

ALIÉNOR BISANTIS

PhD Candidate in Economics

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Website

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Citizenship: French and Italian

Research interests

Labor Economics and Gender (primary), Economics of Sciences, Behavioral and Experimental Economics (secondary)

References

Yann Bramoullé

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Patricia Cortés

Boston University
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Roberta Ziparo

Aix-Marseille School of Economics
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José de Sousa

University of Paris Panthéon-Assas
jose.de-sousa@assas-universite.fr

Education

Aix-Marseille School of Economics, Marseille (France)

Since 2022

PhD Candidate in Economics

Supervisors: *Yann Bramoullé (AMSE, CNRS) and Roberta Ziparo (AMSE)*

Title: *Gender Inequalities and Academia*

Aix-Marseille School of Economics, Marseille (France)

2020 - 2022

Master Empirical and Theoretical Economics

Master thesis: *Gender Output Gap in Research: Evidence from France*

Faculty of Economics, Montpellier (France)

2018 - 2020

Bachelor in economics

Linköping University, Linköping (Sweden)

2019 - 2020

One-year Erasmus Program in Economics

Faculty of Science, Montpellier (France)

2016 - 2018

Cursus Master in Engineering in mathematics

Research visits

DIW Berlin, Berlin (Germany)

May-Jun 2025

Hosted by Katharina Wrohlich

Boston University, Boston MA (USA)

Spring 2025

Hosted by Patricia Cortés

Work in progress

Gender and Academic Mobility, Job Market Paper, Single authored

Abstract: What explains the gender gap in academic careers? This paper studies how geographic mobility constraints contribute to gender disparities in academic hiring, using novel administrative data covering the universe of PhD graduates in France between 2009 and 2021. I link individuals to the full set of job openings in their field and year of first application to analyze job search behavior and outcomes. First, I show that women apply to fewer positions, over shorter distances, and are more likely to target universities near their PhD institution. Second, I leverage quasi-random variation in the geographic structure of the job market across fields and cohorts to show that candidates facing more distant openings apply to fewer positions and are less likely to secure a job. Women respond more negatively to geographically distant markets, making them more exposed to these spatial frictions. Finally, I quantify the extent to which mobility constraints contribute to gender gaps in hiring: conditional on facing the same job market structure, women's stronger sensitivity to distance lowers their probability of securing a position by 1.71 percentage points relative to men, representing about 20% of the average hiring rate. Taken together, the findings highlight geographic mobility constraints as a meaningful and previously underexplored mechanism contributing to gender disparities in academic careers.

Missing Women in Research, with Yann Bramoullé and Roberta Ziparo

Abstract: We provide the first comprehensive analysis of gender differentials in academic trajectories following PhD graduation. Focusing on the universe of PhD graduates in France between 1988 and 2021, we show that raw estimates of gender gaps suggest that women publish less both on the extensive and intensive margin in STEM related fields but are more likely to publish in Biology and Earth Science and Social Sciences. However, controlling for discipline-time-university fixed-effects reveal that women are less likely to publish across all fields and career stage. Our estimates suggest that in the 25 years period from 1988 to 2012, 4,853 female PhD graduates are missing from Academia.

Hiding the Queen: Anonymous Competitions and Gender Performance in a Randomized Chess Experiment, with Jose De Sousa and Emma Paladino

Abstract: For decades, the convergence of female and male roles has been one of the most significant advances in society and the economy. Yet women remain under-represented in the upper echelons of business, politics, academia, science and culture. Literature in economics, sociology and psychology has explored factors that explain this underrepresentation. Among these factors, divergent attitudes toward competition play a key role. Male-dominated environments, in particular, tend to negatively affect women's performance, limiting their access to positions of power and decision-making. This project aims to explore the role of competition in gendered interactions considering the field setting of chess, which offers several advantages. First, chess is played in official competitions all over the world. Second, male and female players compete against each other in mixed tournaments. Third, players are ranked using Elo, a transparent, comparable and gender-neutral rating system. Fourth, chess is a highly male-dominated field and thus offers a compelling case study. While research documents gender performance gaps in chess, the underlying mechanisms remain unclear. This paper examines how gender-based interactions influence performance and participation. Participants are assigned to different experimental conditions. By comparing outcomes across different game configurations, we isolate the causal mechanisms of gender performance gaps, investigating whether men change their play against women, whether women's performance varies against men, or whether both effects are at play.

Gender Disparities in French Academic Careers: A Multi-Stage Analysis of Selection, Single authored

Abstract: This project examines the French academic pipeline to identify when and why women become underrepresented in faculty positions: I investigate whether they are less likely to apply, less likely to succeed, or a combination of both. Using comprehensive administrative data combining theses.fr doctoral records and administrative data from the Conseil National des Universités (CNU), I analyze gender gaps at each critical transition: from PhD graduation through qualification to securing permanent positions. My preliminary findings reveal significant discipline-specific patterns: in biological sciences, female PhD graduates are 3.5% less likely than males to apply for qualification, 8% less likely to pursue permanent positions when qualified, and 20% less likely to secure these positions when applying. In STEM fields, female PhD graduates are 6% less likely than males to apply for qualification, 4% less likely to apply for permanent positions when qualified, and 6% less likely to secure these positions when applying. Social sciences exhibit a reverse trend, with women 6% more likely than men to apply for qualification, with no significant gender differences in subsequent stages. In humanities, I found no significant gender differences across any stage.

Teaching

Aix-Marseille University

<i>T.A. Development - Undergraduate</i>	2025 - Today
<i>T.A. Economic Principles - Undergraduate</i>	2024 - Today
<i>T.A. Mathematics - Undergraduate</i>	2024 - 2025
<i>T.A. Statistical approach to economic and social issues - Undergraduate</i>	2023 - 2024
<i>T.A. Statistical methods - Undergraduate</i>	2022 - 2024

Research activities

Presentations

Upcoming: Applied Economics Lunch, PSE (Paris, France), LIDAM seminar, UCLouvain (Louvain, Belgium)	2026
Gender Reading Group, Boston University (Boston, USA), Empirical Micro Reading Group, Boston University (Boston, USA), Applied Micro Workshop, Boston University (Boston, USA), HCI Seminar, GDP center (Boston, USA), AFÉPOP (Marseille, France); Applied econometrics using Stata (Marseille, France); Cluster seminar, DIW Berlin (Berlin, Germany); EEA (Bordeaux, France); EDGE Jamboree (Cambridge, UK); PhD Seminar, AMSE (Marseille, France); Practice Job Talk, AMSE (Marseille, France)	2025
PhD Seminar, AMSE (Marseille, France), Junior Research Day, Collège de France (Paris, France), AFÉPOP (Aubervilliers, France), IOEA Spring School (Cargèse, France), JMA (Lille, France), PhD Seminar, CREST (Palaiseau, France), LAGV (Marseille, France), PhD Seminar, AMSE (Marseille, France)	2024
PhD Seminar, AMSE (Marseille, France), DevPol Informal Seminar, AMSE (Marseille, France)	2023

Training and Courses

IOEA - Spring School <i>Institutional and Organizational Economics</i>	May 2024
Paris School of Economics - Summer School <i>Economics of Gender - Biases, stereotypes, violence and policies</i>	Jun 2023

Academic Responsibilities

Female afterwork organizer (AMSE)	2025 - Today
Internship Supervisor (AMSE)	May-Jun 2025
Internship Supervisor (AMSE)	Jun-Jul 2024
Gender Informal Reading/Discussion Group (AMSE) <i>Organization and creation with Karine Moukaddem</i>	2023 - 2025

Research Dissemination

Upcoming: <i>Sciences Échos – Women in Science</i> Conference <i>Event information:</i> link <i>Production of an outreach YouTube video</i>	2026
Presentation at the <i>13' Young Researcher Program</i> (Aix-Marseille University) <i>13-minute TED-style presentation available here:</i> link	2024
Radio interview on <i>Radio Grenouille</i> <i>Available here:</i> link	2024
Participation in the <i>Sciences en Classe</i> program (Marseille) <i>Presentations in high schools and master's classes on gender inequalities in career orientation toward science fields</i>	2024

Research Assistant

Aix-Marseille School of Economics - Research Assistant

Jun-Aug 2021

Building and testing a survey to measure the integration of refugees in the labor market in Marseille

Skills

Programming:

Stata, R Studio, Python

Software & Tools:

QGIS, L^AT_EX, MS Office, R Markdown, Survey CTO

Other technical strengths:

Gimp, Adobe Premiere

Languages:

French (native), Italian (fluent), English (fluent), Spanish (good notions)

Last Update: November. 2025