

Cristóbal Ruiz-Tagle C.

CURRICULUM VITAE

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EDUCATION	PhD in Economics and Finance, Bocconi University, Italy <i>Thesis Title: Essays in Barriers and Pathways to Equitable Development</i> <i>Supervisors: Prof. Pamela Giustinelli, Prof. Sarah Eichmeyer</i>	Sep 20-Jun 25
	MSc. in Engineering, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile <i>Thesis Title: Preferences between Universities and Vocational Colleges</i> <i>Supervisor: Ricardo D. Paredes</i>	Aug 14- May 17
	BSc. in Engineering, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile <i>Industrial Civil Engineer Degree, Construction Management major</i>	Mar 09-Jun 14

RESEARCH INTERESTS	Primary Fields: Public Economics and Economics of Education Research Interests: Market failures, behavioral insights, gender, equity, mental health
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REFERENCES	Prof. Pamela Giustinelli Department of Economics Bocconi University pamela.giustinelli@unibocconi.it	Prof. Sarah Eichmeyer Department of Economics Bocconi University sarah.eichmeyer@unibocconi.it
	Prof. Rafael Sánchez F. Department of Economics CUNEF University rafael.sanchez@cunef.edu	

JOB MARKET PAPER	<p><u>Performance Gaps in High-Stakes Testing: The Role of Textual Context</u></p> <p>ABSTRACT: Standardized tests are crucial in shaping educational and career pathways, yet they are often criticized for reinforcing existing inequalities. This paper investigates how the textual content within questions on Brazil’s ENEM—the world’s second-largest college admission test—affects performance gaps across socioeconomic status (SES), gender, and ethnicity. Using data from over 3.8 million test-takers across 13 years (2010–2022), I analyze question-specific performance gaps, linking them to the words and themes present in each question through bag-of-words and topic modeling combined with penalized regressions. I find that context matters: SES gaps grow by 1.4 percentage points (23% of the overall SES gap) when questions feature financial language, with the effect concentrated among high-ability test-takers. Gender gaps expand by 1.1 points (30% of the average gender gap) when questions are framed in abstract scientific contexts, particularly for high-ability females, but shrink by 0.6 points (17% of the gender gap) in practical problem-solving scenarios. The presence of female characters helps narrow gender gaps, while references to underprivileged individuals amplify SES disparities. However, no significant text-based predictors are found for ethnic gaps. These findings underscore the impact of question context on equity, pointing to new ways to enhance fairness in testing through thoughtful content design.</p>
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**IN-PROGRESS
PAPERS****Battling Inertia: Evidence from a pro-competition reform in the Chilean pension system****Breastfeeding duration and Child Development: evidence from a natural experiment,***with Rafael Sánchez, Matías Berthelon and Diana Kruger***Understanding the Rules of the Game: The Role of Cutoffs in College Admissions,** *with
Raphaelle Aulagnon***PUBLICATIONS****Ruiz-Tagle, C.** (2019). Selection of School Principals Based on Competitive Processes: Evidence from a Policy for Chile. *Calidad en la Educación*, No 51. pp. 85-130. doi: <https://doi.org/10.31619/caledu.n51.646> (In Spanish)**Ruiz-Tagle, C.,** Paredes, R. (2019). Higher technical education: An alternative to university? *El Trimestre Económico*, Vol. 86, N° 341, pp. 31-63. doi: <https://doi.org/10.20430/ete.v86i341.621> (In Spanish)**BOOK CHAPTERS**

Competitive and transparent appointment of school principals in Chile: a review of a policy change (In Spanish). In Weinstein y Muñoz (forthcoming) "¿Qué sabemos sobre el liderazgo educativo en Chile hoy?"

TEACHING

Bocconi, Teaching Assistant Macroeconomics (BSc. Level)	Spring 2023-24
Bocconi, Tutor Microeconomics (BSc. Level)	Fall 2021- 24
Bocconi, Tutor International Macroeconomics (BSc. Level)	Spring 2023-24
Bocconi, Tutor Introduction to Econometrics (BSc. Level)	Fall 2024

**WORK
EXPERIENCE**

Research Assistant, Project Age-It Spoke 7, joint work by Bocconi University and Piemonte Orientale University, for Prof. Vincenzo Galasso.	2024
Research Assistant, Bocconi University for Prof. Matthias Rodemeier	2022
Advisor of Social Policy, Ministry of Finance, Chile.	2018-2020
Coordinator of Studies, Center of Real Estate Studies, ESE Business School, Universidad de Los Andes, Chile	2017-2018
Head of Studies Coordinator, NGO IdeaPaís, Chile	2014-2016

**AWARDS AND
SCHOLARSHIPS**

Fondazione Romeo ed Enrica Invernizzi Financial Support for PhD Candidates	2024-2025
Chilean National Agency for R&D, Becas Chile Scholarship for PhD	2020-2024

CONFERENCES

Milan PhD Economics Workshop, 2024

REFeree SERVICES*Studies in Higher Education, Poverty and Public Policy***PERSONAL
INFORMATION**

Citizenship: Chilean
 Languages: Spanish (Native), English (fluent), Italian (Beginner)
 Software: Stata, Python, LaTeX
 Married, three children