

Economics
Seminar
Series
2016



SOUTH ASIAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ECONOMICS

Seminar

***Causal frameworks as intermediaries between
empirical analysis and policy***

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Date: April 01, 2016
(Friday)
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Venue: FSI Hall, Akbar Bhawan
Satya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

All are Welcome

There is increasing emphasis on evidence based policy. There is a great deal of data analysis as a result, and also emphasis on experiments, and where experiments are not possible, emphasis on natural experiments, instrumental variables etc. Underlying all of this is the worry about correlation not being causality. Two causal frameworks have been influencing analysts in different disciplines, and within economics too: the potential outcomes causal framework and the structural causal model (or causal graphs framework). The seminar considers the key features of these causal frameworks, their views about causality, and how they inform experimental and non-experimental approaches to causal inference. The approach is deliberately informal and intuitive, with recourse to simulations to illustrate some of the points.