

Samuel Lado

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EMPLOYMENT AND AFFILIATIONS

Department of Economics, Universitat de Girona

September 2025-October 2026

Postdoctoral research fellow

Economics of Inequality and Poverty Analysis (EQUALITAS)

2024-

Affiliate member

EDUCATION

Universitat de Girona

2021-2025

PhD, Economics

Title: Essays on the effects of school-meal programmes

Advisor: Dr Sara Ayllón

Examination committee: Prof. Dan-Olof Rooth (Swedish Institute for Social Research, Stockholm University), Prof. Carla Haelermans (Maastricht University), Dr Angus Holford (Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Essex)

Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER), University of Essex

January 2025-April 2025

Visiting PhD student

Host: Prof. Birgitta Rabe

Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

2020-2021

M.Sc., Economic Analysis

Universitat de Girona

2015-2020

B.Sc., Economics

Universitat de Girona

2015-2020

B.Sc., Business Management and Administration

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Poverty, Inequality, Applied Microeconomics, Public Policy Evaluation, Labour Economics and Public Economics

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Ayllón, S.; Brugarolas, P.; Lado, S. (2024). New estimates for inequality of opportunity in Europe using elastic net algorithms, *Applied Economics Letters*, forthcoming.

Ayllón, S.; Holmarsdóttir, H. B.; Lado, S. (2023). Digitally deprived children in Europe, *Child Indicators Research*, 16: 1315-1339. Dissemination: [Digital Generation Blog](#).

Ayllón, S.; Lado, S. (2022). Food hardship in the US during the pandemic: What can we learn from real-time data?, *Review of Income and Wealth*, 68(2): 518-540.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

Ayllón, S.; Lado, S.; Symeonaki, M. (2024). Digitally disengaged and digitally unconfident children in Europe in *Understanding the everyday digital lives of children and young people*, ed. H. B. Holmarsdottir, I. Seland, C. Hyggen, M. Roth. Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 27-55 (chapter 2).

Ayllón, S.; Brugarolas, P.; Lado, S. (2024). ICT use and children's self-reported life satisfaction in *Understanding the everyday digital lives of children and young people*, ed. H. B. Holmarsdottir, I. Seland, C. Hyggen, M. Roth. Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 239-279 (chapter 9).

WORKING PAPERS

Ayllón, S.; Lado, S. (2025). More than just lunch: School-meal subsidies and language proficiency, IZA Discussion Paper no. 17631, EQUALITAS Working Paper no. 80. Dissemination: [The Social Observatory](#), [‘La Caixa’ foundation](#) [**Job Market Paper**]

Ayllón, S.; Lado, S. (2025). The causal impact of school-meal programmes on children in developed economies: A meta-analysis. IZA Discussion Paper no. 18042, EQUALITAS Working Paper no. 90.

Ayllón, S.; Brugarolas, P.; Lado, S. (2023). The level of inequality of opportunity in Spain: an estimation using Artificial Intelligence, Instituto de Estudios Fiscales. Media coverage: [El Confidencial](#), [El Confidencial](#).

REPORTS

Ayllón, S.; Brugarolas, P.; Lado, S. (2022). La transmisión intergeneracional de la pobreza y la desigualdad de oportunidades en España, Ministerio de Derechos Sociales y Agenda 2030. Media coverage: [ABC](#), [El Correo](#), [Las Provincias](#), [Europa Press](#). [in Spanish]

Sánchez, C.; Marquès, P.; Lado, S.; Bikfalvi, A. (2022). Guia de bones pràctiques per a la igualtat de gènere a la indústria agroalimentària, Departament d'Acció Climàtica, Alimentació i Agenda Rural, Generalitat de Catalunya. [in Catalan]

Sánchez, C.; Marquès, P.; Lado, S.; Lloveras, N. (2021). La dona a la indústria alimentària a Catalunya, Departament d'Agricultura, Ramaderia, Pesca i Alimentació, Generalitat de Catalunya. [in Catalan]

WORK IN PROGRESS

Universal free school meals and work incentives: lessons from England.

Teleworking and childcare across Europe: Is there a childcare digital divide? (with Sara Ayllón, Pablo Brugarolas and Enza Simeone).

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

2023-2025: INEQOP. Inequality and opportunities: The role of food insecurity, education and pro-social preferences, Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation.

2022-2025: Subsidised school meals and child well-being, Social Research Call 2022 ‘La Caixa’.

2022-2025: Economic analysis of public policies, Grup de Recerca Reconeguts, AGAUR (2021SGR570).

2022-2023: Inequality of opportunity in Spain: an estimation using Artificial Intelligence, Instituto de Estudios Fiscales.

- 2022: Explotació descriptiva de dades sobre les accions finançades pel programa Temps per Cures, Institut Català d'avaluació de polítiques públiques (Ivàlua) (PI).
- 2022: Transmisión intergeneracional de la pobreza, Dirección General de Diversidad Familiar y Servicios Sociales, Ministerio de Derechos Sociales y Agenda 2030.
- 2020-2023: DigiGen. The impact of technological transformations on the digital generation, DT-TRANSFORMATIONS-07-2019, HORIZON 2020, European Commission.
- 2021: Guia de bones pràctiques per a la igualtat de gènere a la indústria agroalimentària, Departament d'Acció Climàtica, Alimentació i Agenda Rural.
- 2020: La dona a la indústria alimentària a Catalunya, Departament Agricultura, Ramaderia, Pesca i Alimentació, Generalitat de Catalunya.

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

- 2026: Seminar at the Department of Political Science (Universitat de Barcelona) (scheduled)
Equalitas Seminar Series (scheduled)
Lisbon Economics and Statistics of Education (LESE) Conference (scheduled)
- 2025: X Congreso de la Red Española de Política Social (REPS)
XI Equalitas Workshop
Meeting of the Society of the Economics of the Household (SEHO)
CESifo/ifo Junior Workshop on the Economics of Education
Fourth Catalan Economic Society Conference (CESC)
ISER Junior Applied Research Group Official Network (JARGON) (University of Essex)
Seminar at the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) (University of Essex)
Seminar at the Institut Català d'Avaluació de Polítiques Públiques (Ivàlua)
- 2024: Symposium of the Spanish Economic Association (SAEe)
PAPERSS Seminar Series (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid)
Meta-Analysis of Economics Research Network Colloquium (MAER-Net)
37th Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE)
2nd young AERNA day (attendance only)
XXXI Meeting on Public Economics
AQR Lunch Seminar (Universitat de Barcelona)
X Equalitas Workshop
Lisbon Economics and Statistics of Education (LESE) Conference
- 2023: VI Seminar for New Academic Researchers (SNAR)
Meta-Analysis of Economics Research Network Colloquium (MAER-Net) (attendance only)
Third Catalan Economic Society Conference (CESC) (attendance only)
Third Winter Workshop of the Catalan Economic Society (attendance only)
Workshop on 'Comedores Escolares para la Infancia Europea: Garantizar una Alimentación Saludable a la Infancia en la Unión Europea' (attendance only)
Workshop on 'Retos en Programas de Garantía de Ingresos' (attendance only)
XIII Workshop in Public Policy Design (attendance only)
- 2021: XXVIII Meeting on Public Economics
XXIII Applied Economics Meeting
V Conference of Pre-doctoral Researchers of the Universitat de Girona
XIV Labour Economics Meeting

OTHER PRESENTATIONS AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

- 2025: Presentation in the ‘Thesis in 4 minutes’ competition
- 2024: Presentation in the second ‘Subsidised school meals and child well-being’ stakeholder meeting
- 2023: Presentation of the project ‘Subsidised school meals and child well-being’ to the Advisory Board
Presentation of the project ‘Transmisión intergeneracional de la pobreza y la desigualdad de oportunidades en España’ to the Ministerio de Derechos Sociales y Agenda 2030. [Link to the video presentation](#)
Presentation in the first ‘Subsidised school meals and child well-being’ stakeholder meeting
Presentation of the project ‘Transmisión intergeneracional de la pobreza’ to the Red de Inclusión Social (RIS)

Attendance to the following scientific meetings of the ‘DigiGen’ project: Leicester (2022), Cluj-Napoca (2022), Brussels (2022), Girona (2021), Paderborn (online, 2021), Athens (online, 2020)

WORKSHOP, MEETINGS AND SEMINAR ORGANIZATION

- Organiser support for the fourth Catalan Economic Society Conference (CESC), 2025
- Organiser of the second ‘Subsidised school meals and child well-being’ stakeholder meeting, Barcelona, 2024
- Organiser of the ‘VII Conference of ‘Pre-doctoral Researchers’, Universitat de Girona, 2024
- Organiser support for the third Catalan Economic Society Conference (CESC), 2023
- Organiser of the first ‘Subsidised school meals and child well-being’ stakeholder meeting, Barcelona, 2023
- Organiser of the scientific meeting of the ‘DigiGen’ project, Universitat de Girona, 2021

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- 2024: Summer School: The economics of poverty and inequality: Global challenges in the 21st century (Universitat de Barcelona School of Economics)
- 2023: SAEe PhD School in Economics: Matched employer-employee data: Theory and applications (Universidad de Salamanca)
10th Course and open seminar on compositional data analysis (Universitat de Girona)
Summer School: Microeconometrics and policy evaluation – Modern estimation methods and machine learning (Paris School of Economics)
Regression Discontinuity Design (Mixtape Sessions)
- 2022: Machine Learning and Causal Inference (Mixtape Sessions)
Summer School: First steps in the elaboration of a dynamic microsimulation model (InGRID-2 project)
- 2021: Quantitative Methods for the Analysis and Evaluation of Public Policies with Stata (Universidad Internacional de Andalucía)
Experimental Approach in Labor and Development Economics (XIV Labour Economics Meeting)
Summer school: Reducing risk of poverty in the EU: Data and policies, Centre for European Policy Studies (InGRID-2 project)
- 2020: Winter school: Data for monitoring poverty and vulnerabilities in Europe, Centre for European Policy Studies (InGRID-2 project)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Applied Economics Instruments (Universitat de Girona) (2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024, 2024/2025, 2025/2026)

Macroeconomics (Universitat de Girona) (2023/2024)

Topics in Applied Economics (Universitat de Girona) (2021/2022, 2022/2023)

International Economics (Universitat de Girona) (2021/2022)

Social Policies in the European Union (Universitat de Girona) (2020/2021)

Political Economy (Universitat de Girona) (2020/2021)

Markets and Behaviour (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya) (2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024, 2024/2025, 2025/2026)

Microeconomics (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya) (2021/2022)

REFEREE SERVICE

Journal of Economic Surveys

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Department of Economics, Universitat de Girona	2022-2025
Predoctoral research fellow	

Department of Economics, Universitat de Girona	2020-2022
Research assistant	

Department of Economics, Universitat de Girona	2020-2022
Associate lecturer	

Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya	2021-
Affiliated Teaching staff	

Family Business Chair, Universitat de Girona	2020-2021
Research assistant	

Ajuntament de Quart	2019-2023
Councillor for Sports (2019-2020), Youth, and Communications	

Peixos Puignau	2019-2020
Accountant and clerical assistant	

GRANTS, AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2025: Awarded 3rd place in the ‘Thesis in 4 Minutes’ competition, Universitat de Girona

2024: Mobility scholarship from the Universitat de Girona for a research visit to the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER), University of Essex
SAEe 2024 PhD student grant, Fundación Ramón Areces and the Spanish Economic Association
PDI Grant, Consell Social de la Universitat de Girona

2022: FPU Doctoral Scholarship, Ministerio de Universidades
FI SDUR Doctoral Scholarship, AGAUR

2020: Best undergraduate thesis award, Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences, Universitat de Girona

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Languages: Spanish (native), Catalan (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate), Galician (beginner)

Coding: Stata, R, Python (basic knowledge), LaTeX, Tableau, Power BI

REFERENCES

Dr Sara Ayllón

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