

G53 Network Boot Camp

THE CHALLENGE

Instructor Alessia Sconti

The Challenge

- Come up with a **research question** by Thursday, June 26.
- Prepare a 2-page draft of your project (optional).
- Make new friends and potential collaborators — feel free to work in groups if you prefer.



The Challenge

- Submit your **research question** and summarize it in a **3-minute pitch** (a submission link and QR code to vote will be provided tomorrow).
- Everyone can vote, but not for their own project.
- The winner(s) will receive funding support to collect data using the UAS platform.



Starting from scratch

- What interests you?
- How to make it worth?
- Why does it matter?
- What data can help you reach that goal?



In other words

- Focus on your passion
- Make a clear contribution
- Think about on how to make it possible
- Leverage the impact



Objective 1

Identify promising research gaps and clarify the motivation behind your ideas.

Let's think about:

- **What's missing in the literature?**
 - Please identify gaps, underexplored areas, or outdated models in financial literacy and personal finance research.
- **What caught your attention?**
 - Reflect on something surprising or intriguing you encountered (e.g., a behavioral anomaly or counterintuitive data pattern).
- **Why is this relevant?**
 - Push yourselves to justify the real-world importance—especially in terms of household finance, inequality, policy, financial market functioning, or many others.

Objective 2

Thinking about the broader consequences and viability of your research ideas.

Let's think about:

- **What are the policy implications?**
 - Explore how findings might inform economic or financial policy (e.g., taxation, consumer protection, retirement savings).
- **Who is affected?**
 - Identify the stakeholders (e.g., households, firms, regulators, underserved populations).
- **Is it feasible?**
 - Consider data availability or need, what to ask in a survey, methodological challenges, and realistic scope.
- **Is it scalable or generalizable?**
 - Discuss whether the idea could apply across different countries, income groups, or time periods.

Objective 3

Let's think creatively about using and combining existing data.

Let's think about:

- **What existing datasets could be reused or matched?**
(Examples: household surveys, credit reports, tax records, bank data)
- **Can datasets be combined to find new insights?**
(Examples: government records, financial data from fintech apps, location-based data)
- **What other types of data could add value?**
 - Media coverage and public sentiment (news, economic uncertainty)
 - Social network data (peer effects, information spread on Twitter, Reddit, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram)
 - Weather or climate data (effects of natural disasters or seasonal changes or daily activities)
- **Are there natural experiments in the data?**
(Examples: policy changes, eligibility rules, or differences between locations)

Enjoy your Boot Camp!

