

Matteo A. Bobba

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Current Position and Affiliations

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

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).

Past Positions

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.

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

Development Economics, Labor 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.

Publications

7. Enhancing Human Capital in Children. A Case Study on Scaling (with F. Agostinelli and C. Avitabile).
Journal of Political Economy, accepted for publication.
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.

Survey Papers

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

2024: LMU Munich (scheduled), Cologne (scheduled).

2023: NBER Development Summer Institute, Cowles Labor and Public, Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale.

2022: NBER Development Summer Institute, SITE Micro and Macro of Labor Markets,¹ MIT Dynamic Structural Econometrics, Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale, 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, Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale, 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, 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.

Departmental service at TSE:

Member of the Promotion and Hiring Committee.

Member of TSE Partnership Research (TSE-P).

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

Organizer of the [Empirical Micro](#) internal 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. [Anaïs 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.