

FRANCISCO DEL VILLAR ORTIZ MENA

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Placement Directors:

Professor Ufuk Akcigit, uakcigit@uchicago.edu, (773) 702-0433

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Graduate Student Coordinator: Amy Schulz, aschulz@uchicago.edu, (773) 834-1972

Education

The University of Chicago, 2016 to present.

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics

Thesis Title: “*Detection of Irregular Assignments of Cases to Judges*”

Expected Completion Date: June 2022

Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), 2010 to 2014

B.A. Economics, graduated with honors.

References:

Ali Hortaçsu (Chair)

The University of Chicago

(773) 702-5841, hortacsu@uchicago.edu

Stéphane Bonhomme

The University of Chicago

(773) 834-6831, sbonhomme@uchicago.edu

Alexander Torgovitsky

The University of Chicago

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Teaching and Research Fields:

Primary fields: Political Economy, Applied Econometrics

Secondary fields: Public Economics

Teaching Experience:

2019-2021 Applications of Econometrics and Data Science Methods (undergraduate honors), Teaching Assistant for Ali Hortaçsu.

2020 The Economics of Crime (undergraduate), Teaching Assistant for Steven Levitt.

2019 Economics Research Experience for Undergraduates, Becker Friedman Institute, Lecturer.

2019 Price Theory 1 (Ph.D), Teaching Assistant for Casey Mulligan and Kevin Murphy.

2018 Advanced Microeconomic Analysis (M.B.A.), Teaching Assistant for Kevin Murphy.

Research Experience:

2017-2018 The University of Chicago, Research Assistant for Ali Hortaçsu.

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2020 Pearson Institute Research and Innovation Fund Grant

2016-2021 Division of Social Sciences Fellowship, The University of Chicago

Organization of Conferences and Workshops

2018-2019 Empirics and Methods in Economics Conference (The University of Chicago and Northwestern University)

2018-2019 Applied Microeconomics Working Group (The University of Chicago)

Language and Computer Skills:

Computer Skills: Python, R, Linux.

Languages: Spanish (Native), English and French (Fluent).

Job Market Paper:

“Illicit Assignments of Cases to Judges in Ecuador”

Abstract: I develop tools to detect irregular assignments of cases to judges and apply them to Ecuador's judicial system. I construct a database of over 2 million case assignments in Ecuador's district courts from 2016 to 2020 and I find that 80% of assignments that are inconsistent with existing regulations are accounted for by 7% of judges and 2% of courts. Overall, at least 2.9% of assignments are irregular. To obtain these quantities, I derive the sharp bounds on the overall, court-specific and judge-specific rates of irregular assignments, under two assumptions. First, I rely on *one-sided instruments*. These are variables that are excluded from one counterfactual outcome only: the assignment that would have been observed, had it been consistent with existing regulations. Second, I assume that the distribution of this counterfactual outcome is known. This assumption is stronger and yields informative lower bounds on the judge-specific probabilities that a case assignment is irregular.

Work in Progress:

“Measurement of Tax Evasion from Guatemalan Administrative Records”