

Winter term 2025/26

Intergenerational Mobility: Models, Measurement, and Policy analysis

Overview

In this course we examine key concepts related to the topic of intergenerational mobility. Although intergenerational (or social) mobility is a classic area of research in economics and sociology, there has been a significant increase in the number of new high-quality studies in recent years. Intergenerational mobility helps characterize inequality in a society and is related to the concept of inequality of opportunity (e.g., in achieving high income, good health, etc). We aim to understand to what degree there is immobility, why it occurs, and what can be done about the transmission of unfair advantages. The aim of this course is to enable students to understand key concepts in models, measurement and policy analysis, and to engage with the research frontier within this area. The course is an integration of theoretical economics, data analysis and econometric techniques.

Content

1. Models of intergenerational transmission
2. The measurement and description of mobility
3. Decomposition of transmission channels
4. Policy analysis
5. Applications

Prerequisites: Solid knowledge of microeconometrics and regression analysis at the level of Stock and Watson "Introduction to Econometrics".

Registration

Please send an email to Prof. Mikael Lindahl mikael.lindahl@economics.gu.se by 10th October 2025 to register.

Dates

Lectures take place on Thursdays, 10.15-11.45 (room WST A.08.17).
The introductory event takes place on 16.10.2025.

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 (70% of the final grade) and a class presentation (30% of the final grade). Active participation during class is expected.

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.