

# HANNO FOERSTER

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Department of Economics  
University of Mannheim  
L7, 3-5, Room P10  
D-68161 Mannheim, Germany

☎+49 621 181 1905

✉hanno.foerster@gess.uni-mannheim.de  
🌐hannofoerster.com

## Placement Officer:

Prof. Christoph Rothe  
✉rothe@vwl.uni-mannheim.de

## Research Interests

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Primary      Labor Economics  
Secondary    Family Economics, Applied Microeconometrics

## Education

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since 2013    UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM  
PhD in Economics, *expected June 2019*  
  
Fall 2017      UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON  
Visiting PhD Student (Hosted by Eric French)  
  
2011-2013    UNIVERSITY OF BONN, GERMANY  
M.Sc. in Economics  
  
2011-2012    UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY  
Visiting Student to the PhD program  
  
2008-2011    UNIVERSITY OF BONN, GERMANY  
B.Sc. in Economics

## References

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Prof. Michèle Tertilt  
*University of Mannheim*  
☎+49 621 181 1902  
✉tertilt@uni-mannheim.de

Prof. Gerard J. van den Berg  
*University of Bristol*  
☎+44 117 331 7519  
✉gerard.vandenberg@bristol.ac.uk

Prof. Hans-Martin von Gaudecker  
*University of Bonn*  
☎+49 228 739 357  
✉hmgaudecker@uni-bonn.de

Prof. Katja M. Kaufmann  
*University of Mannheim*  
☎+49 621 181 1959  
✉kaufmann@vwl.uni-mannheim.de

## Research

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### Job Market Paper

*The Impact of Post-Marital Maintenance on Dynamic Decisions and Welfare of Couples*

### Work in Progress

*A Structural Evaluation of Vacancy Referrals, Sanctions and Sickness Absence* (with Gerard J. van den Berg and Arne Uhlendorff)

*The Equilibrium Effects of Vacancy Referrals* (with Gerard J. van den Berg)

## Academic Employment

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since 2018    UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM, Prof. Michèle Tertilt, Research Assistant

Summer 2016    UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM, Prof. Katja M. Kaufmann, Research Assistant

2009 - 2011    UNIVERSITY OF BONN, Prof. Klaus Sandmann, Student Assistant

Spring 2010    ZEW MANNHEIM, International Finance and Financial Management, Research Intern

## Teaching Experience

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Spring 2017    Introductory Econometrics (Undergraduate),  
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Markus Frölich, University of Mannheim

Fall 2014    Applied Econometrics (Master of Management, English),  
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Anna Raute, University of Mannheim

Spring 2013    Empirical Methods (Undergraduate, English),  
Course Instructor, University of Bonn

Fall 2012    Microeconometrics (Graduate, English),  
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Hans-Martin von Gaudecker, University of Bonn

Spring 2011    Introductory Statistics (Undergraduate),  
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Lorens Imhof, University of Bonn

Fall 2010    Introductory Statistics (Undergraduate),  
Teaching Assistant to Prof. Jörg Breitung, University of Bonn

## **Presentations & Workshops**

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| 2018 | Society of Economics of the Household (SEHO) meeting (Paris), EEA-ESEM congress (Cologne), EALE conference (Lyon), Families and the Macroeconomy (Mannheim)   |
| 2017 | IZA workshop on Gender and Family Economics (Bonn), IZA summer school in Labor Economics (Buch/Ammersee), Aarhus University (invited Seminar), Society of Economics of the Household (SEHO) meeting (San Diego), briq Workshop on Structural Analysis of Inequality (Bonn)  |
| 2016 | LSE Methods Programme, Numerical Tools for Macroeconomists (London), EALE conference (Poster, Ghent), European Society for Population Economics (Berlin), EEA-ESEM congress (Geneva), Search and Matching (SAM) annual conference (Amsterdam), ZEW Summer Workshop on Structural Models and Policy Evaluation (Mannheim), University College London (PhD Seminar) |
| 2015 | ZEW SEEK Workshop on Policy Evaluations using Search and Matching Models (Mannheim)   |
| 2014 | Barcelona Summer School, courses on Labor Market Outcomes (Prof. Robert Shimer) and Education Economics (Prof. Derek Neal)  |

## **Scholarships and Awards**

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| 2013 - 2015 | PhD scholarship, German Science Foundation (DFG)   |
| 2011 - 2012 | Fulbright travel grant   |
| 2011 - 2012 | Scholarship, German Academic Scholarship Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes) |
| 2011        | Teaching Award, University of Bonn   |

## **Professional Service**

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| Referee | Review of Economic Studies |
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## **Competences**

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| Languages | German (native), English (fluent), French (basic), Spanish (basic) |
| Software  | Python, Matlab, Stata, SAS, Git, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X   |

### **The Impact of Post-Marital Maintenance on Dynamic Choices and Welfare of Couples (Job Market Paper)**

In many countries divorce law mandates post-marital maintenance payments (child support and alimony) to insure the lower earner in married couples against financial losses upon divorce. This paper studies how maintenance payments affect couples' intertemporal decisions and welfare. I develop a dynamic model of family labor supply, housework, savings and divorce and estimate it using Danish register data. The model captures the policy trade off between providing insurance to the lower earner, enabling couples to specialize efficiently, on the one hand, and maintaining labor supply incentives for divorcees, on the other hand. I use the estimated model to analyze counterfactual policy scenarios in which child support and alimony payments are changed. The welfare maximizing maintenance policy is to triple child support payments and reduce alimony by 12.5% relative to the Danish status quo. Switching to the welfare maximizing policy makes men worse off, but comparisons to a hypothetical first best scenario reveal that there is scope for pareto improvements, pointing towards a role for more innovative maintenance policies.

### **The Equilibrium Effects of Vacancy Referrals**

*(with Gerard J. van den Berg)*

In many countries public employment services send out job vacancy referrals (VRs) to bring together unemployed workers and firms who otherwise would not have matched. It has been documented that VRs have positive effects on individual reemployment probabilities. However, the impact of VRs on the unemployment rate depends on equilibrium effects that arise, e.g., from crowding out in the hiring process. This paper studies the effect of VRs on the unemployment rate in the presence of equilibrium effects. We develop a search and matching model with multiple applications and VRs that accounts for crowding out effects in the hiring process. A VR increases the reemployment probability of the job searcher receiving it, but incurs a negative externality on all other job searchers. We estimate our model using data from a German firm survey about the hiring process as well as survey data on the job search behavior of German unemployed workers. The estimated model is used to simulate counterfactual changes in the VR rate and analyze to what extent the positive individual level effects of VRs carry through to the aggregate.

### **A Structural Analysis of Vacancy Referrals with Imperfect Monitoring and Sickness Absence**

*(with Gerard J. van den Berg and Arne Uhlenborff)*

Unemployment insurance (UI) systems typically pose job search requirements that benefit recipients need to satisfy. As a common part of these requirements UI agencies make job vacancy referrals (VRs) and sanction benefit recipients who refuse to apply. However, benefit recipients can circumvent this monitoring scheme by reporting sick after receipt of a VR. This paper studies how UI systems with VRs and sanctions impact moral hazard and reemployment rates. We develop a structural job search model that incorporates VRs and sanctions. Additionally our model allows for the possibility to report sick after receipt of a VR. We estimate our model using data from German social security records that are linked to caseworker recorded data on VRs and sickness absences. We use the estimated model to simulate counterfactual policy scenarios such as changing sanction duration, sanction severeness, the VR-rate and shutting down the possibility to report sick. The most promising policy change according to our model is increasing sanction enforcement. Increasing enforcement by 20% reduces unemployment duration by 0.5 months.