

Invitation to lectures on

## Public Policy in an Uncertain World

Public policy advocates routinely assert that “research has shown” a particular policy to be desirable. But how reliable is the analysis in the research they invoke? Charles Manski will in three lectures show why policy makers, civil servants, journalists and concerned citizens should understand research methods well enough to assess reported findings.

The lectures are based on the new book *Public Policy in an Uncertain World* (Harvard University Press, 2013) where Manski challenges the way researchers often use strong assumptions in order to obtain strong conclusions, failing to account for uncertainties in an unpredictable world. Instead he suggests an alternative approach which considers these uncertainties with more reliable findings as a result – offering an innovation to improve how policy research is conducted and how policy makers use research.

### Program

The first lecture will present a broad overview of the book that describes the major themes and gives illustrative examples. The second and third lectures will be more technical, the second showing why predicting policy outcomes is difficult and the third presenting a way decision making may reasonably cope with the difficulty of predicting policy outcomes.

#### Monday, January 21st

- 3:30–5:00 PM      Lecture 1: Policy Analysis and Decisions in an Uncertain World
- 5:00–6:00 PM      Reception

#### Tuesday, January 22nd

- 9:00–10:30 AM      Lecture 2: Predicting Policy Outcomes
- 10:30–11:00 AM      Coffee
- 11:00–12:30 PM      Lecture 3: Planning with Partial Knowledge



*Charles F. Manski is professor of Economics at Northwestern University. His research spans econometrics, judgment and decision, and the analysis of social policy. Manski is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, and an elected fellow of the Econometric Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.*

[More detailed information about the book.](#)

**Fee:** Lecture 1: 500 SEK. Lecture 1, 2, 3: 1 250 SEK.  
For students: Lecture 1: 150 SEK. Lecture 1, 2, 3: 300 SEK.

**Registration:** Please register at our website [www.iffs.se/manski](http://www.iffs.se/manski) before January 14th.  
The lectures take place at Institute for Future Studies at Holländargatan 13, Stockholm.

**Questions:** Please don't hesitate to contact us at [info@iffs.se](mailto:info@iffs.se). Welcome!