

Erasmus Institute for Philosophy and Economics (EIPE)

Ph.D. Graduate: Dr. Ana Cordeiro dos Santos

Thesis title

Experimental Economics – from a methodological point of view

Supervisors

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Project description

Over the last two decades experimental economics has been one of the most prolific areas in economics. Experimental economics is now a well-established field in the discipline.

Despite its exciting novelty and intense productivity, experimental economics has not received enough attention by methodologists of economics. This is particularly striking if one considers that experimental economics flourished in a period in which the argument that there is no such thing as a 'crucial' experiment – the Duhem-Quine thesis – became widely accepted in philosophy of science. Non-empiricist accounts of science have since emerged. Thus, at a time when increasing numbers of economists were employing experimental methods, non-empiricist theories developed to accommodate new conceptions of science. Conceding the benefit of doubt to economists while bringing into the fore the new import from contemporary science theories, my research investigates the relevance and the impact of experimental economics on the science of economics.

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