

Gonçalo Lima

📍 Piazza Antonio Scaravilli, 2, 40126 Bologna BO, Italy

✉ goncalo.lima@eui.eu, goncalo.lima@unibo.it / 🧑 goncalolima.com



Research Interests

Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Health Economics, Applied Econometrics

Current Position

Research Fellow	2024 - Present
Department of Economics, University of Bologna , Italy	

Education

Ph.D. in Economics	2020 - Present
European University Institute , Italy	
Supervisors: Andrea Ichino and Sule Alan	
Expected Completion Date: April 2026	
Master of Research in Economics	2021
European University Institute , Italy	
Master of Science in Economics	2017
Lisbon University Institute - ISCTE , Portugal	
Bachelor of Science in Economics	2015
Lisbon University Institute - ISCTE , Portugal	

Working Papers

Physician Overtime Restrictions and Patient Mortality

with Kathrine Lorentzen

Abstract: Physicians work substantially longer hours than the average worker in the economy, with its' consequences for healthcare quality remaining poorly understood. This paper studies how constraining physicians' working hours affects hospitals' healthcare provision and patients' health. We evaluate a 1982 reform in Denmark that strongly restricted the scheduling of overtime, weekend, and nighttime shifts. Consistent with an hours-to-workers substitution, hospitals' labor demand increased by 35% one-year after implementation. Drawing on administrative data covering the universe of hospitalizations in Denmark, we combine this labor demand shock with variation in exposure to the policy across hospital wards in a dose-response difference-in-differences strategy. As exposure, we use the pre-reform share of emergency cases in each hospital ward, that we show to be highly predictive of post-policy labor demand change. We find that a one-standard-deviation difference in exposure to overtime restrictions led to 2.4 fewer deaths in hospital for every thousand admissions (-5.8%), three years after the onset of the reform. The overall mortality decline is driven by greater gains among patients with urgent medical needs, with no changes on post-discharge readmission rates or average length-of-stay.

Parental Education Spillovers and School Outcomes: Evidence from Siblings

with Miguel Nunes [Download Paper](#).

Abstract: We study the effect of exposure to peers with college-educated parents on the school outcomes of children from less educated households. For identification, we exploit within-family-by-year variation to control for the significant non-random sorting of parents into schools, and time-varying shocks to the family environment. We use a rich administrative data from Portugal, a school system with some of the largest gaps in educational attainment by children's socioeconomic status among OECD countries. We find that moving a student from the 10th to the 90th percentile in the distribution of exposure to children with college-educated parents is equivalent to closing about a fifth of the gap in grade repetition by parental education. We show that the effect on grade repetition is partly driven by improved school performance, consistent with a social contagion type of mechanism. However, we also show suggestive evidence that schools fail fewer students who were eligible to repeat when faced with higher concentrations of students with college-educated parents.

Mass Reproducibility and Replicability: A New Hope, *R&R Nature*

with Abel Brodeur, Derek Mikola, Nikolai Cook et al. [Download Paper](#).

Publications

1. **What Matters for the Decision to Study Abroad? A Lab-in-the-Field Experiment in Cape Verde** (with Catia Batista, David M. Costa, Pedro Freitas, and Ana B. Reis), *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 173, 103401, 2025. [Download Paper](#).

Work In Progress

Grading Leniency and Educational Choices: Evidence from a Blind Grading Regime

Gender and Screening: Evidence from a Medical Licensing Exam Reform

The Role of Information on Student Migration – An Experimental Evaluation in Cape Verde

(with Cátia Batista, Pedro Freitas, Gonçalo Lima and Ana B. Reis)

College Curricula, Skills, and Labor Market Outcomes

(with Margherita Fort and Veronica Rattini)

Seminars, Conferences & Presentations

2025 BHEPPE Seminar (Bologna, Italy)

2024 EALE (Bergen, Norway); Workshop on the Role of Preferences in Medical Career Choices (Paris, France); EAYE Annual Meeting (Paris, France); Junior Economists Meeting (Milan, Italy); SOLE Conference (Portland, US); Lisbon Economics and Statistics of Education (Lisbon, Portugal)

Teaching

European University Institute - School of Transnational Governance (Master Level)

Quantitative Methods, TA to Daniela Ioro 2024

Big and Smart Data [Causal Inference], TA to Tommaso Nannicini 2024

Game Theory, TA to Maria Demertzis 2023

New York University - Florence Campus (Master Level)

International Economics, TA to Giampiero Gallo 2022

Other Research Experience

Research Assistant Prof. Tommaso Nannicini and Prof. Nicola Fontana	2024
Pre-Doctoral Research Assistant Nova School of Business and Economics, Portugal Prof. Luís Catela Nunes and Prof. Ana Balcão Reis	2018–2020

Other Employment

Consultant Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) , France Directorate for Education and Skills	2016–2018
Intern Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) , France Directorate for Education and Skills	2016

Grants & Scholarships

2025	Early Stage Research Funding, European University Institute, €2K
2024–2025	Research Fellowship Grant, University of Bologna
2023–2024	Individual PhD Scholarship, European University Institute
2020–2023	Individual PhD Scholarship, SFRH/BD/150668/2020, Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia
2022–2025	Mentoring for success: Experimental Evidence on Migrant College Students Aga Khan Foundation, €250K
2020–2022	Mentoring for Success, FAMI, SGMAI, €50K

Policy Work

1. David Liebowitz, Pablo González, Edith Hooze and Gonçalo Lima (2018) [“OECD Review of School Resources: Portugal 2018”](#), OECD Publishing, Paris
2. Luka Boeskens, Thomas Radinger, David Liebowitz and Gonçalo Lima (2018) [“Responsive School Systems: Connecting Facilities, Sectors and Programmes for Student Success”](#), OECD Publishing, Paris
3. Luka Boeskens, Deborah Nusche, Thomas Radinger, Claire Shewbridge and Gonçalo Lima (2017) [“The Funding of School Education: Connecting Resources and Learning”](#), OECD Publishing, Paris

Honors & Awards

2018	Top 5 Master Theses in Economics, Bank of Portugal / Francisco Manuel dos Santos Foundation
2016	Academic Excellence Award, Lisbon University Institute - ISCTE
2015	Professor Jacinto Nunes Prize for Best Bachelor in Economics Graduates in Portugal
2015	Academic Merit Grant, Portugal Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education

References

Professor Andrea Ichino
European University Institute, Italy
andrea.ichino@eui.eu

Professor Sule Alan
Cornell University, US
salancrossley@gmail.com

Other Information

Programming: Stata (Proficient), R (Intermediate), Matlab (Intermediate), Python (Basic), LaTeX (Proficient)
Languages English (fluent), Portuguese (native), Italian (Intermediate), Spanish (conversational), French (conversational)
Citizenship: Portugal

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