

PIER PAOLO CREANZA

pcreanza@princeton.edu — www.ppcreanza.com — This version: January 2024

EDUCATION

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

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

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

This paper investigates how tax incentives for high-skill immigrants affect productivity. The analysis focuses on an Italian tax break targeting researchers and uses publication data to measure productivity. First, the program induced substantial migration and positive selection of beneficiaries. Second, high productivity hires increase their department’s average productivity by 0.12 SDs, evenly split between their direct contribution and indirect responses of local faculty. However, this indirect effect is largely explained by positive sorting of local researchers. Third, productivity spillovers on individual researchers are heterogeneous, but modest (0.02 SDs) and insignificant on average.

WORK IN PROGRESS

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

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

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

TEACHING

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

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

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

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

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

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