

# MIRIAM VENTURINI

University of California Riverside, Department of Economics ◊ 900 University Avenue, Riverside, CA 92521  
+1 · 9517566030 ◊ [miriamventurini.github.io](https://miriamventurini.github.io) ◊ miriam.venturini@ucr.edu

## EMPLOYMENT

---

**Assistant Professor** August 2024 - Present  
University of California, Riverside, Department of Economics *Riverside, CA, USA*

## RESEARCH

---

**Research interests:** Political Economy, Economic History, Labor Economics

**Working Papers:**

- “The Imperfect Union: Labor Racketeering, Corruption Exposure, and its Consequences”  
**(Job Market Paper**, pdf available [here](#))
- “Harvesting Votes: The Electoral Effects of the Italian Land Reform”  
with Bruno Caprettini and Lorenzo Casaburi (pdf available [here](#))  
*Revise & Resubmit* The Economic Journal
- “Agricultural Practices, Organized Workers and Female Empowerment: Evidence from Italian *Mondine*” with Luca Bagnato and Yu Pan

## EDUCATION

---

**PhD in Economics** August 2018 - July 2024  
University of Zurich, Department of Economics. *Zurich, Switzerland*

**Visiting PhD Student** February 2022 - August 2022  
University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy (Prof. James Robinson) *Chicago, USA*

**Master of Science in Economics and Finance (Economics program)** Sep. 2016 - July 2017  
Barcelona Graduate School of Economics (Universitat Pompeu Fabra) *Barcelona, Spain*  
Thesis: “Depreciation Rates of R&D Capital and the Labor Share”

**Bachelor Degree in International Studies and Diplomacy** October 2012 - September 2015  
University of Trieste, 110/110 with honors *Trieste, Italy*  
Thesis: “Economic growth: empirical evidence and models”

## TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

**University of Zurich, Department of Economics** September 2017 - July 2018  
*Research Assistant for Professor Hans-Joachim Voth and Bruno Caprettini* *Zurich, Switzerland*

**Barcelona Graduate School of Economics** August 2017  
*Research Assistant for Professors Luigi Pascali and Sascha Becker* *Barcelona, Spain*

## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

---

**Arthur H. Cole Grant – Economic History Association** April 2025  
“Reagan and the 1981 PATCO Strike: Union Decline and Its Causes”, 5000 USD

<b>Director Grant – University of Zurich</b>	April 2023
<i>Research funds for job market paper, 5000 CHF</i>	
<b>Econ Conference Grant – University of Zurich</b>	September 2022 and 2023
<b>UZH Doc.Mobility fellowship – University of Zurich</b>	May 2021
<i>Funding 6-months visiting period at Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago</i>	

## TEACHING AND THESES SUPERVISION

---

### **University of California Riverside, Department of Economics**

- Foundations of Political Economy (ECON 116), winter 2025, BA
- World Economic History (ECON 124), winter 2025, BA
- Data Analysis in Economics (ECON 106), spring 2025, BA

### **University of Zurich, Department of Economics**

- Development Economics (TA, Prof. Hans-Joachim Voth), fall 2019 and fall 2020, BA
- Global Policy Analysis: Poverty, Development, Growth (TA, Prof. Dina Pomeranz), spring 2020, BA
- Introduction to Economic Inequality (TA, Prof. Anne Brenøe), fall 2022, BA
- Program Evaluation and Causal Inference (TA, Prof. Pietro Biroli), spring 2021, MSc
- Theses supervision (3 students), Prof. Lorenzo Casaburi

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

---

*Referee activity:* Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization  
*Organization:* 2020 Swiss Workshop on “Political Economy and Development”, 08–10 July, 2020

## INVITED TALKS AND SEMINARS

---

### **The Imperfect Union: Labor Racketeering, Corruption Exposure, and its Consequences**

September 2023, Paris School of Economics, *Trade Unions* Workshop; October 2023, University of Barcelona, IPERG Seminar Series (Institutions and Political Economy Research Group); Job market 2024: Bilkent, WU Vienna, Monash, UBC, CUNEF, UC Riverside; April 2024, LEAP seminar (Stellenbosch University); April 2024, Political Economy Rookiefest (Northwestern University, Kellogg); June 2024, 2<sup>nd</sup> ZEW-ifo Young Scholar Political Economy Workshop; September 2024, UC Merced Seminar Series; March 2025, Berkeley Mini-Conference in Economic History; April 2025, UC Davis Seminar Series.

### **Harvesting Votes: The Electoral Effects of the Italian Land Reform**

March 2021, Workshop *Redistributive Taxation: Optimal Design and Political Economy Forces* organized by the Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute and the ZEW Mannheim; December 2022, Workshop *Frontiers in Political Economy: Clientelism, Corruption and Social Policy*, University of Zurich.

## PRESENTATIONS IN CONFERENCES

---

### **The Imperfect Union: Labor Racketeering, Corruption Exposure, and its Consequences**

March 2023, Lewis Lab Graduate Student Workshop at the University of Manchester; July 2023, 24th IZA Summer School in Labor Economics; August 2023, EEA-ESEM Meeting Barcelona 2023; May 2024, Workshop on the Economics of Crime for Junior Scholars (CEP at LSE); May 2024, EAYE Annual

Meeting; September 2024, Annual All-California Labor Conference; April 2025, Annual Southern California Conference in Applied Microeconomics (SoCCAM); June 2025, Western Economic Association International (WEAI) Annual Conference. .

#### **Harvesting Votes: The Electoral Effects of the Italian Land Reform**

June 30, 2021. Swiss Workshop on “Political Economy and Development”

#### **Agricultural Practices, Organized Workers and Female Political Empowerment: Evidence from Italian *Mondine***

September 9, 2022. SASCA Ph.D. Conference 2022

### **COMPUTER SKILLS AND LANGUAGES**

---

<b>IT Skills</b>	Stata, ArcGIS, Python, R, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, Microsoft Office, GIMP, Geogebra, iMovie
<b>Languages</b>	Italian: mother tongue; English: C2; German: B1; French: A2

### **OTHER PERSONAL SKILLS**

---

<b>Competitive Sport: Roller Figure Skating, Show Group</b> <i>FISR (Italian Roller Sports Federation), FIRS (International Roller Sports Federation)</i>	2009 - 2016
--	-------------

### **REFERENCES**

---

**Prof. Hans-Joachim Voth** (*Main PhD Advisor*)  
University of Zurich, Switzerland

**Prof. Lorenzo Casaburi**  
University of Zurich, Switzerland

**Prof. David Yanagizawa-Drott**  
University of Zurich, Switzerland

**Prof. James A. Robinson**  
University of Chicago, United States

**Prof. Bruno Caprettini**  
University of St Gallen, Switzerland