CLAUDIA MEZA-CUADRA

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EDUCATION

Universitat Pompeu Fabra

PhD in Economics

• Fields: Applied, labor, gender economics

Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Master of Research in Economics

Barcelona Graduate School of Economics

Master in Economics and Finance

Columbia University Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and Sustainable Development

REFERENCES

Prof. Libertad González Supervisor Universitat Pompeu Fabra <u>libertad.gonzalez@upf.edu</u> Norman Loayza World Bank nloayza@worldbank.org **Prof. Lídia Farré** Universitat de Barcelona lidia.farre@ub.edu

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

World Bank

Consultant in Social Protection and Labor, East Asia and Pacific

- Develop projections for the trajectory of employment in the informal and formal sectors of the Malaysian economy under several policy scenarios, including collecting and analyzing data
- Worked with World Bank team and government experts to tailor projections to the country-specific context and meet government needs, communicating results through reports and presentations.
- Developed and led a training session for government employees using the economic model and toolkit to project informal labor for research and policy purposes

Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Research Assistant

- Work with Spanish government labor force and time-use surveys, constructing databases and conducting econometric analyses. Synthesizing results in figures and written reports and conducting literature reviews to assess the impact of Spanish government policies on child health & human capital with Libertad González
- Collected and conducted geo-spatial analysis of historical data to investigate the long-term role of human capital on development with Marta Reynal-Querol

World Bank

Research assistant in Macro Economics and Growth (DEC-RG)

• Developed a tool to estimate and project the size of the informal sector around the world using historical and projected data on wages, employment, capital stocks, etc.

Barcelona, Spain 2019–2024 (expected)

Barcelona, Spain 2018–2019

Barcelona, Spain 2017–2018

New York, USA 2008–2012

2021, 2022

2018-Present

2014-2017, 2018

• Performed analyses of data on growth and development-related topics including: the effects of mining on local Peruvian communities, barriers to technological adoption and growth, decentralization and the spending ability of Peruvian municipalities, productivity and growth, resilience

US Environmental Protection Agency

Researcher for the Office of Science Policy

- Worked with a small team of scientists to research and coordinate EPA's high-profile study of the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing on drinking water resources
- Wrote a report analyzing data provided by nine hydraulic fracturing service companies on their water acquisition and management practices. Also co-authored a report awarded an EPA Level II Scientific and Technological Achievement Award.
- Researched, summarized, and analyzed information on topics related to drinking water and hydraulic fracturing from a variety of sources including academic papers, industry reports and patents, government and NGO reports, and textbooks

RESEARCH PAPERS IN PROGRESS

Videogames and the Gender Gap in Computer Science

In contrast to other STEM fields, over the last thirty years computer science has grown increasingly maledominated. Using large-scale US survey data on field of education and occupation as well as data on computer and videogame playing from the mid-1980s to the early 2000s, I study the effect of the spread of videogames on the widening of the gender gap in computer science. Using two-way fixed effects regressions exploiting variation in the spread of videogames by birth state and cohort, I find that for men, greater exposure to videogames when young is associated with (1) an increased probability of obtaining a bachelor's degree in computer science and (2) an increased probability of working in a computer-related occupation. For those who obtain a bachelor's degree, a 20% increase in the spread of videogames in their cohort (while teenagers) is associated with a 10% increase in the gender gap in the probability of studying computer science, and a 14% increase in the gender gap in the probability of working in a related field. To address potential endogeneity, I instrument for videogame exposure using the early prevalence of videogame arcades by state combined with national sales of games released each year. The IV analysis confirms the results, suggesting that videogame exposure may be an important driver of the gender gap in computer science, and providing additional evidence of the long-term role of non-academic activities during childhood on education and career choices and outcomes.

On the long-term effects of the Covid-19 lockdown on the allocation of time within households (joint with Lídia Farré and Libertad González)

We use real-time data collected from a national representative sample of households in May 2020 and May 2022 to estimate the long-term effects of the Covid-19 lockdown on the distribution of paid and unpaid work within households. Two years after the outbreak of the virus, we observe a reduction in the gender gap in total hours worked. Time devoted to paid work by both men and women has returned to pre-lockdown levels. In contrast, we observe a significant reduction in the gender gap in unpaid work. This reduction is driven by an increase in the weekly hours that men devote to childcare and a decrease in those devoted by women. Our preliminary results indicate that the higher exposure of men to the family burden during the lockdown resulting from the unexpected labor demand shock that forced many men to stay at home may be responsible for the reduction in the gender gap in childcare time.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

- Hevia, C., Loayza, N.V. and Meza-Cuadra, C., 2023. Industrial Policies vs Public Goods under Asymmetric Information. Economia, 46(91), pp.39-52.
- Loayza, N.V. and Meza-Cuadra, C. 2016. A Toolkit for Informality Scenario Analysis. Available at: http://www.worldbank.org/en/research/brief/a-toolkit-for-informality-scenario-analysis.

2012-2014

- Kim, Y.E., Loayza, N.V., and Meza-Cuadra, C. 2016. Productivity as the key to economic growth and development. *Research Policy Briefs*; no. 3. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2015. Analysis of Hydraulic Fracturing Fluid Data from the FracFocus Chemical Disclosure Registry 1.0. Office of Research and Development, Washington, D.C.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant at Barcelona School of Economics Development Economics, Master's Degree (Prof. Gianmarco Leon) Teaching Assistant at Universitat Pompeu Fabra	Winter 2022
Data Analysis Undergraduate	Fall 2022
Mathematics III Undergraduate	Spring 2022
Gender Economics Undergraduate	Winter 2022
Introduction to Microeconomics. Undergraduate	Fall 2018, 2019
Mathematics I. Undergraduate	Fall 2018
Introduction to Economics and Analytical Instruments, Undergraduate	Winter 2018
CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS	
36 th Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE) Barcelona School of Economics, PhD Jamboree	2023 2023
LANGUAGES & IT SKILLS	

Languages:English (native), Spanish (native), French (intermediate)IT:STATA, R, ArcGIS, Latex