

SOPHIA SCAGLIONI MELEGARI

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Education

Boston University

2018 - 2022

BA in Economics, BA in Political Science with Honors

3.86/4.0 GPA, Magna Cum Laude

Post-Baccalaureate Mathematics Courses

2024 - 2025

Forthcoming

University of Cincinnati

Employment

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

July 2024 – July 2026

Pre-doctoral Research Fellow in Economics

Cambridge, MA

- Incoming Summer 2024

OpenResearch Lab

May 2023 – July 2024

Quantitative Researcher and Technical Project Manager

San Francisco, CA

- Provided research assistance to a multidisciplinary team of PIs (3 Economists and 2 Political Scientists) on the most comprehensive randomized controlled trial of unconditional cash transfers in the U.S.
- Co-lead technical project management of predefined analyses, administrative data integration, and process documentation to facilitate the submission of working papers to NBER
- Employed advanced statistical methods such as LASSO regressions for variable selection, and False Discovery Rate control to manage multiple hypothesis testing errors in statistical analysis.

Research Projects

American Corporate Political Activity by Revealed Preference

March 2021 – January 2022

Undergraduate Honors Thesis

Boston University

- Created an original dataset of scraped-board member data, lobby spending, and PAC donations for firms in the SP500
- Developed and implemented a methodology to clean, aggregate, and analyze data to model relative spending
- Single authored paper, defended findings, and presented at poster session for Honors program

Does Income Affect Health?

May 2023 – July 2024

Research Assistant to Sarah Miller, et al.

OpenResearch Lab

- Responsible for cleaning and integrating participant outcomes related to health, including access to health care and app-collected nutrition diary data

The Employment Effects of a Guaranteed Income

May 2023 – July 2024

Research Assistant to Eva Vivalt, et al.

OpenResearch Lab

- Contributed to dataset creation and analysis for outcomes of the unconditional cash transfer study relating to employment choices, intrahousehold composition, job amenities, and job preferences

What Can Money Buy?

May 2023 – July 2024

Research Assistant to Alex Bartik, et al.

OpenResearch Lab

- Integrated administrative data on participant assets, and supported the creation and analysis of topics related to subjective well-being, consumption, and financial health of recipients of a basic income

Honors and Awards

Best Undergraduate Thesis in Political Science

May 2022

American Corporate Political Activity by Revealed Preference

Boston University Department of Political Science

Skills

Coding Languages: R, Stata, Python, JavaScript, CSS, HTML

Clouds & Databases: AWS, PostgreSQL

Visualization & Formatting Tools: React, Tableau, LaTeX

Spoken Languages: English (Native, US Citizen), Italian (Fluent, Italian / EU Citizen), Spanish (Professional and conversational proficiency)