

Matteo A. Bobba

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Academic Positions

Professor of Economics, Toulouse School of Economics, University of Toulouse Capitole, since September 2023.

Visiting Assistant Professor and Research Scholar, Princeton University Department of Economics, 2019-2020.

Assistant Professor, Toulouse School of Economics, University of Toulouse Capitole, 2015-2023.

Professional Affiliations

Research Fellow, Center for Economics and Policy Research (CEPR).

Invited Researcher, Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL).

Research Fellow, Institute of Labor Economics (IZA).

Full Member, European Development Research Network (EUDN).

Other Employment

Economist, Research Department and Vice-Presidency for Sectors and Knowledge, Inter-American Development Bank, 2011-2015.

Research Fellow, Research Department, Inter-American Development Bank, 2005-2007.

Research Fields

Labor Economics, Development Economics, Public Economics, and Policy Evaluation.

Education

PhD Economics, Paris School of Economics, 2011

- Advisor: F. Bourguignon (PSE)
- External Examiners: O. Attanasio (UCL) and P. Dubois (TSE).

MSc Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, 2005.

BA-BSc Economics and Statistics, Università Bocconi, 2004.

Journal Articles

7. Enhancing Human Capital in Children. A Case Study on Scaling (with F. Agostinelli and C. Avitabile).
Journal of Political Economy, 2025, 133(2): xxx-yyy.
6. Self-Perceptions about Academic Achievement: Evidence from Mexico City (with V. Frisancho).
Journal of Econometrics, 2022, 231(1): 58-73.
5. Labor Market Search, Informality, and Schooling Investments (with L. Flabbi and S. Levy).
International Economic Review, 2022, 63: 211-259.
4. Labor Market Search, Informality, and On-The-Job Human Capital Accumulation (with L. Flabbi, S. Levy, and M. Tejada).
Journal of Econometrics, 2021, 223(2): 433-453.
3. Neighborhood Effects in Integrated Social Policies (with J. Gignoux).
World Bank Economic Review, 2019, 33(1): 116-139.
2. Liquidity, Risk and Occupational Choices (with M. Bianchi).
Review of Economic Studies, 2013, 80(2): 491-511.
1. Weak Instruments and Weak Identification in Estimating the Effects of Education on Democracy (with D. Coviello).
Economics Letters, 2007, 96: 301-306.

Other Publications

8. Informality (with Gabriel Ulyssea and Lucie Gadenne).
VoxDevLit, 6(1), January 2023.

Working Papers

9. Teacher Compensation and Structural Inequality: Evidence from Centralized Teacher School Choice in Peru (with T. Ederer, G. Leon, C. Neilson, and M. Nieddu).
10. Perceived Ability and School Choices: Experimental Evidence and Scale-up Effects (with V. Frisancho and M. Pariguana).

Grants and Awards

2024: IER Top cited article 2022-2023 for “Labor Market Search, Informality, and Schooling Investments.”

2023: JEEA Excellence in Refereeing Award.

2015: IGC Pilot Grant (50,000 £).

2015: IDEX grant (14,000 €), University of Toulouse Capitole.

2014: AFSE-Malinvaud award (best published paper among economists under age 40) for “Liquidity, Risk and Occupational Choices”.

2008-2011: Ile-de-France, PhD scholarship.

2004: Angelo Costa award for the best undergraduate dissertation in economics.

Presentations at Seminars and Conferences

2025: TSE Digital Conference (Discussant), Queen’s Business School (scheduled).

2024: EUI, LMU Munich, Cologne.

2023: NBER Development Summer Institute, Cowles Labor and Public, Y-RISE.

2022: NBER Development Summer Institute, SITE Micro and Macro of Labor Markets,¹ MIT Dynamic Structural Econometrics, Y-RISE, Barcelona Summer Forum, TSE Departmental Seminar, WashU St Louis.

2021: CEPR Development, CEPR Labour, BREAD, Arizona State, Cambridge, Oxford, TSE Scientific Council, RIDGE IO, WEAI.

2020: Yale, BREAD, Econometric Society World Congress, Heriot-Watt, SEA (invited speaker).

2019: Princeton, Cowles Structural Micro, Penn, UC San Diego, Boston University, Y-RISE, Barcelona Summer Forum, TSE Departmental Seminar, LACEA (invited speaker).

2018: NBER Development, UCL Health and the Labor Market, WashU St Louis, Georgetown, Nova SBE, World Bank Research Group, CESifo Subjective Expectations in Economics, Agence Francaise du Developpement.

2017: CEPR-IGC Labor and Development,² UCL Dynamic Structural Econometrics, Wisconsin, Tinbergen, ASSA, SOLE, IZA Labor and Development, EUDN.

2016: IIES Stockholm, PSE, Goethe University Frankfurt, Uppsala, Bergen, TSE Departmental Seminar, IZA-SOLE Transatlantic Meeting, TSE Development Workshop, EUDN, Bordeaux-GREThA Development.

2015: CEPR Development, Barcelona Summer Forum, EIEF, Toulouse, Pompeu Fabra, HEC Montreal, IFS-EDePo, IDB, LACEA.

< 2015: BREAD, Georgetown, World Bank DECRG, World Bank DIME, LACEA, NEUDC, IZA-World Bank Employment and Development, LASA, Oxford, Autonomia Barcelona, Bank of Italy, PSE, DIW, IDB, EDePo-IFS, NEUDC, Petralia Applied Economics Workshop, EUDN.

¹I was invited, but co-author eventually presented as I could not attend.

²I was invited, but co-author eventually presented as I could not attend.

Professional Service

Referee for academic journals: *American Economic Journal: Applied*, *American Economic Review*, *Economic Journal*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Economics Letters*, *International Economic Review*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Econometrics*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Human Capital*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Labour Economics*, *Review of Economic Dynamics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *World Bank Economic Review*.

Grant reviewer: National Science Foundation.

Conferences/Workshops organization:

[TSE Development Economics Workshop](#) (Toulouse, June 2016), Co-organizer with Emma Auriol.

[TSE Economics of Education Workshop](#) (Toulouse, June 2024), Program Committee Member.

[Econometric Society European Meetings](#) (Rotterdam, August 2024), Lead Coordinator for Development and Labor.

[Annual Conference of the International Association for Applied Econometrics](#) (Turin, June 2025), Program Committee Member.

Departmental service at TSE:

Head of the Thematic Group “Behavior, Institutions, and Development” (2024-).

Member of the Scientific Committee of the Economics Department.

Member of TSE Partnership Research (TSE-P).

Junior Recruitment Committee (Member, 2017; Co-Chair, 2020).

Organizer of the YingHua He Empirical Micro workshop (2022-).

Organizer of the seminar series Development, Labor and Public Policy (2016-2019).

Teaching and Mentoring

Graduate courses:

Empirical Methods for Policy Evaluation, TSE PhD.

Development Economics, Princeton Economics PhD.

RCTs and Policy Evaluation, TSE Master.

Causal Inference with Observational Data, TSE Master.

Undergraduate courses:

Development Economics, TSE & Princeton.

Program Evaluation, TSE.

Applied Econometrics, TSE.

PhD students advised, with initial placement (* denotes my role as main advisor):

9. Jonas Gathen – Assistant Professor of Economics, Tilburg University (after Post-Doc at CEMFI).
8. Anais Fabre – Assistant Professor of Economics, LMU Munich (after Post-Doc at the Institute for Fiscal Studies in London).
7. Tim Ederer* – Assistant Professor of Economics, Carnegie Mellon Tepper School of Business (after Post-Doc at UChicago, Becker-Friedman Institute).
6. Marco Pariguana (UWO) – Early Career Researcher/Lecturer, University of Edinburgh.
5. Paloma Carrillo – Economist, International Labor Organization.
4. Jakob Hennig – Post-Doc, Universidad Carlos 3, Madrid,
3. Dimple Kukreja* – Research Economist, Reserve Bank of India.
2. Harsh Malotra*³
1. Vitalijis Jascisens – Assistant Professor of Economics, Higher Economic School.

Languages

English, Spanish, French, and Italian.

³Harsh unexpectedly and tragically passed away a few months before his thesis defense. He has been awarded the posthumous title of PhD in Economics.