

SANTIAGO FRANCO

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Office Contact Information

University of Chicago, Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics
Saieh Hall for Economics
5757 S University Ave, Chicago, IL 60637

Employment

Assistant Professor in Economics, Boston University 2024 -

Education

University of Chicago

Ph.D. in Economics 2018 - 2024
Thesis committee: Esteban Rossi-Hansberg, Ufuk Akcigit, Chang-Tai Hsieh, Erik Hurst

Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

B.A. in Economics and B.Sc. in Mathematics 2017

Research Fields

Macroeconomics, Spatial Economics, Economic Growth, Productivity

Working Papers

“Output Market Power and Spatial Misallocation”

“(In)formal Growth: Wage Dynamics in Developing Economies”
with Jose M. Quintero

“Estimating Production Functions in Differentiated-Product Industries with Quantity Information and External Instruments”
with Nicolas de Roux, Marcela Eslava, and Eric Verhoogen

Work in Progress

“Aggregate TFP Growth and Quality Change: Evidence from Colombian Manufacturing”
with Danial Lashkari and Eric Verhoogen

“Copycats or Pioneers? Firm Dynamics in an Informal Economy”
with Jose M. Quintero

Awards, Scholarships, and Grants

University of Chicago Data Funds Award (\$3,000) 2023

University of Chicago Henry Morgenthau Jr. Memorial Fellowship 2023 - 2024

University of Chicago Mansueto Institute Urban Doctoral Fellow 2020 - 2021

University of Chicago Neubauer Fellowship 2018 - 2023

Universidad de los Andes *Cum Laude* degree in economics 2017

Universidad de los Andes Ulpiano Ayala award, best undergraduate thesis in economics 2017
Thesis advisor: Pierre-Olivier Weill

Teaching

Boston University

Undergraduate Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory

Spring 2025

Graduate 1st Year Macroeconomic Theory

Fall 2024

University of Chicago

Graduate 2nd Year Spatial Economics, TA

Winter 2023

MBA International Commercial Policy, TA

Fall 2020, 2021

Undergraduate Macroeconomics Honors, TA

Winter, Spring 2021

Graduate Math Camp

Summer 2021

Professional Experience

Presentations

2024: Arizona State University, Boston College, Boston University, Eunadi Institute for Economic and Finance, PUC-Chile, Universidad de Chile, University of Michigan, University of Pittsburgh

Pre-2024: Northwestern, Lacea-Lames, Ames

Refereeing Activity

Journal of Political Economy, Journal of the European Economic Association, The Economic Journal

Data Clearances

U.S. Census Bureau Special Sworn Status