GERARD MARTÍN-ESCOFET

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Education

London School of Economics and Political Sciences (LSE)

London, UK

MSc Econometrics and Mathematical Economics

09/2019 - 06/2020

- Grade: 78/100 (distinction). Distinction in 4/4 of the subjects.
- Subjects: Advanced Macroeconomics; Advanced Microeconomics; Econometric Analysis; Economic Growth, Development, and Capitalism in Historical Perspective.

Toulouse School of Economics (TSE)

Toulouse, France

Master 1 in Economics (International Track)

09/2018 - 08/2019

- Grade: 16.98/20.00 (mention très bien/first class honors), Ranking: 2/31, Mention très bien in 11/16 courses.
- Subjects: Macroeconomics; Intermediate Econometrics; Game Theory; Incentives; R programming; Development Economics; Evolution of Economic Behavior; Public Economics; Program Evaluation; Applied Econometrics; Panel Data; Time Series; Advanced Macroeconomics; Advanced Microeconomics.

License 3 en Economie (obtained as part of a double degree in economics TSE-UPF)

09/2017 - 06/2018

• Grade: 18.04/20 (mention très bien/first class honors).

Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF)

Barcelona, Spain

BSc in Economics

09/2015 - 06/2019

- GPA: 9.28/10.00. Ranking: 2/144. Matrícula d'honor (top 5% of the class) in 21/33 of the courses taken at UPF.
- Awarded the Graduation Special Award recognizing the top student in the 2015-2019 class of Economics.
- Training in: Microeconomics; Macroeconomics; Econometrics; Financial Economics; Accounting; Probability and Statistics; Mathematics (Real Analysis, Linear Algebra, Calculus, Differential Equations).
- Clubs: United Nations Students' Association, Debate Championships.

Professional experience

Centre de Recerca en Economia Internacional (CREi), UPF

Barcelona, Spain 09/2020 – present

Research Assistant for Professors Victoria Vanasco and Vladimir Asriyan

• Performed coding (Matlab), empirical analyses (Stata), and literature reviews.

• Main projects (funded by ERC Starting Grant (2020) "Information, Markets, and the Macroeconomy"): <u>Falling Interest Rates and Credit Misallocation: Lessons from General Equilibrium; Security Design in Non-Exclusive Markets with Asymmetric Information</u>; Security design under scrutiny.

Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Department of Economics

Barcelona, Spain 04/2019 – 08/2019

Research Assistant for Professor Marta Reynal-Querol

Collected data on the first Spanish settlers in America.
Wrote reports on the Spanish settlers' educational background and settlers' location.

CETEC, Private University Academy

Teacher

Barcelona, Spain 12/2017-06/2019

- Designed and taught coursework to optimize students learning on undergraduate-level Macroeconomics (1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-year level), Microeconomics (1st- and 3rd-year level), Financial Economics (3rd-year level), and Labor Economics (3rd-year level).
- Conducted several classes of 30-35 students.

Research experience

Simple versus average inflation targeting: a comparison

In progress

- Analyzes, in a New Keynesian model with cost push shocks, the equilibrium and welfare properties of an interest rate rule that targets yearly inflation versus a rule that targets a N-period average of past inflation realizations.
- Finds that average targeting is better than simple targeting in a standard calibration of the model when costpush shocks are small, and when the policymaker has no commitment.

Sharing a government? A spatial model of centralization versus decentralization

12/2020

- Incorporated a spatial dimension to Ventura (2019) to make project externalities dependent on the distance between regions.
- Found that the decision to (de)centralize projects can be sub-optimal when regions know their position on the space, while voting under the veil of ignorance would solve inefficiencies.

The effect of market potential on growth: a spatial analysis of population concentration in Spain (1900-2010)

06/2020

• Studied the relationship between the market access/potential of Spanish municipalities and growth.

- Found that the patterns of growth are consistent with New Economic Geography models, and that the largest metropolitan areas of Spain are already showing signs of economic congestion.
- Supervised by Dr. Neil Cummins. Obtained a distinction.

Modern economic growth and convergence: the long-run evolution of regional inequality 06/2019 in Spain (1860-2010)

- Performed an analysis of sigma and beta convergence between Spanish regions during 1980-2010.
- Found that regions conditionally converged in the long run, but convergence halted in the last 40 years.
- Supervised by Prof. Albert Carreras. Awarded a matrícula d'honor.
- Published in the UPF e-repositori.

Do economies respond with neoclassical growth dynamics to natural disasters? Evidence from panel data on the effect of natural disasters on growth (joint with students Gerard Maideu (TSE) and Romain Bretenou)

- Analyzed the growth effects of natural disasters by using a panel of data following countries over several years.
- Found that there is evidence of neoclassical growth dynamics for small disasters.
- Supervised by Dr. Shruti Sinha. Obtained a mention très bien.

Thar She Bursts revisited: Children, adolescents and bubble experiments (joint with students Carles Aulés-Blancher (LSE), Rut Balada, Anna Baiget, and Eduard Cruset (TU Delft))

- Investigated the behavior of 9-year-old children and 15-year-old adolescents in Barcelona schools when confronted with the formation of economic bubbles.
- Adapted two existing experiments to be played by children and adolescents.
- Found that both children and adolescents create bubbles, and that the former may not even notice the bubble.
- Supervised by Prof. Marta Reynal-Querol. Awarded a *matricula d'honor*.

Awards, fellowships, and scholarships

Graduation Special Award to the top student in the 2015-2019 class of Economics.	12/2019
La Caixa Fellowship for Postgraduate Studies: 100% financing of graduate studies at	09/2019 - 06/2020
LSE + living expenses and other allowances.	
Ramón Areces Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies: Same as La Caixa Fellowship.	Declined
Declined due to incompatibility with the latter.	
Mobint Scholarship (Catalan Government): 1,200€ to finance exchange program at TSE.	03/2019
Best Debate Team in Economics (with Carles Aulés-Blancher) at the UPF's Debate Competition	on. 02/2018
La Pedrera Foundation Award: 100% financing of 1st-year tuition for undergraduate	09/2015
studies at UPF. Awarded to top SAT performers in Catalonia.	

International and national conferences

Virtual Talks La Caixa (10/2021): invited by La Caixa Foundation to debate on climate change, cryptocurrencies, and Brexit.

Seminario Virtual Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (08/2020): invited by the Labor Markets and Social Security Network division of the IDB to present my Master thesis.

Models of United Nations (2017-2018): awarded Best Position Paper in EuroMUN2017.

Skills

Languages: Catalan and Spanish (native); English (proficient); Italian and French (advanced).

IT: Stata, Matlab, Microsoft Office, LaTex, Lyx (Advanced); R, Dynare, Mathematica (Intermediate); HTML/CSS, Git (basic).

Other relevant information

UPF Teaching Assistant (Expected for JAN-APR 2022). Course: Introduction to Macroeconomics (Prof. Alberto Martin).

Audited courses (UPF-MRes in Economics) in Topics in Macroeconomics, Advanced Techniques in Macroeconomics I, Advanced Techniques in Macroeconomics II, Topics in Macrofinance.