

ALESSANDRO FERRARA

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Department of Social and Political Sciences
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EDUCATION

European University Institute, Doctoral school **Fiesole, Italy**
Doctoral Program in Political and Social Sciences *Sep 2019 - Present*
Supervisor: Fabrizio Bernardi
Thesis: *Migrant advantage or Optimism trap? Causes and consequences of positive ethnic choice effects*

Bocconi University, Graduate school **Milan, Italy**
Master of Science in Economics and Social Sciences *Sep 2015 - Mar 2018*
Obtained with final grade 110/110 Cum Laude
Thesis supervisor: Eliana La Ferrara

Bocconi University, Undergraduate school **Milan, Italy**
Bachelor of International Economics, Management and Finance *Sep 2012 - Sep 2015*
Obtained with final grade 110/110 Cum Laude (class valedictorian)

RESEARCH VISITS AND EXCHANGES

Humboldt University, Visiting Scholar **Berlin, Germany**
DYNAMICS Research Training Group *Sep 2022 - Mar 2023*

Sciences Po (PSIA), Graduate Exchange Program **Paris, France**
Focus on Political Economy and Development *Sep 2016 - Dec 2016*

UC Berkeley, Undergraduate Exchange Program **Berkeley, California**
Focus on Mathematical and Development Economics *Sep 2014 - Dec 2014*

PUBLICATIONS

Ferrara, A. (2020) [Aiming too high or scoring too low? Heterogeneous immigrant"native gaps in upper secondary enrollment and outcomes beyond the transition in France](#), *European Sociological Review*, jcac050.

Recchi, E., **Ferrara, A.**, Rodriguez Sanchez, A., Deutschmann, A., Gabrielli, L., Iacus, S., Bastiani, L., Spyrtatos, S., & Vespe, M. (2022) [The impact of air travel on the precocity and severity of COVID 19 deaths in sub national areas across 45 countries](#), *Scientific Reports*, 12(1).

Borgonovi, F., **Ferrara, A.** & Piacentini, M. (2021) [Performance decline in a low-stakes test at age 15 and educational attainment at age 25: Cross-country longitudinal evidence](#), *Journal of Adolescence*, 92, 114-125.

Borgonovi, F., **Ferrara, A.** & Piacentini, M. (2020) [From asking to observing. Behavioural measures of socio-emotional and motivational skills in large-scale assessments](#), *DoQSS Working Papers*, No. 20-19, Quantitative Social Science - UCL Social Research Institute, University College London.

Borgonovi, F. & **Ferrara, A.** (2020) [Academic achievement and sense of belonging among non-native-speaking immigrant students: The role of linguistic distance](#), *Learning and Individual Differences*, 81.

Borgonovi, F., **Ferrara, A.** & Maghnouj, S. (2018) [The gender gap in educational outcomes in Norway](#), *OECD Education Working Papers*, No. 183, OECD Publishing, Paris.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“The Effects of COVID-19 on Inequalities in Educational Achievement in Italy (with Francesca Borgonovi), Currently in revision” (with Francesca Borgonovi) - draft available [here](#).

“Intergenerational Consequences of Immigrant Selectivity: when does contextual attainment matter?” (with Renee Luthra), currently in revision.

“From the Streets to the Voting Booth: The Electoral Effect of Grassroots Mobilization Against the Far-Right” (with Francesco Colombo, Foteini Vassou, Fabrizio Bernardi and Elias Dinas) - currently in revision, draft available [here](#).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Humboldt University, Teacher Assistant
Course: Microsociology and Family Demography

Berlin, Germany
Oct 2022 - Mar 2023

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant
Migration Policy Center: Global Mobilities Project
Project: [The Airport Factor: Assessing the Impact of International and National Aviation Mobility on the Spread of Covid-19](#)

Fiesole, Italy
Oct 2020 - Aug 2021

Consultant
Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Project: [Strength Through Diversity](#) (Education and Skills Directorate)
Main responsibilities: Analyses and drafting chapters for the [Resilience of students with an immigrant background](#) Report

Paris, France
Feb 2017 - Apr 2019

Research Assistant
Essex Department of Economics (with Prof. Michel Serafinelli)
Project: The mobility of inventors and knowledge transfer

Essex, UK
Aug 2018 - Apr 2019

OFFICIAL TALKS

PAA Annual Conference	<i>2022</i>
ECSR Annual Conference	<i>2021, 2022</i>
ISA RC28 Annual Conference	<i>2022</i>
SISEC Annual Conference	<i>2022</i>

MiSoC Cros-Institutional PhD Colloquium on
Racial and Ethnic Inequalities in Migration Research

Essex, UK
Jun 2021

GIZ Roundtable Discussion on Education and Migration
Experiences from Selected OECD Countries (keynote speaker)

Ankara, Turkey
Nov 2018

American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting
Equity in Learning and Well-being Outcomes: Cross-national Evidence
on Immigrant Populations

New York, USA
Nov 2018

GRANTS

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Full PhD Scholarship
Vittorio Bertazzoni Graduate Honorary Scholarship
Bocconi Graduate Full Merit Based Scholarship
Bocconi Undergraduate Full Merit Based Scholarship

Sep 2019 - Present
Apr 2016 - Mar 2018
Sep 2015 - Mar 2018
Sep 2012 - Sep 2015

BLOG POSTS

Ferrara, A. & Recchi, E. (2020) [Did International Mobility Boost the Covid-19 Pandemic? Questioning a Commonplace Idea](#), *The Migration Policy Center Blog*.

Ferrara, A. (2020) [Schooling at the Time of COVID: added adversities for second language learners](#), *The Migration Policy Center Blog*.

COMPUTER AND LANGUAGE SKILLS

STATA:Advanced knowledge
R: Intermediate knowledge
LaTeX: Advanced knowledge
UCINET: Basic knowledge

Italian: Native
English: Proficient
French: Advanced
Spanish: Intermediate

COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION

Teacher Training Summer School
Offered by the European University Institute

Florence, ITA
Sep 2021

Summer Institute in Computational Social Science
(SICSS)

Rotterdam, NLD
Jun 2020

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Co-organiser: Inequality Working Group
The [Inequality working group](#) facilitates the exchange of research among EUI researchers and professors on various aspects of social inequality sponsored by prof. Fabrizio Bernardi and prof. Juho Harkonnen.

Sep 2020 - Present

Co-organiser: Bottom-up workshop on Agent-based modelling
Taught by prof. Gianluca Manzo and sponsored by prof. Arnout van de Rijt.

Jun 2021

Co-manager: Fiasco Social Club

Nov 2019 - Sep 2021

Non-profit student-managed common space for informal events and aimed at enhancing the EUI sense of community