

Theresa F. R. Schaetze

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RESEARCH FOCUS

Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Early Childhood Development of Economic Preferences, Social Norms, Ethics of Market Design and Psychology of Market Behavior

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics | International Max Planck Research Schools & Cologne Graduate School

10/2023 – present | Focus on Behavioral Economics | Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Matthias Sutter, Prof. Dr. Axel Ockenfels

M.Sc. in Social- and Economic Psychology | University of Cologne

2021-2023 | Final Grade: 1.4 (best 25%) | Master Thesis: “An Empirical Study of Price Demand Dynamics: Insights from a Local Brewery” (1.1) | Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Eldad Davidov, Prof. Dr. Jörg Breitung

Semester Abroad in Pittsburgh | Duquesne University

Winter Term 2019-2020 | GPA: 3.85 | Selected Classes: Current Problems in International Politics, Political and Economic Geography, Philosophy of the Environment, Black Mirror and Philosophy

B.Sc. in Economics | University of Cologne

2018-2021 | Final Grade: 1.4 (best 10%) | Bachelor Thesis: “Digitalisierung in Deutschland: Eine empirische Analyse“ (1.3) | Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Jörg Breitung, Philipp Hansen

EXPERIENCE

Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods

Research Fellow IMPRS | 10/2023 – present

Research Assistant | 10/2021 – 09/2023

- Designing and conducting experiments to investigate individual behavior in several economic situations. Collaborating with international research teams to develop experimental protocols, methodologies and further insights into the formation of economic preferences.

University of Cologne

Research Assistant for Prof. Dr. Sebastian Sieglösch at the Chair of Economics and ECONtribute Cluster | 07/2022 – 09/2023

- As a Research Assistant I significantly contributed to advancing the research agenda of the Economics Chair, promoting a deeper understanding of key issues in Public Finance, Labor Economics, Urban Economic and Housing Policy

Institute of German Economy (Institut der Deutschen Wirtschaft)

Student Assistant | 02/2020 – 03/2021

- Project Support and Design for a BMWi Project: Assessment of Digitalization Levels in Germany Across Various Indicators and Dimensions

University of Cologne

Tutor in Statistics at Chair of Statistics | 03/2019 – 09/2019

Student Assistant at Institute for Economic Policy (iwp) | 01/2019 – 06/2019

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- University of Bologna Topics Workshop: Empirical Analysis of Social and Legal Institutions (2024)
 - Summer School on Behavioral and Experimental Economics by the European Economics Review in Crete (2024)
 - Innsbruck Winter School on Credence Goods, Behavior and Incentives; Innsbruck Winter Summit: (Un-)ethical Behavior in Markets (2024)
 - Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona: IMPRS BeSmart Topics Workshop (2023)
 - Summer School IMPRS BeSmart (2023, 2024, forthcoming 2025)
 - Ca' Foscari University of Venice: Experimental and Behavioral Economics Workshop (2023)
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AWARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Germany Scholarship (2019-2022, ~ 9,000€)
 - University of Cologne: Deans List for Students in Economics, 2nd Place (2020)
 - The German Academic Exchange Service: Scholarship for Studies Abroad (2019, ~ 3,500€)
 - High School Gynnasium Rodenkirchen, Cologne: Gifted Education Program for Highschoolers (2014-2017)
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LIST OF ONGOING WORK

Early Childhood and It's Determinants

Joint work with S. Boonmanunt, W. Kilenthong and M. Sutter

This study investigates patterns and determinants of early childhood development, with a particular focus on developmental delays in early life. First, it examines the prevalence and types of developmental delays, exploring how these delays manifest and evolve over time. Second, the study analyzes key determinants of early childhood development, including economic preferences, personality traits, parental investment, parenting style, and behavioral determinants of the primary caregiver(s). Our research contributes to understanding both timing and causes of developmental delays in early childhood, offering evidence to inform early interventions and policy design.

Residential Parking Policies: Acceptance, Compliance, and Fairness

This project investigates residential parking policies in Cologne, focusing on the redistribution of public space in favor of local residents. Using survey data and behavioral measures, the study analyzed how this policy change affects public acceptance, compliance and perceived fairness.

Bonn, July 2025

Theresa F. R. Schaetze