

OLATZ ROMÁN-BLANCO

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EDUCATION

PhD in Economics , European University Institute (Florence) <i>Supervisors:</i> Thomas F. Crossley and David K. Levine	<i>2019 - Present</i>
Visiting Scholar , University of California, Berkeley <i>Host:</i> Enrico Moretti	<i>2022</i>
MRs in Economics , European University Institute (Florence)	<i>2019 - 2020</i>
MSc in Economics and Finance , Barcelona Graduate School of Economics	<i>2017 - 2018</i>
Bachelor in Economics , University of the Basque Country (Bilbao) Erasmus Exchange Program: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (2016-2017)	<i>2013 - 2017</i>

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Family Economics, Gender Economics, Urban Economics

WORK IN PROGRESS

Children and Relationship Quality

Joint with Belén Rodríguez Moro (EUI)

“We study the impact of having a child on the relationship quality of couples. We adopt a pseudo-experimental approach and carry out an event study analysis around first child birth. There is a sharp and permanent decrease in RQ immediately after birth, both for fathers and mothers. Illustratively, individuals ranking in the 90th percentile of RQ before having a child are pushed down to the median after birth. This effect is induced by a reduction in the amount of time spent together and by an increase and reallocation of housework, which disproportionately increases women’s burden. Preliminary evidence on the UK Shared Parental Leave suggests that policies encouraging egalitarian distributions of housework can mitigate the negative impact of childbirth on relationship quality.”

Until the City Do Us Part: Relationship Quality and Marriage Market Size

Joint with Ana Moreno Maldonado (CUNEF) and Belén Rodríguez Moro (EUI)

“In this project, we exploit geographical differences in marriage markets to unveil the main determinants of relationship quality as well as couple formation and dissolution. Using data for the United Kingdom, we show that big cities are characterized by a larger proportion of singles and by a lower stability of newly formed couples as compared to small cities. However, we also find that the risk of couple dissolution decreases faster in bigger cities and that the relationship quality of couples deteriorates at a slower pace. We then build a dynamic quantitative model of couple formation and dissolution that allows us to account for the endogeneity of location decisions and to quantify the importance of each mechanism in resulting relationship quality.”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PhD level - European University Institute

- 2023 Topics in Labor Economics, Co-instructor with Monica Costa-Dias & Thomas Crossley
2022 Economic Measurement, TA to Sule Alan & Thomas Crossley
2021 Statistics and Econometrics II - Econometric Models for Micro Data, TA to Sule Alan & Thomas Crossley
2020 Statistics and Econometrics II - Econometric Models for Micro Data, TA to Sule Alan

Graduate - Florence School of Banking and Finance

- 2020, 2021 Panel Data for Banking Sector Analysis, TA to Jeffrey Wooldridge

Undergraduate - New York University Florence

- 2023 Econometrics, TA to Giampiero Gallo

Undergraduate - Universitat Pompeu Fabra

- 2017-2018 TA in Macroeconomics II, Business Organization and Administration II, Economics and Analytical Instruments for the Study of Law (Statistics and Game Theory)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT

- 2018-2019 Research Assistant to Monica Martinez-Bravo, CEMFI (Madrid)
2014-2015 Research Assistant to Juan Ramón Murua, University of the Basque Country (Bilbao)

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2022 US Department Visiting Grant, European University Institute
2019-2023 Beca Salvador de Madariaga, Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation & University
2019 Beca del Banco de España (*declined due to scholarship incompatibility*)
2017-2018 Teaching Assistant Scholarship, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
2017 Half tuition waiver, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
2017 Academic Excellence Award, University of the Basque Country
2016 Erasmus Scholarship, European Commission
2013 Academic Excellence Award, Basque Government

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Presentations (* including scheduled):

- 2023 18th Doctorissimes Conference (Paris), EUI Microeconometrics Working Group (Florence), Understanding Society Conference* (Essex), EALE Conference* (Prague)
2022 IRLE Workshop (Berkeley)
2021 EUI Microeconometrics Working Group (Florence)

Academic Service:

- 2020-2021 Co-organizer, Microeconometrics Working Group, EUI

OTHER SKILLS

Languages:

English (fluent), Spanish (native), Basque (native), Italian (intermediate), German (basic)

Programming Skills:

Stata, Matlab, Python, R, Latex