

## Gastón López

 Placement Director:
 Professor Alessandro Pavan
 847-491-8266
 alepavan@northwestern.edu

 Placement Administrator:
 Lola Ittner
 847-491-5213
 econjobmarket@northwestern.edu

**Contact Information** Department of Economics Mobile: +1 224-388-2182

Northwestern University gaston@u.northwestern.edu
2211 Campus Drive https://gaston-lopez.github.io
Evanston, IL 60208 Citizenship: Argentina

Fields Industrial Organization, Public Economics, Applied Microeconomics

**Education** Ph.D., Economics, Northwestern University, 2024 (Anticipated)

Dissertation: Essays on Industrial Organization and Public Economics Committee: Rob Porter (Chair), Vivek Bhattacharya, Gastón Illanes

M.A., Economics, Northwestern University, 2019 M.A., Economics, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, 2016 B.A., Economics, Universidad de Buenos Aires, 2014

Fellowships & Awards

Dissertation University Fellowship, Northwestern University, 2022-2023

Distinguished Teaching Assistant Awards, 2023 Distinguished Teaching Assistant Awards, 2022 Distinguished Teaching Assistant Awards, 2021

Scholarship for M.A. in Economics, FIEL Foundation, 2014 Magna Cum Laude, Universidad de Buenos Aires, 2014 Academic Merit Grant, Banco Santander Rio, 2013

Scientific Vocation Encouragement Grant, Consejo Interuniversitario Nacional, 2013 Scientific Vocation Encouragement Grant, Consejo Interuniversitario Nacional, 2012

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University, 2019-2023

Applied Econometrics (undergraduate); Econometrics (graduate); Intermediate Microeconomics

(undergraduate); Monopoly, Competition and Public Policy (undergraduate)

Teaching Assistant, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, 2014-2015
 Probability (graduate); Macroeconomics (undergraduate),
 Teaching Assistant, Universidad de Buenos Aires, 2011-2013
 Statistics (undergraduate); Microeconomics (undergraduate)

Job Market Paper

"Price Discrimination in State-Owned Enterprises: Evidence from a Nationalization in the Argentina Gasoline Industry" with Francisco Pareschi

We study the nationalization of YPF, Argentina's leading gasoline company. We find that the nationalization led to lower gasoline prices, particularly for inelastic demand products, and varying price reductions across geographic regions, favoring consumers who have political ties with the firm. We develop and estimate a model of supply and demand of gasoline and recover the objective function of the State-Owned Enterprise (SOE), allowing for heterogeneity in the way in which the SOE internalizes different groups of consumers and firms. Our analysis reveals a dual impact of the nationalization: reduced *economic price discrimination*, benefiting consumers on average, but increased *political price discrimination*, favoring particular groups over others based on political attributes. We then use the model to evaluate policy alternatives, including privatization and regulations

that limit SOEs' discretion, to inform the current debate surrounding SOEs in different countries. These findings shed light on the complexities of public provision, emphasizing the role of politics and interest groups in shaping SOEs actions and their distributional consequences.

Other papers "Reducing Consumer Inertia in Tobacco Markets", with Francisco Pareschi

Other ongoing work "Public Providers as Insurers Against Shocks: Evidence from the Liberalization of the Argentina Crude

Oil Market"

"Entry Under Demand Spillovers: Evidence from the Healthcare Industry"

**Languages** English (fluent), Spanish (native)

**Programming** Python, Stata, SQL

**References** Professor Robert Porter (chair)

Department of Economics Northwestern University 2211 Campus Drive Evanston, IL 60208 847.491.3491

r-porter@northwestern.edu

Professor Gastón Illanes Department of Economics Northwestern University 2211 Campus Drive Evanston, IL 60208 847.491.8227

gaston.illanes@northwestern.edu

Professor Vivek Bhattacharya Department of Economics Northwestern University 2211 Campus Drive Evanston, IL 60208 847.491.8213

vivek.bhattacharya@northwestern.edu