

Hamza BENAZZI

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EDUCATION

2024 (<i>Expected</i>)	PhD in Economics, Universitat De Barcelona , Barcelona <i>Advisor: Xavier Raurich</i>
APR-AUG 2023	Visiting PhD Student in Economics, Universidad De Carlos III , Madrid
JULY 2019	Master in Economics, Universitat De Barcelona , Barcelona
JULY 2017	Undergraduate Degree in ECONOMICS, IIUM , Kuala-Lumpur

RESEARCH FIELD

Macroeconomics, Public Policy, Education Economics, and Family Economics.

WORKING PAPER

Marriage and the Class Structure

This paper examines the recent trends in marriage rates in the U.S. from 2000 to 2021, focusing on the role of wage structure and work hours explaining these changes. Using IPUMS data, I show that the wage structure changed as well as a significant reduction in work hours for men across all income groups, with a slight increase for women. This study highlights that work hours, not just wages, significantly influence marriage patterns. The analysis finds that reductions in male work hours may increase marriage probability, suggesting that time availability is a crucial factor in household dynamics. A marriage model calibrated to 2000 and tested with 2021 data supports the hypothesis that changes in work hours better explain recent marriage trends than changes in wages. This paper contributes to understanding economic determinants of marriage by emphasizing the critical role of work hours.

Does Public Education Hurt the Middle Class?

In this paper, we construct a model in which individuals decide between private and public education. We study the effect of this decision on income inequality. In particular, we analyze the effect of three policies on the middle class, namely: an increase in government spending on public education, an increase in income tax, and an improvement in the productivity of public education. Our main finding is that increasing government spending on public education reduces the future income of the middle class by prompting parents in this group to opt out of private education.

Inequality and Education Funding: Evidence from the U.S. School Districts (Joint work with Calin Arcalean and Ioana Schiopu)

In the face of persistently rising income inequality, the capacity to redistribute becomes essential, especially when involving human capital production. Using the case of public education funding across US school districts between 2005 and 2019, we document a negative response of local funding to higher inequality. We then show that this negative response is driven by lower redistribution in poorer districts whereas in rich districts the tax base positive effect dominates. Our results, in line with recent theoretical work, emphasize a new inequality amplification mechanism.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

FEB-AUGUST 2024	Research Assistant at ESADE
2020-2023	Pre-Doctoral Researcher at University of Barcelona
MAY-AUG 2017	Research Assistant at CIE, Kuala Lumpur <i>Centre of Islamic Economics (IIUM)</i>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2024-2025	Managerial Economics, Teaching Assistant at ESADE
2024-2025	Macroeconomics I, Teaching Assistant at ESADE
2022-2023	International Economics, Undergraduate Courses at Universitat de Barcelona
2021-2022	Macroeconomics I, Undergraduate Courses at Universitat de Barcelona

GRANTS

Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, PID2023-153073NB-I00, 2024-2027," Structural Transformations in Modern Economies: Data, Theories and Policy Analyses" (PIs: Ioana Schiopu and Omar Rachedi), 109.375 euros

FI Doctoral Scholarship, 2021-2024: AGAUR, Catalan Government 80,000euros

SCHOLARSHIPS AND CERTIFICATES

2020/2023	Scholarship from "Generalitat de Catalunya" (FI).
2018/2019	Master's scholarship, Moroccan Ministry of Higher Education.
2015/2017	Dean's list for excellent academic performance.

SKILLS

TECHNICAL: Stata, R, Matlab, \LaTeX , Microsoft Office Suite

LANGUAGES: Arabic(Native), English (Fluent), French (Fluent), Spanish (Basic), Bahasa Melayu (Basic)

REFERENCES

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