Juan David Garcia-Gonzalez

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Research interests

Education, Migration, Conflict, Innovation

Affiliations

2022 – Present **PhD Candidate**, Bocconi University – Milan, Italy

2023 – Present **Adjunct Lecturer of Economics**, Universidad de la Sabana – Colombia

2026 – Present Member, Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) and European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI)

2025 – Present Youth Member, Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Económicas (ACCE) and Member, The Regional Studies Association (RSA)

2024 – Present Research Fellow, Universidad del Rosario

2022 – Present Member, YSI INET

Education

2022 – Present **Bocconi University** – Milan, Italy
Ph.D. in Social and Political Science
Teaching Assistant & Research Assistant at DONDENA
Visiting Fellow at The University of Melbourne and Universidad del Rosario

2019 – 2020 **University College London (UCL IIPP)** – London, UK
MPA in Innovation, Public Policy and Public Value, with Distinction

2019 – 2021 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) & J-PAL** – Online
MicroMasters in Data, Economics, and Design of Policy: International Development

2016 – 2017 **Universidad de Almería** – Almeria, Spain
M.Sc. in Local Sustainable Development, with Honours (best graduate and thesis)

2011 – 2016 **Universidad Nacional de Colombia** – Bogota, Colombia
Bachelor in Economics, top 10% of class

Working papers and work in progress

[4] Higher education and migration under conflict: the effects of funding and local labour opportunities
Experimental: research design stage; quasi-experimental: working paper
Draft available upon request

[3] Left behind or moving out? fifteen years of selection into higher education and student migration across Colombian regions
Working paper, draft available upon request
Funded by ICFES – Instituto Colombiano para la Evaluación de la Educación

[2] Career mentoring for underrepresented talent: effects on education, employment and innovation
with A. de Gendre and N. Salamanca
Registry Report, draft available upon request
Funded by The University of Melbourne Research Partnership Fund

[1] Brain drain, brain gain and international scholarships: the educational, labor, and innovation outcomes of Colfuturo
with A. de Gendre and N. Salamanca
Data analysis stage
Funded by The University of Melbourne Research Partnership Fund

Funding, Awards, and Fellowships

2025 External Investigator, "Postgraduate loan-scholarships effects on labor and scientific outcomes," **The University of Melbourne Research Partnership Fund**, USD 34,000, and Co-Principal Investigator, "Colfuturo engagement funding," **Colfuturo**, USD 10,000

2025 Principal Investigator, "Peace and Student Migration," **ICFES Research call**, USD 5,000

2022 Full Merit PhD Fellowship, **Bocconi University**

2021 2071 Moonshot Apprenticeship Program, **UAE Ministry of Cabinet Affairs**

2019 Master's degree scholarships, **UCL Bartlett and Colfuturo**

2018 Grant for Youth Peace Initiative, **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands**

2017 Mobility Grant for International Visiting Scholar, **AUIP**

2016 Master's degree scholarship, **AUIP and Universidad de Almería**

Invited Seminars, Workshops and Conferences

2026 *(Including scheduled)* Congreso Anual de la Red de Investigadores de Economía (BanRep & UniEIA, *December*); LAPolMeth (U Andes, *November*); YSI Economics of Innovation Working Group Workshop (TalTech); Summer School on Socioeconomic Opportunity and Inequality (Icesi, Georgetown U & UChicago); São Paulo School of Advanced Science on Immigration, Environmental Violence and Colonialism (USP); Summer School on Socioeconomic Opportunity and Inequality (Bocconi, ISPI & UChicago); Food for Thought, F4T (Bocconi); UZH-Bocconi PhD workshop (Bocconi); IZA@LISER Summer School in Labor Economics (IZA@LISER); KIRDSA III International Conference on Regional Development in South America (UNSAM); The Geography of Innovation Winter School (U Pavia); ALP-POP 2026 (Bocconi)

2025 Ceremonia de Ingreso a la Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Económicas Joven (ACCE); Melbourne Institute Brown Bag, twice (U Melbourne); Network Economics Conference and Summer School (Monash U); 4th Summer School on the Economics of Migration (UC Davis); Bogotá Summer School of Economics, Network Theory in Economics (U Andes); Seminario Banco de la República (BanRep); Seminario CID (UNAL); Microeconomics Workshop (U Rosario); São Paulo School of Advanced Science on High Dimensional Modelling (FGV); PhD seminar La Strada (Bocconi); LEAP Lunch seminar (Bocconi); Seminar ERC POPCLIMA (U Bologna)

2024 UCL IIPP Seminar (UCL); P&I Clinic Seminar (Bocconi); Congreso de Economía Colombiana (U Andes); PhD seminar La Strada (Bocconi); São Paulo School of Advanced Science on Technology and Innovation Strategies and Policies for Economic Development (Unicamp); IRSPM (U Tampere)

2023 CEU 18th Annual Doctoral Conference (CEU); Bogotá Summer School of Economics, Research on STEM (U Javeriana)

Teaching experience

Universidad de la Sabana, Colombia

2024 – Present Main instructor, Development Economics; 320 hours, 133 students & 8 TAs (4.7/5)

2023 – 2025 Main instructor, Economic Policy (*In spanish*); 240 hours, 100 students & 6 TAs (4.7/5)

2019 Main instructor, History of Economic Thought (*In spanish*); 48 hours & 17 students (4.8/5)

2018 – 2019 Main instructor, World Economic History (*In spanish*); 96 hours & 62 students (4.7/5)

Bocconi University, Italy

2023 – 2024 Teaching Assistant, Applications for Management; 20 hours

Universidad de Almeria, Spain

2017 Main instructor, Publishing in Social Sciences (*In spanish*); 29 hours & 15 students

Other activities

2023 – Present Co-founder and organizer of the department seminar "Seminario de Políticas económicas y de desarrollo económico", Universidad de la Sabana; over 80 invited academics, policy makers and third-sector representatives from Colombia and abroad

Co-organizer of and participant in academic field trips, department meetings and other events

Recognized with teaching and leadership distinctions at Universidad de la Sabana

Publications (Pre-PhD)

[5] **Garcia-Gonzalez**, J. D., Pires Manso, J. R., García, J. M., & Valenciano, J. P. (2024). Size of government and economic growth: A convergence analysis of former Soviet Union countries from 1991 to 2018. **Amfiteatru Economic**, 26(18), 1256–1269.

[4] González, G. H., **Garcia-Gonzalez**, J. D., Gómez-Medina, J. S., & Corbella, V. I. (2023). Regionalization of Latin America based on asymmetries in the absorptive capacity of countries. **The Journal of Economic Asymmetries**, 27, e00291.

[3] **Garcia-Gonzalez**, J. D., & Skrita, A. (2019). Predicting academic performance based on student's family environment: Evidence for Colombia using classification trees. **Psychology, Society & Education**, 11(3), 299–311.

[2] Sáenz-Castro, J. E., & **Garcia-Gonzalez**, J. D. (2019). The relationship between corruption and inequality in Colombia: Empirical evidence using panel data for the period 2008–2017. **Iberoamerican Journal of Development Studies**, 8(2), 28–43.

[1] Díaz Pinzón, B. H., Gómez Medina, J. S., **Garcia-Gonzalez**, J. D., Melo Román, H. A., & Sanabria, F. E. (2017). Contribución de las iniciativas de tecnologías de la información en las organizaciones: Una revisión de la literatura. **Innovar**, 27(66), 41–55.

Research and Industry Experience

2023 – 2024 **Research Assistant**, DONDENA - Bocconi University, Italy

2021 – 2022 **Advisor**, Colombian Ministry of Housing and Cities, Colombia

2021 **Consultant**, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia

2021 **Apprentice**, Mohammed Bin Rashid Centre for Government Innovation, UAE

2021 **Consultant**, Berg Institute, Colombia

2020 **Researcher**, University College London, UK

2020 **Consultant**, Fedesarrollo, Colombia

2017 – 2018 **Young Professional**, Telefónica, Colombia

2015 – 2016 **Research Assistant**, Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Económicas, Colombia

Service

Referee *World Development, Cuadernos de Economía, Revista Equidad & Desarrollo*

Advising and Mentoring

Advisor Master's thesis advisor; Andrés Felipe Naranjo, U Externado (2025)

Research Internship Carolina Tamayo, U Sabana (2025-2026); Ian Otero, U Sabana (2025-2026); Isabella Valencia, U Sabana (2025); Juanita Suárez, U Sabana (2025)

Technical skills

Software

LaTeX, R, STATA

Languages

Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), Italian (Fluent)