SERGI QUINTANA GARCIA

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Fields Applied Microeconomics

Economics of Education

Labor Economics

Education Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Ph.D in Economics, 2021-2025 (expected) M.Res in Economic Analysis, 2019-2021

Duke University, Durham

Visiting PhD Student, Spring 2024

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

B.A. in Economics, 2014-2019

Erasmus School of Economics, Rotterdam

Exchange Semester, Fall 2018

Job Market Paper Financial Pressure and Career Choices

This paper examines the impact of student debt repayment plans on educational attainment and field of study choices of U.S. youth. To this end, I develop and estimate a dynamic human capital investment model that captures heterogeneity across education levels, occupations, and fields of study. I fit my model to rich individual career choice and financial data that allows to disentangle the determinants of educational and major choices. I then evaluate the effect of a very generous repayment plan introduced in 2023 known as "Saving on Valuable Education" (SAVE). Results indicate that the implementation of SAVE increases graduation rates by an average of 2 percentage points, with a more pronounced effect among low-income individuals, who are more responsive to the policy. This increase primarily results from a reduction in dropout rates among financially constrained students. Additionally, the field composition of the economy shifts, particularly among low-income students, who are 50% more likely to change fields than their high-income counterparts. The introduction of the policy allows for a better sorting of preferences, and the average individual that changes field experiences an increase in non-consumption taste for the field of study.

Papers in Progress

Pre-school Education and Long-Run Human Capital Formation (with Elisabetta Aurino,

Katherina Thomas and Sharon Wolf)

Preferences For School Composition in Catalonia

Seminars & Conferences

Spanish Economic Association Symposium, Mallorca (Upcoming).

Economics of Education Workshop, Toulouse School of Economics (2024)

Empirical Micro Workshop, Toulouse School of Economics (2024)

ENTER Jamboree, Université Libre de Bruxelles (2024)

BSE Jamboree, Barcelona (2024)

Labor/IO Lunch, Duke University (2024)

Bellaterra Internal Applied Seminar, IAE-UAB (2024)

BSE Jamboree, Universitat Pomeu Fabra (2023) ENTER Jamboree, University of Mannheim (2023)

UAB Applied Seminar, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (2023)

ENTER Jamboree, Barcelona (2022)

UAB Applied Seminar, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (2022)

Teaching Instructor:

Python for Economics, IDEA PhD Program (2023, 2024, 2025)

Stata for Economics, IDEA PhD Program (2024, 2025)

Statistics and Mathematics Brush Up, IDEA PhD Program (2022) Statistics Brush Up, Barcelona School of Economics (2022, 2023) Computation Brush Up, Barcelona School of Economics (2022, 2023)

Teaching Assistant:

Structural Empirical Methods for Labor Economics and Industrial

Organization, IDEA PhD Program, Prof. Joan Llull (2022)

Dynamic Structural Models for Policy Evaluation, Barcelona School of

Economics, Prof. Joan Llull (2024, 2025)

Topics in Applied Econometrics for Public Policy, Barcelona School of

Economics, Profs. Laura Mayoral and Lídia Farré (2023)

Quantitative and Statistical Methods I, Barcelona School of Economics,

Profs. Michale Creel and Maite Cabeza (2021)

Research Assistant Prof. Ursula Mello – IAE-CSIC (2021)

Academic Assistant Data Editor: The Econometric Society (2023 – present) **Positions** Assistant Data Editor: The Royal Economic Society (2022 – 2023)

Assistant to the Editor: BSE Focus (2021)

Academic Service Assistant to the organization Barcelona School of Economics Summer Forum (2022, 2023, 2024)

Assistant to the organization Conference Society of Economic Dynamics Barcelona (2024)

Co-organizer Internal Student Seminar UAB (2022, 2023)

Coordinator ENTER Network (2022, 2023) Co-organizer ENTER Jamboree Barcelona (2022)

Grants & Honors

FPI Scholarship (Since 2022) - Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation

Grant: PRE2021-099489

Severo Ochoa Barcelona School of Economics Fellowship (Spring 2022)

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

Software skills Python (Advanced), Stata (Advanced), Matlab (Intermediate)

Selected Training Econometric Tools for the Analysis of Matched Employer-Employee Data (SAEe PhD School

2023, Instructor: Rafaelle Saggio)

Difference-in-Differences Designs (Online 2023, Instructor: Pedro H. C. Sant'Anna)

Labor Markets, Inequality and Macroeconomic Outcomes (UAB 2022, Instructor: Alexander

Monge-Naranjo)

Difference-in-Differences with Panel Data (Online 2021, Instructor: Jeffrey M. Wooldridge)

Placement Director Inés Macho Stadler

Ines.Macho@uab.cat

References Joan Llull (Advisor) Arnaud Maurel Hanna Wang

Professor Associate Professor Assistant Professor

IAE-CSIC Duke University UAB

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