

Empirical Law and Economics  
Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Law  
December 2012  
Jon Klick

Course Description: This course will give students basic instruction in modern econometric methods and causal inference. We will then use and develop these tools by examining a range of applications in core areas of legal scholarship.

Readings: The readings referred to below are available on the course's website as well as my own website <http://www.law.upenn.edu/fac/jklick/barilan.htm>

Evaluation:

Schedule:

**Monday December 10, 2012 (13:00-16:00)**

Primer on statistics, regression methods, and research design

Readings:

Federal Judicial Center, Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed, available at [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=13163](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13163) (2011): Reference Guide on Statistics (FJCstatistics.pdf) and Reference Guide on Multiple Regression (FJCregression.pdf)

**Tuesday December 11, 2012 (9:00-13:00)**

Causal Inference

**Thursday December 13, 2012 (12:00-16:00)**

Crime

Readings:

*Police and Crime*

Steven Levitt (1997), "Using Electoral Cycles in Police Hiring to Estimate the Effect of Police on Crime," *American Economic Review*, 87(3): 270-290 (87AER270.pdf)

Jonathan Klick and Alexander Tabarrok (2005), "Using Terror Alert Levels to Estimate the Effect of Police on Crime," *Journal of Law and Economics*, 48(1): 267-279 (48JLE267.pdf)

John MacDonald, Jonathan Klick, and Ben Grunwald (2012), "The Effect of Privately Provided Police Services on Crime," working paper (pennRD.pdf)

*Punishment and Crime*

Eric Helland and Alexander Tabarrok (2007), "Does Three Strikes Deter? A Non-Parametric Estimation," *Journal of Human Resources*, 42(2): 309-330 (42JHR309.pdf)

Lawrence Katz, Steven Levitt, and Ellen Shustorovich (2003), "Prison Conditions, Capital Punishment, and Deterrence," *American Law and Economics Review*, 5(2): 318-343 (5ALER318.pdf)

**Sunday December 16, 2012 (12:00-16:00)**

Medical Malpractice

Readings:

Jonathan Klick and Thomas Stratmann (2007), "Medical Malpractice Reform and Physicians in High Risk Specialties," *Journal of Legal Studies*, 36(S2): S121-S142 (36JLS121.pdf)

Eric Helland and Mark Showalter (2009), "The Impact of Liability on the Physician Labor Market," *Journal of Law and Economics*, 52(4): 635-663 (52JLE635.pdf)

Health

Readings:

Jonathan Klick and Thomas Stratmann (2003), "The Effect of Abortion Legalization on Sexual Behavior: Evidence from Sexually Transmitted Diseases," *Journal of Legal Studies*, 32(2): 407-434 (32JLS407.pdf)

Jonathan Klick and Thomas Stratmann (2008), "Abortion Access and Risky Sex Among Teens: Parental Involvement Laws and Sexually Transmitted Diseases," *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization*, 24(1): 2-21 (24JLEO2.pdf)

Jonathan Klick, Sven Neelsen, and Thomas Stratmann (forthcoming), "The Relationship Between Abortion Liberalization and Sexual Behavior: International Evidence," *American Law and Economics Review* (ALERforthcoming.pdf)

**Tuesday December 18, 2012 (12:00-16:00)**

Corporate Finance and Governance

Readings:

Jonathan Klick and Robert Sitkoff (2008), "Agency Costs, Charitable Trusts, and Corporate Control: Evidence from Hershey's Kiss-Off," *Columbia Law Review*, 108(4): 749-838 (108CLR749.pdf)

**Thursday December 20, 2012 (9:00-13:00)**

Judicial Behavior

Readings:

Eric Helland and Jonathan Klick (2007), "The Effect of Judicial Expedience on Attorney Fees in Class Actions," *Journal of Legal Studies*, 36(1): 171-187 (36JLS171.pdf)

Jef DeMot, Michael Faure, and Jonathan Klick (2012), "Appellate Caseload and the Switch to Comparative Negligence," working paper (comparative.pdf)

Legal Origins

Readings:

Rafael La Porta, Florencio Lopez-De-Silanes, and Andrei Shleifer (2008), "The Economic Consequences of Legal Origins," *Journal of Economic Literature*, 46(2): 285-332 (46JEL285.pdf)

Eric Helland and Jonathan Klick (2011), "Legal Origins and Empirical Credibility," in Michael Faure and Jan Smits, eds, *Does Law Matter? On Law and Economic Growth* (credibility.pdf)

**Friday December 21, 2012 (9:00-12:00)**

Conclusion