Paola Moscariello

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Princeton University

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Graduate Studies

Princeton University

2019-present

PhD Candidate in Economics

Expected Completion Date: May 2025

References

Professor Leeat Yariv (main advisor) Professor Pietro Ortoleva Department of Economics Department of Economics Princeton University Princeton University

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Prior Education

Università Bocconi 2016-2018

M.Sc. in Economic and Social Sciences (ESS)

Università Bocconi 2013-2016

B.Sc. in International Economics, Management, and Finance (BIEMF)

Fields

Primary Microeconomic Theory

SECONDARY Political Economy, Behavioral Economics

Publications (including accepted & forthcoming)

1. "Information Avoidance in School Choice" Games and Economic Behavior, 2024.

Job Market Paper

"Redistricting with Endogenous Candidates"

I study partisan gerrymandering when district composition affects candidates' policy positions and, consequently, voters' behavior. In the U.S., primary elections determine which candidates compete in general elections, with a district's ideological composition shaping who emerges as the nominee. Thus, redistricting affects not only which party wins but also the ideology of competing candidates. I find that classical gerrymandering strategies can backfire when candidates emerge endogenously, particularly in districts where extreme voters may select non-viable candidates. However, when properly designed to account for both voter affiliation and preference intensity, gerrymandering can be a more powerful instrument than traditional approaches that consider only party affiliation. I show how methods from optimal transport theory can be used to characterize the optimal redistricting plan, which creates districts that maximize ideological distance between competing candidates. Using these findings, I analyze two implications for the U.S. House of Representatives: how gerrymandering contributes to political polarization and its consequences for minority representation.

Work in Progress

- 1. "Caution in the Face of Complexity", with Geoffroy de Clippel, Pietro Ortoleva, and Kareen Rozen. 2024.
- 2. "Reputation in a Committee with Multiple Principals: the Case of the FOMC", with Matias Iaryczower and Gabriel Lopez Moctezuma. 2024.
- 3. "Supply Responses to Redistricting", with Clément Herman and Nicolas Longuet-Marx. 2024.

Research Experience

2021 Research Assistant to Prof. Pietro Ortoleva

2020 Research Assistant to Prof. Roland Benabou

2018 Research Assistant to Prof. Pierpaolo Battigalli

Teaching

Princeton ECO 300: Intermediate Microeconomics (TA, Fall 2021-2024, Spring 2022-2024)

Bocconi Macroeconomics (TA, 2018)

Professional Activities

Presentations and Seminars (including scheduled)

- 2024 Caltech CTESS Workshop on Theory Based Experiments, 35^{th} Stony Brook International Conference in Game Theory, North American Meeting of the Economic Science Association in Columbus.
- 2023 Caltech CTESS Workshop on Theory Based Experiments, 34th Stony Brook International Conference in Game Theory, SWEET Conference at Columbia University.

Refereeing

American Economic Review, Econometrica, International Journal of Game Theory.

University and Departmental Service

International Student Affairs Chair at GSG (Graduate Student Government) 2022-present Organizer of the Political Economy Student Seminar 2021-2022

Honors, Scholarships, Fellowships, and Grants

Stephen Goldfeld Fellowship	2023
William S. Dietrich II Economic Theory Center Summer Grant	2021-2024
Princeton University Graduate School Fellowship	2019-2024
Uni Credit Foundation 17^{th} Crivelli Scholarship	2019-2022
Bocconi Graduate Merit Award	2016-2018

Languages

Italian (native), English

Last updated: October 2024