

# Matthew Robson

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- Research Interests      Experimental Economics, Behavioural Economics, Social Choice, Welfare Economics, Health Economics, Distributive Justice.
- Education                **University of York** - PhD Economics - (*2014-2018*)  
Thesis: “Inequality Aversion and Self-Interest: An Experimental Approach”.  
Supervisor: John Bone; TAP Members: John Hey, Richard Cookson.  
**University of York** - MSc Health Economics, Merit - (*2013-2014*)  
**Bangor University** - BA Hons History and Economics, First Class - (*2010-2013*)
- Employment             **EQUIPOL, University of York** - (*2018-present*)  
Research Fellow; Project: Quasi-Experimental Evaluations of Equity Impacts.  
**OPHI, University of Oxford** - (*2014-present*)  
Part-time Research Assistant; Project: Multidimensional Poverty.
- Teaching                **University of York, Teaching Scholar** - (*2015-2018*)  
· Experimental Economics, 2017-2018 - Dominic Spengler  
· Economics 2: Microeconomics, 2017-2018 - Emma Tominey  
· Microeconomics 2 (4.57/5.00), 2016-2017 - Thomas Cornelissen and Alan Krause  
· Econometrics 2 (4.52/5.00), 2016-2017 - Jo Swaffield  
· Microeconomics 1 (4.82/5.00), 2015-2016 - John Hey and John Bone  
· Acknowledgement of Teaching Excellence, 2016/17 & Aronson Teaching Prize, 2017/18.
- Publications            · Robson, M., M. Asaria, R. Cookson, A. Tsuchiya and S. Ali, (2017), ‘Eliciting the level of health inequality aversion in England’, *Health Economics*, 26(10), 1328-1334.  
· Kahn, M. and M. Robson, (2016), ‘Macroeconomic Trends and Policy Implications: Evidence from Bhutan’, *Journal of Bhutan Studies*, 33(1), 74-110.
- Awards and Grants    · ESRC Advanced Quantitative Methods (+3) Studentship, 2014-2017.  
· ESRC Overseas Institutional Visit, The Choice Lab; Bergen, Norway, 2017.  
· ESRC Company Internship, The Field Laboratory; Mbale, Uganda, 2016.  
· NIHR Masters Studentship in the Economics of Health, 2013-2014.  
· William and Myfanwy Eames Prize, Bangor University, 2013.  
· Charles Mowat Memorial Prize, Bangor University, 2013.
- Conference Co-organiser · Foundations of Utility and Risk (FUR), University of York, June 2018.  
· 2nd IRNEP PhD Conference, University of York, October 2016.  
· 1st IRNEP PhD Conference, University of Reading, October 2015.

Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· RES PhD Meeting, Westminster Business School, London, UK, 2017.</li> <li>· Choice Lab Seminar Series, The Choice Lab, Norway, 2017.</li> <li>· Spring School in Behavioural Economics, USCD, San Diego, USA, 2017.</li> <li>· OPHI Seminar Series, University of Oxford, UK, 2017.</li> <li>· Preferences, Personality and Moral Behaviour, The Choice Lab, Norway, 2016.</li> <li>· 2nd IRNEP PhD Conference, University of York, 2016</li> <li>· 2nd Annual PhD Conference in Economics, University of Leicester, UK, 2015.</li> <li>· 1st IRNEP PhD Conference, University of Reading, 2015</li> <li>· Health Economics Study Group Conference, University of Leeds, UK, 2015.</li> </ul>	
External	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Co-founder of the Interdisciplinary Research Network for Economists and Philosophers (IRNEP).</li> <li>· Internship, Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation (CHEME), Bangor University, 2012.</li> </ul>	
Work In Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Alkire, S. and M. Robson, 'Poverty Index Mismatches: Distributional Changes Over Time in Uganda', <i>work-in-progress</i>.</li> <li>· Robson, M., 'Giving to Others and the Future Self', <i>work-in-progress</i>.</li> <li>· Bone, J. and M. Robson, 'Giving to Varying Numbers of Others', <i>PhD Chapter 3</i>.</li> <li>· Robson, M., 'Inequality Aversion and Self-Interest: Multiple Designs and Alternate Perspectives', <i>PhD Chapter 1</i>.</li> </ul>	
Refereeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <i>Health Economics</i>.</li> </ul>	
Languages and Skills	<p>English (native).</p> <p>MatLab, Stata, Mata, R, Z-Tree, Survey Solutions, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Corel-Draw, Office.</p>	
References	<p>Mr John Bone          Dept. of Economics and Related Studies          University of York          john.bone@york.ac.uk, 01904 323770</p>	<p>Professor John Hey          Dept. of Economics and Related Studies          University of York          john.hey@york.ac.uk, 01904 323786</p>

## Job Market Paper

'Inequality Aversion, Self-Interest and Oneness: A Ugandan Lab-in-the-Field Experiment'  
*DERS Discussion Paper*, 17(12).

Preferences relating to *inequality aversion*, *self-interest* and *oneness* (the closeness of connection to others) are incorporated in a structural model and estimated in order to explain prosocial behaviour. An incentivised lab-in-the-field experiment was run in Mbale, Uganda (n=156), with both general population and student samples. The experiment was a modified three-person dictator game, run on touch-screen tablets. Decision problems were repeated (54 rounds) to ensure individual-level preferences could be estimated; using the Dirichlet distribution to rationalise *noisy* behaviour. Two within-subject treatments varied if the identity of the 'recipients' was *anonymous* or *known*. Results find extensive heterogeneity in prosocial behaviour, which is accounted for through individual preference parameters. On average, there is a substantial regard for others with a preference for reducing inequality, rather than increasing efficiency. Oneness is found to have large and significant effects on giving; with distinctions between *self-other* and *between-other* trade-offs emerging.