

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## Ralf Becker

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## QUALIFICATIONS

- Doctor of Philosophy, 2002, (QUT), principal supervisor Professor Stan Hurn
- Diplom-Volkswirt, 1998, (University of Mainz, Germany)

## PRESENT EMPLOYMENT

2005 – 2008	Lecturer, University of Manchester
2008 – to date	Senior Lecturer, University of Manchester
2020 – to date	Professor, University of Manchester

## PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENTS

2002 – 2004	Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology
1998 – 2002	Research Assistant and Tutor, Queensland University of Technology
1997 (Aug – Nov)	Project Assistant, Deutsche Bank AG
1993 – 1996	Survey Assistant, Hewitt Associates (part time)
1991 – 1992	Social Service (in lieu of Military Service)

## MEMBERSHIPS

- Royal Economic Society
- European Economic Association

## PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- Senior Associate of the Economics Network

## A. RESEARCH

### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

#### Books/Open Educational Resource

1. CORE – Doing Economics (2019)(with Eileen Tipoe). Available at: <http://https://www.core-econ.org/doing-economics/>. [Accessed on 17 Oct 2019]  
*Eileen Tipoe has been the lead author of this resource. I contributed and coordinated the R programming versions.*

#### Editor of Special Issue

1. Special issue on Flipping and Alternative Use of Classroom Time, in *International Review of Economic Education*, aim to publish in 2018 (co-edited with Alvin Birdi)

### **Relevant Academic Journal Articles**

1. Flipping the Classroom: Old Ideas, New Technologies Article reference (2018) (with Alvin Birdi), International Review of Economics Education, 29, p. 1-5, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iree.2018.06.001>
2. Flipping Quantitative Tutorials. (2018) (with Steven Proud), International Review of Economics, 29, p 59-73, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iree.2018.01.004>

### **Relevant Working Papers**

1. Evaluating non-compulsory educational interventions – the case of peer assisted study groups, (with Maggy Fostier), University of Manchester Discussion Paper Series, EDP-1509.

### **EDITORIAL WORK**

- Co-editor (with Alvin Birdi) for Special Issue on “Flipped Classrooms and Alternative Uses of Lecture Time” for the International review of Economics Education

### **CONFERENCE ORGANISATION**

- 2019 , **EEA-ESEM, 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the European Economic Association, 72nd European Meeting of the Econometric Society**, The University of Manchester, Head of local organising committee
- 2015 **Royal Economic Society Conferences**, The University of Manchester, Head of local organising committee
- 2014 **Royal Economic Society Conferences**, The University of Manchester, Deputy Head of local organising committee
- 2011, High-frequency data workshop, as part of the mid-term Marie Curie Network Conference.
- 2002, Econometric Society, Australasian Meeting, Member of Local Organisational Committee
- 1999, Queensland Finance Conference, Member of Local Organisational Committee

## **B. TEACHING AND LEARNING**

### **CURRENT TEACHING DUTIES**

Below is a listing of my current teaching commitments. Student Survey statistics relate to Question 4 (Ralf Becker's Teaching is excellent).

#### ECON10011 Studying Economics

A first year study skills course unit for a group of 150 1<sup>st</sup> year BSc Economics students.

#### ECON20110 Econometrics

This is the workhorse econometrics unit for 2<sup>nd</sup> year economics students (with between 250 and 300 students). While the lectures in this unit are currently taught by other staff members, I taught half of this unit (2<sup>nd</sup> semester) for many years. In a caretaker role, I am currently acting as course convenor.

#### ECON20222 Quantitative Methods (joint with Martyn Andrews)

A second year econometrics units (with about 50 students) which allows students to learn

about the essential empirical techniques required for economists. In order to facilitate the learning of the R programming language, I have created the [Econometric Computing Learning Resource](#) (ECLR).

#### ECON80021 Applied Econometrics (joint with Martyn Andrews)

This is a PhD level unit which focusses on developing a deep understanding of econometric computing for PhD students. Students learn how to use Matlab and Stata in order to undertake serious empirical work as required for PhD level work. In order to facilitate the learning of the Matlab programming language, I have created the [Econometric Computing Learning Resource](#) (ECLR).

#### Previous course unit leadership

Previously I also taught on a range of other units:

- ECON10062 Introductory Statistics  
From academic year 2008/09 to 2013/14. This was a large Year 1 unit for students entering University with a lower level of mathematical background. This unit is now run by colleagues in the Department for Social Statistics.
- ECON61001 Econometric Methods  
Academic year 2012/13. A compulsory Econometrics unit for MSc Economics students.
- ECON60901 Introductory Quantitative Methods.  
Academic years 2014/15 to 2015/16. Pre-Session unit for incoming MA and MSc Economics students as well as MSc DEP students.

#### **EXTERNAL TEACHING RELATED SERVICE**

- I contribute regularly to the GTA and New Lecturers **Workshops run by the Economics Network**, 2013 to date

As a Senior Associate to the Economics Network I regularly contribute to workshops.

##### Early Careers Workshops

2019 hosted at The University of Newcastle

2018 hosted at The University of Oxford

2016 hosted at Westminster University

##### Graduate Teaching Assistant Workshop

2016 The University of Oxford, York University

2017 The University of Oxford, The University of Warwick, The University of Manchester

2018 The University of Manchester, The University of Bristol

2019 The University of Manchester

##### Half Day workshop, The University of Hull (2019)

Together with another Senior Associate of the Economics Network we ran a half-day workshop to help departmental staff to embrace the teaching challenges faced by the economics department.

##### Revisiting the state of economics education (2015)

A one day event designed to explore reforms in economics education, which took place at the Bank of England on 17th March 2015.

- Organisation and contribution to **teaching specific workshops at Research conferences**.
  - Spanish Economics Conference, Alicante (2019)
  - EEA-ESEM, Lisbon (2017); Manchester (2019)
  - Royal Economic Society Conference, Manchester (2014)
- **Representative** of the Economics Network on the **Royal Economic Society's Teaching and Learning Committee**

## OPEN ACCESS TEACHING RESOURCES

- Contribute **R-versions to the CORE Doing Economics** online resource (<https://www.core-econ.org/project/doing-economics/>)
- I have a YouTube Channel (<http://www.youtube.com/c/RalfBecker>) on which I publish many **online clips** I produce to support my student's learning. I have more than 5,000 followers and my clips have been viewed more than 1.3 million times.
- I have been instrumental in the creation and writing of the [Econometric Computing Learning Resource](#) (ECLR). This has been written to support our students' learning of statistical software (in particular R and MATLAB). It is heavily used by our own students but is also openly accessible.

## TEACHING AWARDS

- University of Manchester Teaching Excellence Award 2011
- Faculty of Humanities – Best in Blackboard Award 2011 – shortlisted
- Faculty of Humanities – Best in Blackboard Award 2012 – Highly commended
- Faculty of Humanities – Best in Blackboard Award 2013 – Highly commended
- Economic Network – Best Economics Lecturer 2013, Runner-up
- The University of Manchester Student Union – Most Innovative Lecturer – Shortlisted
- Faculty of Humanities – Best in Blackboard Award 2014 – Special Award for continued excellence
- Faculty of Humanities – Best in Blackboard Award 2015 – Special Award for continued excellence
- School of Social Sciences – Academic Advisor Prize 2019 – nominated by students
- Faculty of Humanities - Faculty Students' Outstanding Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) Award, 2018/19
- Faculty of Humanities - Faculty Students' Outstanding Teaching Award, 2020/21

## TEACHING GRANTS

- University of Manchester, Investing in Success, 2012

This grant was used as seed funding to create the [Econometric Computing Learning Resource](#) (ECLR).

- University of Manchester, CHERIL Grant, 2015

This grant was used to start a total redesign process of our large 2<sup>nd</sup> year Econometrics unit. One outcome of this grant was the investment into a mobile online clip recording unit which is still used by colleagues in the department.

- Discover Economics, 2018/19, RES Grant

This is a grant from the Royal Economic Society to support the running of workshops to encourage students from a widening participation background and/or female students to discover the exciting possibilities an economics degree can open up.