

# PIER PAOLO CREANZA

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## EDUCATION

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**Princeton University**, Princeton, NJ, USA

*August 2020 - present*

PhD in Economics

Incidental M.A. in Economics, awarded September 2022

**Bocconi University**, Milan, Italy

*September 2017 - April 2020*

M.Sc. in Economics and Social Sciences (DES-ESS)

Dissertation advisors: Maristella Botticini, Guido Alfani

Graduation mark: 110/110 *summa cum Laude*

**Bocconi University**, Milan, Italy

*September 2014 - September 2017*

B.Sc. in Economics and Social Sciences (CLES)

Graduation mark: 110/110 *summa cum Laude*

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Institutions, trade and growth: the ancient Greek case of *proxenia***

— Forthcoming on the *Journal of Economic History*, Volume 84, Issue 1

Recent scholarship contends that ancient Mediterranean economies grew intensively. An explanation is that Smithian growth was spurred by reductions in transaction costs and increased trade flows. This paper argues that an ancient Greek institution, *proxenia*, was among the key innovations that allowed such growth in the period 500–0 BCE. *Proxenia* entailed a Greek city-state declaring a foreigner to be its “public friends,” a status that conferred both duties and privileges. The functions performed by “public friends” could facilitate economic transactions between communities. Accordingly, network and regression analyses establish a strong relationship between *proxenia* grants and trade intensity.

## WORKING PAPERS

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**‘Returning brains’: tax incentives, migration, and scientific productivity**

This paper investigates how tax incentives for high-skill immigrants affect productivity. I collect data covering 90 percent of Italian faculty between 2000 and 2020 and use it to evaluate a 2004 tax break targeting researchers. First, the program induced substantial migration and positive selection of beneficiaries. Second, higher-productivity hires increase their department’s average productivity by 0.116 SDs, evenly split between their direct contribution and indirect responses of local faculty. However, this indirect effect is largely explained by the subsequent inflow of higher-productivity local researchers. Third, productivity spillovers on incumbent researchers are heterogeneous, but modest (0.024 SDs) and insignificant on average.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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**Who’s afraid of Big Business? American innovation at the rise of corporate concentration**

**The changing spatial concentration of innovative activity** — with Pietro Buri

**The Red Scare and racial inequality** — with Leah Boustan, Ilyana Kuziemko and Suresh Naidu

## SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics (SIOE)	<i>June 2021</i>
Graduate Seminar in Economic History (LSE)	<i>October 2021</i>
Graduate Seminar in Economic and Social History (Oxford)	<i>October 2021</i>
Economic History Association (EHA)	<i>October 2021</i>
Graduate Labor Workshop (Princeton)	<i>September 2022</i>
Program in Public Economics (Princeton)	<i>November 2022</i>
Graduate Labor Workshop (Princeton)	<i>May 2023</i>
Society of Labor Economists (SOLE)	<i>May 2023</i>
Graduate Labor Workshop (Princeton)	<i>November 2023</i>
Economic History Lunch (Yale)	<i>November 2023</i>
Graduate Labor Workshop (Princeton)	<i>March 2024</i>

## REFeree SERVICE

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Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Economic History, American Economic Journal: Applied

## TEACHING

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**2022-2023:** Junior Independent Work (ECO981)  
**2023-2024:** Junior Independent Work (ECO981), Introduction to Microeconomics (ECO100)

## RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

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**2021-2022:** Leah Boustan (Princeton) & Ilyana Kuziemko (Princeton)  
**2019:** Paola Giuliano (UCLA) & Marco Tabellini (HBS)  
**2019:** Marco Tabellini (HBS) & Vasiliki Fouka (Stanford)  
**2019:** Guido Alfani (Bocconi)

## OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

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<b>IGIER (Bocconi)</b> , Visiting student	<i>February 2018 - April 2020</i>
<b>PSE</b> , Graduate summer school (Advanced Macroeconomics; Behavioral Economics)	<i>June 2018</i>
<b>LSE</b> , Summer school (Introduction to Data Science and Big Data Analytics)	<i>August 2018</i>
<b>Princeton</b> , Reading group in Economic History	<i>September 2021 - present</i>
<b>Economic History Association</b> 82nd annual meeting, Conference participation	<i>September 2022</i>
<b>NBER Innovation Research Bootcamp</b>	<i>July 2023</i>
<b>Resident Graduate Student</b> at Mathey College, Princeton University	<i>2023-2024</i>

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

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**University Fellowship in Humanities and Social Sciences**, Princeton University  
**Graduate Merit Award**, Bocconi University  
**John Pencavel Prize**, University College London