of Trier and Pisa, University of Trier	2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Texas A&M University, Econometrics (3), Experimental Economics (2), Economic Development, Teaching Assistant (TA), Tutoring Lab, CIRTL Teaching Certificate *2015-2020*
Texas A&M University, Empirical Development Economics, Program Evaluation (2), Guest Lecturer *2017-2019*
Texas A&M University, Games and Economic Behavior, Instructor *2017*
University of Vechta, International Human Service Management, Instructor *2015*
University of Vechta, Game Theory, Behavioral Health Economics, Guest Lecturer *2018-2021*
University of Trier, Business I, Business II, Human Resource Management, TA *2010-2014*

REFeree ACTIVITIES

Health Economics, Economic Inquiry, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Review of Economic Design, Journal of Behavioral Public Administration, China Economic Review, Health Economics Review, 2018 Spring Meeting of Young Economists, Spain (7 papers), 2021 Spring Meeting of Young Economists, Italy (4 papers)

SERVICE

Session Chair, "Experiments on Psychology and Economics", WEAI 2022; Session Organizer and Chair, "Peers, Health, and Labor" SEA 2021; Session Chair, "Economics of Drugs", SEA 2020; Discussant at SEA 2019, WEAI 2019, SEA 2020, SEEDEC 2021, Ethics Reviewer for Experiments at Oxford University 2021-2022

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Royal Economic Society (RES), American Economic Association (AEA), Economic Science Association (ESA), Southern Economic Association (SEA), Western Economic Association International (WEAI), Society for Experimental Finance (SEF), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), European Society for Population Economics (ESPE)

LANGUAGE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

English (Fluent), German (Native), Spanish (Intermediate), and Greek (Elementary)
Stata, R, Python, Javascript, Matlab/GNU Octave, SPSS, ArcGIS, PHP, Latex, Markdown, Gimp, Photoshop, Github, AWS

REFERENCES

Dr. Ragan Petrie Dep. of Economics Texas A&M University (979) 845-7351 rpetrie@tamu.edu	Dr. Marco Castillo Dep. of Economics Texas A&M University (979) 845-7351 marco.castillo@tamu.edu	Dr. Jason Lindo Dep. of Economics Texas A&M University (979) 446-3969 jlindo@tamu.edu	Dr. Catherine Eckel Dep. of Economics Texas A&M University (979) 845-8506 ceckel@tamu.edu
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