

MERSS

Mannheim Empirical Research Summer School

The importance of empirical methods applied to micro (household or firm) data, and the use of experimental methods to obtain new insights into micro behavior, has been emphasized most prominently by the Nobel Prizes in Economics to James Heckman and Daniel McFadden in 2000, and to Vernon Smith in 2002 (the latter together with Daniel Kahneman, for the closely related field of Behavioral Economics). Yet, graduate teaching still neglects these important fields, and in particular the close links that exist between econometrics and experimental methods.

The Mannheim Empirical Research Summer School (MERSS) aims at closing this gap — four leading contributors to these fields will both present participants with some basic facts and present their personal views and research agendas.

Vassilis Hajivassiliou and Dan Houser will introduce econometric methods tailored to specific data generation processes. Arthur van Soest and Uri Gneezi will give an introduction into experimental economics. Workshops will allow participants to elaborate on the design of experiments. In addition, the local organizers present some of their own work in these areas, and participants are invited (yet not required) to present their research as well.

The summer school's novel focus on linking experimental and econometric methods, and its approach of combining lectures, classroom discussions, student presentations, and hands-on workshops in the computer lab, has proved very successful with participants since the first MERSS in 2001.

The Mannheim Empirical Research Summer School will take place from Tuesday, 28 June 2005 to Friday, 7 July 2005. [Participants should apply before 31 March 2005.](#)

MERSS is a joint enterprise by members of the Faculties of Economics and Business Administration at Mannheim University. Local organisation: Markus Glaser, Oliver Kirchkamp, Daniel Schunk at the SFB 504 at Mannheim University.

More information about the school is available online at <http://www.sfb504.uni-mannheim.de/merss/>