

Seminar Health and Development

Summer term 2025

Overview

This seminar covers central issues of health economics within the context of developing countries, including the demand and supply of health care, the role of education, liquidity constraints, environmental determinants of health, (long-run) effects of early childhood interventions, and how health itself impacts on individual productivity. We will discuss recent contributions published in high-quality journals.

At the end of the semester, the assigned papers will be presented and discussed. Students receive credits based on the presentation and a term paper to be submitted before the given deadline. The term papers must be submitted in English.

Content

1. Education and schooling experiments
2. Environmental/Infrastructural Determinants of Health
3. Income and microfinance
4. Information and changes in health behavior
5. Early childhood interventions
6. Impact of Health on Individual Productivity
7. Demand for Health Products and Healthcare
8. Supply of Health Care

Prerequisites: Solid knowledge of microeconomics and regression analysis is required.

Registration

Please email daniel.kuehnle@uni-due.de by **10.04.2024** with your name, matriculation number, master program, and your three preferred papers (e.g. 1a / 4b / 5c).

Dates

The introductory event takes place on **10.04.2024** from **16:15-17:00** in room Weststadttürme A.08.17. Registration for the seminar and paper assignment will take place during the introductory event. The block seminar will take place on 03.07.2024 and on 10.07.2024 from 16:00-20:00.

Degree program eligibility

Students from the following master degree programs can enroll in the seminar: Gesundheitsökonomik, Märkte und Unternehmen, and Volkswirtschaftslehre.

Grading and ECTS

Course grades will be based on a term paper (max. 15 pages, 70% of grade) and a presentation (30 minutes, 30% of grade). Topics for the term paper and presentation are assigned in the first meeting, based on preferences and order of registration. In your term paper you present the assigned research paper, critically discuss it and position it in the literature. **Term papers** (one printed copy and a pdf file) are **due on 01.08.2025 12:00**. Please email the file of the term paper to daniel.kuehnle@uni-due.de. Please note that 6 ECTS points are granted for this course, meaning you have to invest approximately 180 hours of workload into this course. A substantial part is for your individual reading of the required literature and for thoroughly preparing your term paper.

Topics and papers (each student will select one paper)

1) Education and schooling experiments

1a) Adukia, Anjali. "Sanitation and education." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 9, no. 2 (2017): 23-59.

1b) Oster, Emily, and Rebecca Thornton. "Menstruation, sanitary products, and school attendance: Evidence from a randomized evaluation." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 3, no. 1 (2011): 91-100.

1c) Jensen, Robert, and Adriana Lleras-Muney. "Does staying in school (and not working) prevent teen smoking and drinking?." *Journal of Health Economics* 31, no. 4 (2012): 644-657.

2) Environmental/Infrastructural Determinants of Health

2a) Kremer, Michael, Jessica Leino, Edward Miguel, and Alix Peterson Zwane. "Spring cleaning: Rural water impacts, valuation, and property rights institutions." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 126, no. 1 (2011): 145-205.

2b) Devoto, Florencia, Esther Duflo, Pascaline Dupas, William Parienté, and Vincent Pons. "Happiness on tap: piped water adoption in urban Morocco." *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 4, no. 4 (2012): 68-99.

2c) Diane Coffey, Michael Geruso, Dean Spears. Sanitation, Disease Externalities and Anaemia: Evidence From Nepal, *The Economic Journal*, Volume 128, Issue 611, 1 June 2018, Pages 1395–1432.

3) Income and microfinance

3a) Banerjee, Abhijit, Esther Duflo, Rachel Glennerster, and Cynthia Kinnan. "The miracle of microfinance? Evidence from a randomized evaluation." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, no. 1 (2015): 22-53.

3b) Haushofer, Johannes, and Jeremy Shapiro. "The short-term impact of unconditional cash transfers to the poor: experimental evidence from Kenya." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 131, no. 4 (2016): 1973-2042.

3c) Tarozzi, Alessandro, Aprajit Mahajan, Brian Blackburn, Dan Kopf, Lakshmi Krishnan, and Joanne Yoong. "Micro-loans, insecticide-treated bednets, and malaria: evidence from a randomized controlled trial in Orissa, India." *American Economic Review* 104, no. 7 (2014): 1909-41.

4) Information and changes in health behavior

4a) Duflo, Esther, Pascaline Dupas, and Michael Kremer. "Education, HIV, and early fertility: Experimental evidence from Kenya." *American Economic Review* 105, no. 9 (2015): 2757-97.

4b) Godlonton, Susan, Alister Munthali, and Rebecca Thornton. "Responding to risk: circumcision, information, and HIV prevention." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 98, no. 2 (2016): 333-349.

4c) Chinkhumba, Jobiba, Susan Godlonton, and Rebecca Thornton. "The demand for medical male circumcision." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 6, no. 2 (2014): 152-77.

5) Early childhood interventions

5a) Baird, Sarah, Joan Hamory Hicks, Michael Kremer, and Edward Miguel. "Worms at work: Long-run impacts of a child health investment." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 131, no. 4 (2016): 1637-1680.

5b) Maluccio, John A., John Hoddinott, Jere R. Behrman, Reynaldo Martorell, Agnes R. Quisumbing, and Aryeh D. Stein. "The impact of improving nutrition during early childhood on education among Guatemalan adults." *The Economic Journal* 119, no. 537 (2009): 734-763.

5c) Bleakley, Hoyt. "Malaria eradication in the Americas: A retrospective analysis of childhood exposure." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 2, no. 2 (2010): 1-45.

6) Impact of Health on Individual Productivity

6a) Fink, Günther, and Felix Masiye. "Health and agricultural productivity: Evidence from Zambia." *Journal of Health Economics* 42 (2015): 151-164.

6b) Bobonis, Gustavo J., Edward Miguel, and Charu Puri-Sharma. "Anemia and school participation." *Journal of Human Resources* 41, no. 4 (2006): 692-721.

6c) Chong, Alberto, Isabelle Cohen, Erica Field, Eduardo Nakasone, and Maximo Torero. "Iron deficiency and schooling attainment in Peru." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 8, no. 4 (2016): 222-55.

7) Demand for Health Products and Healthcare

7a) Ashraf, Nava, James Berry, and Jesse M. Shapiro. "Can higher prices stimulate product use? Evidence from a field experiment in Zambia." *American Economic Review* 100, no. 5 (2010): 2383-2413.

7b) Cohen, Jessica, and Pascaline Dupas. "Free distribution or cost-sharing? Evidence from a randomized malaria prevention experiment." *Quarterly journal of Economics* 125, no. 1 (2010): 1.

7c) Dupas, Pascaline. "What matters (and what does not) in households' decision to invest in malaria prevention?." *American Economic Review* 99, no. 2 (2009): 224-30.

8) Supply of Health Care

8a) Das, Jishnu, Alaka Holla, Aakash Mohpal, and Karthik Muralidharan. "Quality and accountability in health care delivery: audit-study evidence from primary care in India." *American Economic Review* 106, no. 12 (2016): 3765-99.

8b) Martina Björkman Nyqvist, Andrea Guariso, Jakob Svensson, David Yanagizawa-Drott. 2019. Reducing Child Mortality in the Last Mile: Experimental Evidence on Community Health Promoters in Uganda. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 11:3, 155-192.

8c) Benjamin A. Olken, Junko Onishi, Susan Wong. 2014. Should Aid Reward Performance? Evidence from a Field Experiment on Health and Education in Indonesia. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 6:4, 1-34.