





MAGDALENA BENNETT

Research Interests: Causal Inference Methodologies; Impact Evaluations; Economics of Education, particularly in segregation and school choice.






EDUCATION

- 2020 | 2015** ● **PhD. Candidate, Economics and Education**
Teachers College, Columbia University  New York, NY
 - Dissertation: "Causal Inference Methodologies for Observational Studies in the Education Context"
- 2014 | 2013** ● **MSc. Social Policy (Research)**
London School of Economics  London UK
 - Merit distinction
- 2012 | 2010** ● **MSc. Engineering Science (Applied Microeconomics)**
Pontificia Universidad Catolica  Santiago, Chile
 - Maximum discintion
- 2010 | 2005** ● **BS. Industrial Engineering**
Pontificia Universidad Catolica  Santiago, Chile
 - Maximum discintion

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- Present | 2016** ● **Senior Research Assistant**
Prof. Peter Bergman  Teachers College, Columbia University
 - Design and analysis for spillover effects using social networks.
 - Assistance in design, coding, and quantitative analysis of RCTs and observational studies.
- 2019 | 2015** ● **Teaching Assistant**  Columbia University
 - Advanced Microeconomics (Prof. Peter Bergman, Fall 19 and Fall 17)
 - Causal Inference Methods (Prof. Sarah Cohodes, Fall 18)
 - Field Experiments (Prof. Peter Bergman, Spring 18)
 - Data Mining (Prof. Ben Goodrich, Fall 16)
 - Data Analysis (Prof. Ben Goodrich, Spring 16)
 - Economics of Education (Prof. Henry Levin, Fall 15)



CONTACT

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-  (917) 615-9365

SOFTWARE SKILLS



ADDITIONAL INFO

-  Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent)
-  Nationality: Chilean

2017
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2015

● **Research Assistant**

Prof. Jose Zubizarreta

📍 Columbia University

- Research analysis in causal methods papers using integer programming matching algorithms and stable balance weighting.
- Development of new matching techniques.

2014
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2011

● **Research Assistant**

Prof. Ricardo Paredes

📍 P. Universidad Catolica de Chile

- Collaboration in data analysis, and co-authorship in academic papers regarding economics of education topics

2011
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2007

● **Teaching Assistant**

📍 P. Universidad Catolica de Chile

- Applied Econometrics (2011)
- Industrial Organization (2010-2011)
- Introduction to Economics (2010)
- Calculus I (2007-2011)
- Introduction to Calculus (2007-2011)

📁 **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2013/2014
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2012

● **Research Analyst**

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)

📍 Santiago, Chile

- Design, implementation and analysis of impact evaluation of educational programs in Chile using randomized controlled trials.

2012

● **External Consultant**

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

📍 Washington, DC

- Research and elaboration of academic papers for Latin American countries, comparing their teaching performance with other developing and developed countries under TIMMS outcomes.

2012
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2010

● **Analyst**

School of Engineering, P. Universidad Catolica

📍 Santiago, Chile

- Design and implementation of econometric prediction models for new complementary admission system. Performance analysis for admitted students under the selection cutoff.

2012

● **Intern**

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

📍 Washington, DC

- Research and elaboration of academic paper related to teenage pregnancy, school dropout, and early unions using DHS data.

PHD RESEARCH

- 2019 • **How Far is Too Far? Generalization of a Regression Discontinuity Design Away from the Cutoff**
Working Paper
 - Job Market Paper
- 2019 • **Better Together? Social Networks in Truancy and the Targeting of Treatment**
Journal of Labor Economics (Accepted)
 - Co-authored with Peter Bergman
- 2019 • **Building Representative Matched Samples with Multi-valued Treatments in Large Observational Studies**
Working Paper
 - Co-authored with J. Vielma and J. Zubizarreta
- 2019 • **Biased Beliefs and the Dynamic Role of Information in College Choice**
Randomized Controlled Trial in Chile
 - Project with Claudia Allende
- 2019 • **Breastmilk and its effects in Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia and other major morbidities in Very Low Birthweight Infants**
Working Paper
 - Co-authored with J. Tapia, J. Fabres, G. Marshall, P. Mena, M. Escalante, D. Sabatelli, N. Dinerstein, D. Masoli, and J.R. Zubizarreta

OTHER RESEARCH

- 2018 • **Design and Implementation of an Alternative Admission Program to Engineering: Talent and Inclusion**
Studies of Higher Education (CSHE), 43(8) p.1454-1467
 - Co-authored with I. Hiliger, C. Gelmi, L. Cifuentes, and J. de la Llera
- 2014 • **Socioeconomic Diversity within Schools: The Impact of a Preferential Voucher Scheme in Chile**
Working Paper
 - LSE Master Dissertation
- 2013 • **Incentives for studying teaching: The case of the vocational scholarship**
Estudios Publicos N 131, Centro de Estudios Publicos
 - Co-authored with F. Claro, R. Paredes, and T. Wilson

- 2012 ● **Rethinking Sequencing of Pregnancy, School Dropout and Marriage: An Analysis of DHS Data on Early Childbearing and Educational Trajectories in Six Latin American Countries**
Report, Inter-American Development Bank
• Co-authored with E. Naslund-Hadley, E. Vezza, and P. Giovagnoli
- 2012 ● **Cognitive Abilities and Preschool Education in Chile**
Working Paper
• PUC Master Dissertation

PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 ● **Building Representative Matched Samples with Multivalued Treatments in Large Observational Studies**
ENAR Spring Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
- 2019 ● **How Far is Too Far? Generalization of a Regression Discontinuity Design Away from the Cutoff**
AEFP Annual Conference, Kansas City, MO
- 2019 ● **How Far is Too Far? Generalization of a Regression Discontinuity Design Away from the Cutoff**
SREE Spring Conference, Washington, DC
- 2018 ● **Better Together? Social Networks in Truancy and the Targeting of Treatment**
APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC
- 2018 ● **Better Together? Social Networks in Truancy and the Targeting of Treatment**
AEFP Annual Conference, Portland, OR
- 2017 ● **Building a representative matched sample with treatment doses**
Empirics and Methods in Economics Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2016 ● **Representative Template Matching**
Economics of Education Seminar, Columbia University, New York, NY
- 2014 ● **Cognitive Abilities and Preschool Education in Chile**
Second Meeting of the Network of Chilean Researchers in Education, Bristol, UK
- 2013 ● **Impact of Attending Preschool in Chile: Short and Medium-Term Outcomes**
MIDE UC Conference, Santiago, Chile

★ AWARDS, HONORS, AND GRANTS

- 2019 ● **Distinguished Student Paper Award**
ENAR International Biometrics Society
 - Bennett, M., Vielma, J., and Zubizarreta, J., "Building Representative Matched Samples with Multi-valued Treatments" (2019)
- 2018-2019 ● **Education Policy Dissertation Research Fellowship**
Teachers College, Columbia University
- 2018 ● **Post-Primary Education Initiative Grant (\$45,000)**
Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)
 - Allende, C. and Bennett, M., "Biased Beliefs and the Dynamic Role of Information in College Choice"
- 2018 ● **Burke Scholarship Award**
Teachers College, Columbia University
- 2014 ● **Fulbright PhD Scholar**
Fulbright Foundation

✍ REFERENCES

- **Prof. Peter Bergman**
Teachers College, Columbia University
 - 📞: (212) 678-3932
 - ✉: bergman@tc.columbia.edu
- **Prof. Jose Zubizarreta**
Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard University
 - 📞: (617) 432-1266
 - ✉: zubizarreta@hcp.med.harvard.edu
- **Prof. Elizabeth Tipton**
Department of Statistics, Northwestern University
 - 📞: (847) 491-3776
 - ✉: tipton@northwestern.edu