

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Petra Aschermannová
Advisor:	PhDr. Václav Korběl
Title of the thesis:	Examination of the impact of teacher's gender, age and experience on student achievement

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

Please provide your assessment of each of the following four categories. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.

The thesis analyses if students benefit from gender match with their teachers and if the gender match is related to age or experience of teachers. Using within-student between-subject methodology the author shows that gender match in general is not a highly significant factor. On the other hand, groups benefit from having a young teacher.

Contribution

The thesis contributes to the literature by extending the well studied gender match by adding another dimension – age/experience. Many studies hypothesize that teachers may serve as role models for pupils, especially of the same gender. However, it could be argued that it may be true only for some type of teachers (e.g. young/old). Therefore, the standard research question of gender match may cover important heterogeneities. In that sense, I see a good contribution of the thesis to the literature. In a similar vein, gender match has never been studied on Czech data.

Methods

Petra uses fixed-effects model and discusses why this methodology avoids most of the selection issues which may bias the results. Moreover, she supports the robustness of the results by usage of mixed models, looking at heterogeneity across subjects and she also carefully works with missing values. The only minor downside is an odd notation in regressions and in some tables. On the other hand, I praise a thorough work with many interaction effects.

Literature

Even though Petra improved this part significantly, it is still quite long and slightly confusing. I also think that some introductory parts in this chapter would suit better into the introduction. On the other hand, she discusses relevant sources and proves knowledge of the literature. I also appreciate extending the review for psychology and pedagogical literature which is very relevant for the analysis of pupil-teacher relationships.

Manuscript form

The manuscript is well structured, succinct and written in a good English. Especially, the introduction resembles more more to a paper style than thesis which makes it very readable.

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
Contribution (max. 30 points)	27
Methods (max. 30 points)	27
Literature (max. 20 points)	18

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Petra Aschermannová
Advisor:	PhDr. Václav Korbek
Title of the thesis:	Examination of the impact of teacher's gender, age and experience on student achievement

<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	18
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	90
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: PhDr. Václav Korbek

DATE OF EVALUATION: 31.5. 2017



Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

Strong Average Weak
30 15 0

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

Strong Average Weak
30 15 0

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0

Overall grading:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE		
81 – 100	1	= excellent	= výborně
61 – 80	2	= good	= velmi dobře
41 – 60	3	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 – 40	4	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě