

Lidia Ceriani

Curriculum Vitae

October 2025

Lidia Ceriani is an Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) at the University of Verona. Her research focuses on measuring poverty and inequality and examining how public policies influence household welfare. Before joining Verona, she taught at the University of Bologna and at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) Europe. From 2017 to 2024, she served as Associate Professor at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service. Prior to transitioning to academia, she worked as an Economist at the World Bank in the Poverty and Equity Global Practice, contributing to the 2017 World Development Report. Earlier in her career, she lectured at Bocconi University, where she taught Public Economics and Principles of Economics. Her research has been published in leading international journals, including World Development, the Review of Income and Wealth, the Journal of Economic Inequality, and the Journal of Development Studies. Lidia holds a Ph.D. in Public Economics from the University of Pavia and a B.A. in Economic and Social Sciences from Bocconi University, Milan, where she graduated with highest honors.

General Information

E-mail lidia.ceriani@gmail.com

Present Positions

January 2025 – present

Adjunct Professor, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy.

August 2024 – present

Adjunct Professor, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Bologna, Italy.

August 2017 – present

Consultant, The World Bank, Poverty and Equity Global Practice, Washington DC, USA.

Past Positions

August 2020 – August 2024

Associate Teaching Professor, Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA.

August 2017 – July 2020

Assistant Teaching Professor, Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA.

September 2016 – July 2017

Economist, The World Bank, Development Economics Department, Washington DC, USA.

September 2014 – August 2016

Extended Term Consultant, The World Bank, Washington DC, USA.

September 2012 – August 2014

Short Term Consultant, The World Bank, Washington DC, USA.

September 2008 – August 2014

Editorial Assistant, Review of Income and Wealth.

September 2008 – August 2012

Lecturer, Department of Institutional Analysis and Public Management, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy

Education

September 2003 – September 2006

Ph.D. Public Finance

University of Pavia, Italy.

September 1998 – April 2003

Degree in Economics and Social Sciences (grade: 110/110 magna cum laude).

Bocconi University, Milan, Italy.

Research Projects and Collaborations

December 2022 – today

Consultant at the World Bank Group, Poverty Global Practice. Main activities: measurement and analysis of the Middle Class on a global scale.

April 2022 – May 2022

Consultant at the World Bank Group, Poverty Global Practice. Main activities: Preparation of a training course about the key concepts of distributional analysis for high-level policymakers and government officials in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (project leader: M. Ranzani).

May 2020 – June 2020

Consultant at the World Bank Group, Poverty Global Practice. Main activities: Analysis of the distributional impact and elasticity of electricity tariffs in Pakistan (project leader: S. Redaelli).

March 2019 – June 2019

Consultant at the World Bank Group, Poverty Global Practice. Main activities: Analysis and preparation of the report with the update of the poverty profile for Pakistan (project leader: S.

Redaelli).

March 2018

Consultant at the World Bank Group, Poverty Global Practice. Main activities: Data analysis and final draft preparation of two papers on *rent imputation* (project leader: S. Olivieri).

February 2018

Consultant at the World Bank Group, Poverty Global Practice. Main activities: Preparation of the background note “*Top income and wealth in ECA: A survey*,” for the report “Bussolo, M., M. Dávalos, V. Peragine and R. Sundaram (2018) *Toward a New Social Contract : Taking on Distributional Tensions in Europe and Central Asia*, Europe and Central Asia Studies, Washington, DC, World Bank” (project leader: M. Bussolo).

September 2012 – August 2014

Consultant at the World Bank Group, ECA-PREM. Main Activities: Distributional analysis and policy impact analysis, Western Balkans and EU12 countries (project leader: C. Ruggeri Laderchi).

May 2009 – December 2017

Participating at the European project of research and development EUROMOD Updating, funded by the European Commission (Seventh Framework Program). Main activities: preparation of the tax- benefit model annual report for Italy.

May 2010 – May 2011

Project Coordinator and Analyst for the project “The role and impact of labour taxation policies”, commissioned by the European Commission DG Employment. Main activities: analysis of the impact of taxation policies on labour market outcomes in the Member States and relevant third countries, and preparation of a catalogue of reforms carried out since 1990 in the field of labour taxation and social security contributions for the 28 EU Member States plus Macedonia, Iceland, Japan, Serbia and United State (Econpubblica - Centre for Research on the Public Sector, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy).

September 2007 – September 2008

Research Assistant for the project “Understanding Privatisation Policy: Political Economy and Welfare Effects,” funded by the European Commission (Sixth framework Program). Main activities: data collection and analysis and preparation of background papers (project leader: M. Florio)

September 2006 – September 2007

Research Assistant for CRISS (Inter-university Welfare State Research Center, University of Siena, University of Rome La Sapienza, and Bocconi University). Main activities: preparation of background papers for the project: “Inequality: Mechanisms, Effects and Policies.”

September 2003 – September 2004

Research Assistant for CNEL (the Italian National Council for Economics and Labour) within the areas of European Politics, Public Finance, Social Security Funds, Fiscal System.

Visiting periods

June 2018

Visiting professor at the Department of Economics, Università degli Studi dell’Insubria, Varese, Italy.

January 2007 – September 2007

Visiting Scholar (invited by Prof. Prahasanta Pattanaik). Department of Economics, University of California, Riverside, USA.

September 2004 – October 2005

First year Ph.D coursework. Department of Economics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

Publications in Refereed Journals

- Ceriani, L., C. Gigliarano and P. Verme (2025) “Optimizing Data-driven Weights In Multidimensional Indexes,” *Economics Letters*, forthcoming
- Ceriani, L., and P. Verme (2024) “Gini on Mutability,” *METRON*, Volume 82, pages 269–292, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40300-024-00279-2>
- Ceriani, L., S. Olivieri and M. Ranzani (2023) “Housing, imputed rent, and household welfare,” *Journal of Economic Inequality*, volume 21, pages 131–168, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10888-022-09545-7>
- Hlasny, V., L. Ceriani and P. Verme (2022) “Bottom incomes and the measurement of poverty and inequality,” *Review of Income and Wealth*, <https://doi.org/10.1111/roiw.12535>.
- Bolch, K.B., L. Ceriani and L.F. López-Calva (2022) “Arithmetics and Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for poverty eradication,” *World Development*, 149.
- Ceriani, L., S. Scabrosetti and F. Scervini (2022) “Inequality, privatization, and democratic institutions in developing countries,” *Hacienda Pública Espanola/Review of Public Economics*, 240, 1/2022, <https://dx.doi.org/10.7866/HPE-RPE.22.1.4>.
- Ceriani, L. and P. Verme (2021) “Population changes and the measurement of inequality,” *Social Indicators Research*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-021-02849-7>.
- Ceriani, L. and C. Gigliarano (2020) “Multidimensional Well-Being: A Bayesian Networks Approach,” *Social Indicators Research*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-020-02432-6>.
- Balcázar, C.F., L. Ceriani, S. Olivieri and M. Ranzani (2017) “Rent-Imputation for Welfare Measurement: A Review of Methodologies and Empirical Findings,” *Review of Income and Wealth*, doi:10.1111/roiw.12312.
- Ceriani, L. and P. Verme (2015) “Individual Diversity and the Gini Decomposition,” *Social Indicators Research*, 121, 637-646.

- Ceriani, L. and C. Gigliarano (2015) “An Inter-temporal Relative Deprivation Index,” *Social Indicators Research*, 124(2), 427-443.
- Ceriani, L. and P. Verme (2014) “The income lever and the allocation of aid,” joint with Paolo Verme, *Journal of Development Studies*, 50(11), 1510-1522.
- Ceriani, L., C. Fiorio and C. Gigliarano (2013) “The importance of choosing the data set for tax-benefit analysis,” *International Journal of Microsimulation*, 6(1), pp. 86-121.
- Ceriani, L. and P. Verme (2012) “The origins of the Gini index: extracts from variabilità e mutabilità (1912) by Corrado Gini”, *The Journal of Economic Inequality*, 10(3), pp 419-420.
- Ceriani, L. and M. Florio (2011) “Consumer Surplus and the Reform of Network Industries: a Primer”, with Massimo Florio, *Journal of Economics*, 102(2), pp. 111-122.
- Ceriani, L. and S. Scabrosetti (2011) “Labour Tax Reforms and Poverty in Europe”, *Rivista di Diritto Finanziario e Scienza delle Finanze*, 70(4), 480-492.

Chapters in Books

- Hlasny, V., L. Ceriani and P. Verme (2023) “Bottom incomes and the measurement of poverty,” in J. Silbert (Ed.) *Handbook of Research on measuring poverty and deprivation*, Chapter 15, Edward Elgar Publisher, pp. 161–170, <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781800883451.00025>
- Ceriani, L. (2018) “Vulnerability to Poverty: Empirical Findings,” in C. D’Ambrosio (Ed.) *Handbook of Research on Economic and Social Well-Being*, Chapter 12, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2018.
- Bossert, W., L. Ceriani, S.R. Chakravarty and C. D’Ambrosio (2014) “Intertemporal Material Deprivation”, joint with , in pp 128-142, in *Poverty and Social Exclusion: new methods of analysis*, A. Lemmi and G. Betti (eds.), Routledge, eBook ISBN: 9780203085172.
- Artoni, R and L Ceriani (2012), “Il debito pubblico in Italia e in Belgio,” In G. Arachi, A. Casarico, L. Ceriani, C. Devillanova, C. Fumagalli, P. Profeta, A. Zanardi (eds.) *Economia pubblica e istituzioni. Scritti di e per Roberto Artoni*, p. 169-178, Percorsi, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2012.
- Ceriani, L. (2006) “South Korea”, in *Tax Systems and Tax Reforms in South and East Asia*, L. Bernardi, A. Fraschini and P. Shome (eds.), London and New York, Routledge.

Edited Books

- *Public Finance and Institutions* (Economia Pubblica e Istituzioni), with G. Arachi, A. Casarico, C. Devillanova, C. Fumagalli, P. Profeta and A. Zanardi (eds), Percorsi, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2012.

Technical Reports and Work in Progress

- Ceriani, L., C. Gigliarano and P. Verme "Weighting Multidimensional Wellbeing: A Bayesian Network Approach."
- Ceriani, L. and P. Verme (2020) "Excess Mortality as a Predictor of Mortality Crises: The Case of COVID-19 in Italy," joint with Paolo Verme, GLO Discussion Paper Series 618, Global Labor Organization (GLO).
- Ceriani, L and M. Ranzani (2019) "Evaluating the Accuracy of Homeowners' Self-Assessed Rent in Metropolitan Lima," *The World Bank Policy Research Working Paper*, 8983.
- Ceriani, L. and P. Verme (2018) "Risk Preferences and the Decision to Flee Conflict," *The World Bank Policy Research Working Paper*, 8376.
- Ceriani, L., G. Inchauste and S. Olivieri (2015) "Understanding Poverty Reduction in Sri Lanka: Evidence from 2002 to 2012/13," *The World Bank Policy Research Working Paper*, 7446.
- Ceriani, L., R. Doronzo and M. Florio (2009) "Privatization, unbundling, and liberalization of network industries: a discussion of the dominant policy paradigm in the EU," *DEAS Working Papers*, 2009-09.
- Ceriani, L. (2007) "Vulnerability to Poverty", *CRIS Working Paper*, n.22-2007.
- Ceriani L., Luis-Felipe Lopez-Calva and Kimberly Blair Bolch "The middle class in the BRICS: definition and recent evolution."
- Ceriani L., Luis-Felipe Lopez-Calva and Samuel D. Restrepo-Oyola "Territorial Inequalities: A Note on State Discontinuity."
- W. Bossert, L. Ceriani, C. D'Ambrosio "The concentration of political influence and Gini's notion of transvariation."

Lecturing Experience

SAIS Johns Hopkins, Bologna, Italy

- Graduate (Master) Courses
 - International Economics
(SAIS - Fall 2024)

Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA

- Graduate (Master) Courses
 - Game Theory for Policymakers

- (Master of the School of Foreign Service - Fall 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022)
 - Analytical/Statistical Skills
 - (Master of the School of Foreign Service - Fall 2019)
 - Economics of Development: Poverty Alleviation
 - (Master in Global Human Development - Spring 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)
 - Governance in Development: Thinking Strategically
 - (School of Foreign Service - Spring 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)
- Undergraduate Courses
 - Economics of Diversity
 - (Fall 2021, Spring 2022, 2023, 2024)
 - Researching Inequality
 - (Fall 2017, 2018)
 - Economics of the Public Sector
 - (Fall 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, Spring 2023)
 - Game Theory for Policymakers
 - (Spring 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2024; Fall 2022)
 - International Development Organizations Research Agenda
 - (Spring 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022; Fall 2022)

Università degli Studi dell’Insubria, Varese, Italy

- Ph.D. in Economics (A.Y 2017/18)
 - Lecturer of the course *Understanding Poverty: Measurement and Policies*

Bocconi University, Milan, Italy

- Undergraduate Courses
 - Public Economics (Scienza delle Finanze)
 - (Multiple classes) A.Y. 2007/08 – A.Y. 2008/09 – A.Y. 2009/10 – A.Y 2010/11 – A.Y. 2011/12
 - Principles of Economics (Principi di Economia)
 - (Multiple classes) A.Y. 2007/08 – A.Y. 2008/09 – A.Y. 2009/10 – A.Y 2010/11 – A.Y. 2011/12

Conferences, Workshops and Presentations

2023

- * ECINEQ 10th meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, Aix-en-Provence, France, July. Paper presented: “Measuring the Global Middle Class,” joint with Kimberly B. Bolch, Indermit Gill, Luis Felipe López-Calva

2020

- * Invited Lecture on Inequality and SDGs, organized by the University of Luxembourg (Prof. Conchita D’Ambrosio), in collaboration with the Chambre des Salariés, CREA, the European Investment Bank Institute (EIB Institute), LIS, LISER and STATEC. Luxembourg, Luxembourg, March 10th (canceled because of COVID)

2019

- * IARIW-World Bank conference on poverty measurement in Washington November 7-8. Paper presented: “The inequality of extreme incomes,” joint with Paolo Verme.
- * ECINEQ 8th meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, Paris, France, July. Paper presented: “Weights in Multidimensional Indices of Wellbeing: A New Approach,” joint with Chiara Gigliarano.
- * UNDP Consultation on Topics for Next Regional Human Development Report, Buenos Aires, Argentina, May 22nd-23rd.

2017

- * ECINEQ 7th meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, New York, USA, July. Papers presented:
 - “Inequality, Privatization and Democratic Institutions in Developing Countries,” joint with Simona Scabrosetti and Francesco Scervini
 - “Decisions under uncertainty: Are victims of conflict quantile maximizers?,” joint with Paolo Verme

2016

- * SIEP Italian Society of Public Economics, Lecce, Italy, September. Work Presented:
 - “World Development Report 2017 Governance and the Law”
 - “Arithmetics and Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization,” joint with Luis Felipe Lopez Calva and Kimberly Bolch
- * UNU-WIDER Symposium on The Political Economy of Social Protection in Developing Countries, Mexico City, Mexico, February. Paper presented “The arithmetics and politics of domestic resource mobilization,” joint with Kimberly Bolch and Luis Felipe Lopez Calva.

2013

- * ECINEQ 5th meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, Bari, Italy, July. Papers presented:
 - “Subjective and Objective Well-Being: A Bayesian Networks Approach,” joint with Chiara Gigliarano
 - “The Income Lever and the Allocation of Aid,” joint with Paolo Verme

2011

- * ECINEQ 4th meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, Catania, Italy, July. Papers presented:
 - “An Inter-temporal Relative Deprivation Index,” joint with Chiara Gigliarano
 - “Multivariate Well-Being Analysis: A Bayesian Networks Approach,” joint with Chiara Gigliarano
 - “The Distributional Impact of Privatization in Developing Countries: The Role of Democratic Institutions,” joint with Simona Scabrosetti
- * MEEW Workshop, Milan, Italy: “The Distibutional Impact of Privatization in Developing Countries: The Role of Democratic Institutions”, with Simona Scabrosetti, June.

2010

- * Workshop GRASS IV, Modena, Italy, September.
- * SOCI (Society for Social Choice and Welfare) 10th International Meeting, Moscow, August. Paper presented “An Inter-temporal Relative Deprivation Index,” with Chiara Gigliarano.
- * IARIW 31st General Conference, St-Gallen, Switzerland, August. Paper presented “An Inter-temporal Relative Deprivation Index,” with Chiara Gigliarano.

2009

- * CEPS-Instead, Ateliers de Recherche, September.
- * ISER, University of Essex, Euromod Advanced training course, October. Fourth Winter School on Inequality and Social Welfare Theory, Alba di Canazei, Italy, January.

2008

- * IARIW 30th General Conference, Portoroz, Slovenia, August.

2007

- * ECINEQ 2nd meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, July.

2006

- * Luxembourg Income Study Summer Workshop, Luxembourg, June.
- * ECINEQ Summer School about “New perspectives on the study of inequality, poverty and redistribution,” Palma de Majorca, Spain, July

Honors and Awards

- Prize “Roberto Franceschi” for the best Bocconi University Undergraduate dissertation in Development Economics (A.Y. 2001/02)
- Bocconi fellowship for teaching and research assistant at the Department of Economics (A.Y. 2003/04)
- Three years (2004-2007) fellowship for attending the University of Pavia Ph.D. program in Public Economics
- Gold Medal for Best Graduates, Bocconi University (A.Y. 2001/02)

Reviewer

Referee for the following international and national scientific journals: Journal of Economic Inequality; Review of Income and Wealth; Hacienda Pública Española/Review of Public Economics; Metroeconomica; Review of Development Economics; Oxford Development Studies; Journal of Human Development and Capabilities; Rivista Italiana di Economia Demografia e Statistica, European Planning Studies.

Member of Editorial Board and PhD Board

- Editorial Board Member, The Italian Journal of Economic, Demographic and Statistical Studies (Rivista Italiana di Economia Demografia e Statistica)
- External Examiner for candidates to the Ph.D. in Methods and Models for Economic Decisions, Insubria University, Varese Italy.

Membership

- Società Italiana di Economia, Demografia, e Statistica (SIEDS)
- International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW)
- Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ)
- Società Italiana di Economia Pubblica (SIEP)

Computer Skills

- Statistical Softwares: STATA and R (advanced user); Mathematica (working knowledge)
- Advanced user of Office, LateX

Language Skills

- Italian: Native language
- English: Fluent (speaking, reading, writing)
- French: Intermediate (speaking, reading); Basic (writing)
- Spanish: Basic (speaking, reading, writing)