Francis J. DiTraglia

Contact Information

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Academic Positions

Associate Professor of Economics, University of Oxford, Oxford UK, 2019 – Present

Resident Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Chicago IL, July–December 2025

Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, 2013 – 2019

Lecturer in Economics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA, 2012 – 2013

Other Affiliations

Tutor and Fellow in Economics, Lady Margaret Hall Oxford, 2019 – Present

Visiting Researcher, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, 2019 – 2020, 2022 – Present

Associate Member, Nuffield College Oxford, 2023 – Present

Visiting Researcher, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2016 – 2019

Warren Center for Network and Data Science, 2013 – 2019

Education

Ph.D., Economics, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, U.K., 2013

M.A., Economics, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA, 2009

M.Sc., Statistics with Distinction, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, U.K., 2007

B.A., Economics and Mathematics, Phi Beta Kappa, *summa cum laude*,
College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA, 2006

Publications

Selection of Invalid Instruments can Improve Estimation in Mendelian Randomization (with Ashish Patel, Verena Zuber, and Stephen Burgess), *Annals of Applied Statistics*, 2024, 18(2), pp. 1729-1749.

Hidden Hazards and Screening Policy: Predicting Undetected Lead Exposure in Illinois (with Ali Abbasi, Ludovica Gazze, and Bridge Pals), *Journal of Health Economics*, July 2023, 90, 102783.

Identifying Causal Effects in Experiments with Spillovers and Non-compliance (with Camilo García-Jimeno, Rossa O'Keefe-O'Donovan, and Alejandro Sánchez-Becerra), *Journal of Econometrics*, 2023, 235 (2), pp. 1589-1624.

A Framework for Eliciting, Incorporating, and Disciplining Identification Beliefs in Linear Models (with C. García-Jimeno), *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, 2021, 39 (4), pp. 1038-1053.

Identifying the Effect of a Mis-classified, Binary, Endogenous Regressor (with Camilo García-Jimeno), *Journal of Econometrics*, 2019, 209 (2), pp. 376-390.

A Generalized Focused Information Criterion for GMM (with Minsu Chang), *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, 2018, 33 (3), pp. 378-397.

Using Invalid Instruments on Purpose: Focused Moment Selection and Averaging for GMM *Journal of Econometrics*, 2016, 195 (2), pp. 187–208.

Portfolio Selection: An Extreme Value Approach (with Jeffrey Gerlach), *Journal of Banking and Finance*, 2013, 37 (2), pp. 305–323.

Measuring Altruism in a Public Goods Experiment: A Comparison of U.S. and Czech Subjects, (with Lisa Anderson and Jeffrey Gerlach), *Experimental Economics*, 2011, 14 (3), pp. 426–437.

Yes, Wall Street, There is a January Effect: Evidence from Laboratory Auctions, (with Lisa Anderson and Jeffrey Gerlach), *Journal of Behavioral Finance*, 2007, 8 (1), pp. 1–8.

Working Papers

Structured Payment in Pawnshop Borrowing: Mandates versus Choice (with Issac Meza, Joyce Sadka, Enrique Seira, & Craig McIntosh), *Revise and Re-submit, Review of Economic Studies*

Bayesian Double Machine Learning for Causal Inference (with Laura Liu)

Global Lead Exposure Since the Ban on Leaded Gasoline (with Mengli Chen, Ludovica Gazzè, Reshmi Das, Yigal Erel, Edward Boyle & Dominik Weiss), *Submitted*

Works in Progress

To Link or Not to Link? Estimating Long-run Treatment Effects from Historical Data (with Camilo García-Jimeno & Ezra Karger)

Experimenting with Spillovers: A Guide for Practitioners (with Alejandro Sánchez-Becerra)

Mapping Disparities in Childhood Lead Exposure in England (with Ludovica Gazzè)

A History of Violence: Forced Displacement and *de facto* Land Reform in Rural Colombia (with Camilo García-Jimeno)

Grants

UKRI Cross Research Council Responsive Mode (CRCRM) – "Elevated Childhood Lead Interagency Prevalence Study (ECLIPS)", January 2025–December 2027

UKRI Metascience Research Grant: "Fostering a Dynamic Academic Ecosystem: Innovative Platforms and Methodologies for Econometrics", January 2025–December 2027

Oxford Social Sciences Division Teaching Development and Enhancement Project Award – "Adapting Core Empirical Research Methods for the AI Era", January 2025 – June 2025

Oxford Social Science Division Integrated Impact Grant – "Mapping Disparities in Childhood Lead Exposure," Summer 2023

Oxford Public Policy Challenge Fund Award – "Mapping Disparities in Childhood Lead Exposure in England," December 2021 – May 2022

John Fell OUP Research Fund Pump-priming Grant – "Identifying Causal Effects in Experiments with Social Interactions and Non-compliance," January 2020 – December 2023

Oxford Social Sciences Division Teaching Development and Enhancement Project Award – "Core Empirical Research Methods," June 2021 – June 2022

Center for Teaching and Learning Course Development Grant (UPenn) – "Statistical Learning and Causal Inference for Economics," Spring 2018

University Research Foundation Award (UPenn) – "A Framework for Eliciting, Incorporating and Disciplining Identification Beliefs in Linear Models," Spring 2016 – Spring 2017

School of Arts and Sciences Research Opportunity Grant (UPenn) – "A Framework for Eliciting, Incorporating and Disciplining Identification Beliefs in Linear Models," Spring 2016 – Spring 2017

PURM Program Grant (UPenn), Summer 2015

Honors and Awards

Kravis Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching in Economics, UPenn, 2014 & 2017

Cambridge International Scholarship, 2009–2012

Humane Studies Fellowship, 2009–2012

Economics Department Fellowship, UCSD, 2007–2008

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship, St Andrews, 2006–2007

Lord Botetourt Medal (equivalent of valedictorian), William & Mary, 2006

Cissy Patterson Prize in Mathematics, William & Mary, 2006

Class of 1940 Scholarship, William & Mary, 2004–2006

Teaching

Short Courses:	Causal Inference: The Basics, Causal Inference: Beyond the Basics
Oxford:	Treatment Effects (Grad), Limited Dependent Variables (Grad), Empirical Research Methods (Grad), Econometrics (Undergrad), Behavioral & Experimental Economics (Undergrad), Introductory Probability & Statistics (Undergrad)
UPenn:	Model Selection and Statistical Learning (Grad), Statistics for Economists (Undergrad), Statistical Learning and Causal Inference (Undergrad)

Graduate Advising

Main or Joint Supervisor:	Antilia Virginie (in progress), Emily Oehlsen (Open Philanthropy, 2024), Irina Pimenova (Citadel Securities, 2018), Tim Hursey (Afiniti, 2019)
Committee Member:	Lorenzo Braccini (Bank of Italy, 2015); Minchul Shin (UIUC, 2015); Laura Liu (Fed Board of Governors, 2017), Ross Ashkenazi (Cornerstone Research, 2017); Minsu Chang (Georgetown University, 2019); Alejandro Sánchez-Becerra (Emory, 2021)

Professional Activities

Refereeing:	American Economic Review, Annals of Statistics, Biometrika, Econometrica, Econometric Reviews, Econometric Theory, Econometrics Journal, International Economic Review, International Journal of Forecasting, International Review of Economics and Finance, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Business and Economic Statistics, Journal of Econometrics, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Journal of Multivariate Analysis, Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference, Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, Labour Economics, Oxford Economics Papers, Oxford Bulletin of Economics & Statistics, Quantitative Economics, Review of Economic Studies
Workshops Organized:	*Bayesian Approaches to Causal Inference* (Oxford, Feb. 2025) *Online Reading Group in Bayesian Inference* (July 2024–present) *High-Dimensional Econometrics and Statistics* (Warren Center, Oct. 2015), *Big Data and Open Science with R* (Warren Center, Nov. 2014)
Service:	Chair of Departmental Research Ethics Committee (Oxford 2023–present) Member of Departmental General Purposes Committee (Oxford 2024–present)
Miscellaneous:	Co-founder `https://sqare.org` Proprietor `https://econometrics.blog`

Seminar and Conference Presentations

- 2024–2025 CFE-CMStatistics International Joint Conference, University of York, HERC Seminar (Nuffield Department of Population Health)
- 2022–2023 Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
- 2021–2022 Bristol Econometrics Study Group, UC Riverside, Lancaster, Econometric Society European Summer Meeting
- 2020–2021: Econometric Society World Congress, Fed/NCSU Econometrics Workshop, RES Annual Meeting, University of Zurich
- 2019–2020: *Postponed due to Coronavirus: University of Bristol, University of Groningen, Singapore Management University, National University of Singapore, RES Annual Conference, University of Zurich*
- 2018–2019: IAEE Annual Conference (Montreal), Philadelphia FRB, Oxford, SEA Annual Meetings, Aarhus
- 2017–2018: Rice, Syracuse, Cornell, SUNY Binghamton, Boston College, Georgetown, Tilburg, Econometric Society North Amerian Winter Meeting, Rochester
- 2016–2017: Philadelphia FRB, CEMFI, Manchester, UCL, Cambridge, Oxford, Econometric Society Latin American Meeting (invited), Northwestern, Camp Econometrics XII, Econometric Society North American Summer Meeting
- 2015–2016: Midwest Econometrics Group Meetings, Chicago Booth, Princeton, Penn State, Greater New York Area Econometrics Colloquium, ISBA World Meeting
- 2014–2015: Warren Center Symposium, Brown, Rutgers, NSF-NBER Seminar on Bayesian Inference in Econometrics and Statistics
- 2013–2014: Tilburg University, Tinbergen Institute, Midwest Econometrics Group Meetings, Econometric Society Latin American Econometrics Workshop
- 2012–2013: Columbia University, University of Wisconsin Madison, Econometric Society North American Summer Meetings (USC)
- 2011–2012: George Washington, Penn, CREATES (Aarhus), St Andrews, Oxford, Oxford-Man Institute, Queen Mary, University of Vienna, Econometric Society European Summer Meeting (Oslo)