

Roberto González Téllez

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rob98e@gmail.com

(650) 444-2657

robertogtz.github.io

Research Interests

Development Economics, Political Economy, Econometrics

Education

Aug. 2022 – Dec. 2024

Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM)

Mexico City, Mexico

MA in Economic Theory

GPA: 9 / 10

Advisers: Profs. Enrique Seira, Arturo Aguilar

Top 2% of class

Aug. 2017 – May 2022

ITAM

Mexico City, Mexico

BA in Economics (Honors)

GPA: 8.08 / 10

Honors Thesis: *Do Social Insurance and Medical Attention Improve*

Health? Evidence from Seguro Popular in Mexico ([Available here](#))

Honorary Mention in 2023 Citibanamex Prize in Economics Research - Undergraduate

Mentors: Profs. Joyce Sadka, Andrei Gomborg, Arturo Aguilar

Publications

Beliefs, Information Sharing, and Mental Health Care Use Among University Students, Journal of Development Economics, 2025

with Alisher Batmanov, Idaliya Grigoryeva, Bruno Calderon-Hernandez & Alejandro Guardiola

Question: What role do beliefs and stigma play in shaping students' use of professional mental health services?

Work in progress

The Violent Effects of Apex Corruption

with Enrique Seira, Eduardo Rivera & Saumitra Jha

Question: Do corruption scandals hinder social stability by making people more prone to protesting violently?

Change in the Targeting Strategy of an Antipoverty Program: The end of Mexico's Progresa and rise of Becas Benito Juárez (MA Thesis)

with Arturo Aguilar, Santiago Ochoa & Horacio Reyes

Question: Is the universal unconditional cash transfer better vis-à-vis Proxy Means Tests in distributing resources to the intended population? Do universal unconditional cash transfers reduce dropout rates?

Research Experience

Jul. 2025 – Present

Stanford Graduate School of Business

Palo Alto, CA, USA

Supervisors: Profs. Saumitra Jha, Wesley Hartmann

Political Economics

- Estimated treatment effects of corruption scandals on protests occurrence using Poisson QML estimators
- Made case studies for corruption scandals in Latin America
- Plotted treatment effect heterogeneity of corruption scandals on corruption perceptions and a democracy index
- Computed FDR q-values for estimates of exposure to financial assets on Brexit remain/leave intentions
- Did literature review on identity-based updating and documented effects of canvassing and political persuasion interventions
- Tested plausible mechanisms through which exposure to financial assets influence remain/leave votes during Brexit referendum

Marketing

- Standardized brand names of brands with ads that air during SuperBowls
- Standardized agency names of brands that make ads that air during the SuperBowl
- Matched ad titles from AdAge and AdMeter datasets
- Cleaned comScore data to observe browsing behavior on the websites of brands that advertise during the SuperBowl
- Create transition matrices to map agency mergers/evolution across years

Jul. 2022 – Jun. 2025

Centro de Investigación Económica at ITAM

Mexico City, Mexico

Supervisors: Profs. Enrique Seira (Michigan State University) & Alberto Simpser (ITAM)

- Estimated treatment effects of RCT's on topics related to corruption and democracy, the contact hypothesis and tolerance, interest rates and minimum payments' effect on credit card default
- Conducted Event Study analysis on one million worker-quarter observations to provide an out of sample (with Mexico's employment survey) benchmark for treatment effects of reducing interest rates and increasing minimum payment on credit card default
- Programmed a survey on the Social Science Prediction Platform to assess how 'surprising' the treatment effect estimates found in the credit card default project were
- Prepared replication packages for submitted projects for QJE and Nature Human Behavior
- Implemented Implicit Association Tests for eliciting biases towards democratic or authoritarian behaviour
- Supervised four Junior Research Assistants on data cleaning and econometrics doubts
- Programmed surveys in Qualtrics for a variety of topics including democratic beliefs and attitudes, lawyer and lawsuit information, credit access and loan guarantees for agriculture firms ([Project info at Stanford University sites](#))

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| Aug. 2023 – Nov. 2024 | University of California, San Diego (UCSD) <i>Supervisors: Idaliya Grigoryeva & Alisher Batmanov</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed and programmed survey questions to elicit mental health-related beliefs and stigma with question, section and treatment randomization Ran a pilot on 60 students and analyzed data to support a successful Weiss Fund application Designed training materials for an RCT intended to train tutors of elementary school children on self-consciousness and well-being Recruited elementary school students for a project related to an online tutoring platform in Mexico | Remote |
| Aug. 2020 – Jul. 2022 | Centro de Investigación Económica at ITAM <i>Supervisors: Profs. J. Sadka & A. Gomberg</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted IV analysis for looking at mechanisms through which providing judges with a summary of the case file information could be working Scanned over 600 labor law suit case files to code the information related to the Employee-Employer relationship and the outcome of the lawsuit Supervised data coding by three undergraduate students doing their social service | Mexico City, Mexico |

Scholarships, Awards

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| 2023 – 2024 | Academic Excellence 100% Tuition Waiver for <i>MA in Economic Theory at ITAM</i> |
| 2023 | Honorary Mention in <i>2023 Citibanamex Prize in Economic Research - Undergraduate</i> |

Teaching Experience

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| Spring, Fall 2024 | Lecturer of Undergraduate Classes, ITAM Department of Economics Undergraduate - Introduction to Microeconomics <i>Content:</i> Opportunity Cost, Consumer Theory, Producer Theory, Perfect Competition, Monopoly, Externalities, Public Goods <i>Average student approval rating: 4.8 / 5</i> See student evaluations |
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|-----------|---|
| Sep. 2024 | Programming Lab - Making Maps in R (ITAM - INEGI - ANTAD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use shapefiles to plot maps with the <code>sf</code> package Aggregate data at different levels (e.g. electoral precinct, municipality) Good coding practices and version control with git |
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Skills

Programming

Proficient in Stata, R, Python, MATLAB and \LaTeX

Languages

Spanish (native), English (fluent), German (fluent), French (basic)

Industry experience

Summer 2021

Banorte Research and Experiments

Mexico City, Mexico

Summer Intern

- Conducted a meta-analysis evaluating the impact of different behavioral nudge-like interventions conducted by the bank.

Other Coursework

Apr. 2024

Mixtape Sessions: Design-based Inference

Instructor: Peter Hull (Brown)

Feb. 2024

Mixtape Sessions: Demand Estimation

Instructor: Jeff Gortmaker (Harvard)

Apr. 2020

MITx The Challenges of Global Poverty

Instructors: Esther Duflo & Abhijit Banerjee (MIT)

Feb. 2020

MITx Data Analysis for Social Scientists

Instructors: Sara Fisher Ellison & Esther Duflo (MIT)

Oct. 2016

MITx Microeconomics

Instructor: Jonathan Gruber (MIT)