

CURRICULUM VITAE

Barbara Sianesi

CONTACT DETAILS

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EMPLOYMENT RECORD

2002: Jul-present Senior Research Economist (part-time since 2007), Institute for Fiscal Studies.
2001-2002 Research Economist, Institute for Fiscal Studies.
1998-2002 Research Scholar, Institute for Fiscal Studies.
1995-1996 Research Assistant for the Economics Department, Bocconi University.
1994-1995 Research Assistant for IESAO (Institute of Economic and Social Studies for East Asia), Bocconi University.

AFFILIATIONS

2014 Aug Research Fellow, Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA)

EDUCATION

1998-2002 PhD in Economics, University College London: *Essays on the Evaluation of Social Programmes and Educational Qualifications*, November 30, 2002.
Supervisors: Professors Costas Meghir and Richard Blundell.
Examiners: David Card and Steve Pischke.
1995-1998 PhD in Economics, Milan: *Biotechnology and Biodiversity*.
1996-1997 MSc in Environmental and Resource Economics, University College London, (distinction).
1995 BA in Economics, Bocconi University, Milan, (110/110 *summa cum laude*).

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Dec 02,03,04,05,06, Feb 07; Apr, Dec 08; Apr 09; Jan, Apr, June, Dec 2010; May, June, Nov 2011; Mar (York University), Apr, June, Dec 2012; Mar, Apr, May (Bristol University), Oct (Manchester University), Dec 2013; Mar, Apr 2014: "Policy Evaluation Methods", 3½-day Cemmap/PEPA Course, IFS, London.
Oct 2009 2-day course on Matching and Other Tools for Policy Evaluation for the Health and Safety Executive, Liverpool, October 27-28.
Jan-Jun 2007 Lecturer for the Advanced Econometrics Option: Programme Evaluation, MSc Economics, Birkbeck College, School of Economics, Mathematics & Statistics, London.
Apr 2007 3-day Evaluation Course for HM Treasury, London, April 11-13.
Feb 2007 3-day Cemmap/Instituto de Estudio Fiscales Evaluation Course, Ministry of Finance, Madrid, February 14-16.

- Jul 2006 Half day course on “Matching Methods” at the 2nd ESRC Research Methods Festival in association with the Oxford Spring School, St Catherine's College, Oxford, July 18.
- Jun 06, Jan 07 Co-tutor for the GRSU Training Course “Evaluation Methods and Economic Appraisal”, MSc in Policy Analysis and Evaluation, Institute of Education, University of London.
- Oct 2004 “Programme Evaluation Using Matching (and Other) Estimators”, Reading Group in Microeconometrics, Università Cattolica, Milan, Oct 15.
- Sep 2003 First Summer School on Labour Market Policy Evaluation, Ascea, Sept. 1-5.
- Sep-Oct 2002 “An Intensive Course on Programme Evaluation”, Sedesol (Ministry for Social Development), Mexico City, 48 hours during Sept 16 – Oct 11.
- July 2002 “Using Stata for discrete and multinomial choice models”, Cemmap Course, London.
- 2002-03 “Measuring the impact of education on individual earnings”, invited speaker at the DfES Economics of Education Programme, London, Durham and Sheffield, Courses 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.
- Jan, Feb 2002 Oxford and Cambridge lectures on “Active labour market programmes and policy evaluation”.
- Apr 2001 One-day “Propensity Score Matching workshop”, University of Copenhagen.
- 1999-2001 Teaching assistant for ‘Advanced Econometrics’ (C34), BSc in Economics, University College London.
- 1998-1999 Teaching assistant for ‘Economic Principles and the Environment’, MSc in Environmental and Resource Economics, University College London.
- 1995-1996 Teaching assistant for ‘Microeconomics’, Bocconi University.

RESEARCH AWARDS

- Dec12–Mar13 “Universal credit: feasibility study for ex post evaluation”, Department for Work and Pensions, £38K, Co-Applicant.
- 2011-2014 “Programme Evaluation for Policy Analysis (PEPA)”, a Node of the National Centre for Research Methods (part of IFS team), ESRC.
- Apr 08-Mar 11 DWP (Department for Work and Pensions, UK), Employment Retention and Advancement Demonstration (ERAD) evaluation – Phase II (in consortium with MDRC, PSI and ONS), £227k.
- Apr 06-Jun 08 JRF (Joseph Rowntree Foundation, UK), Children in poverty: Aspirations, expectations, and attitudes to education (with Alissa Goodman and Pedro Carneiro), £170k.
- Feb 05-Jan 06 ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council, UK) grant RES-000-22-1163, Misreported schooling and returns to education in the UK (with Erich Battistin), £45k,.
- Jan 05-Dec 06 DfES (Department for Education and Skills, UK), Economics of Education Research Centre (with Lorraine Dearden, in consortium with CEP and IoE).
- 2004-2006 DfES (Department for Education and Skills, UK), Evaluation of Adult Learning Grant (ALG) (with Carl Emmerson and Costas Meghir from IFS, in consortium with CRSP, NatCen and NICEC).
- May-Jul 03 DfES (Department for Education and Skills, UK), Design study for research on the impact of level 2 learning and qualifications (with Richard Blundell, Alissa

Goodman, Costas Meghir and Howard Reed from IFS and Steve Machin, Jo Blanden and Sandra McNally from CEP).

- Apr 03-Dec 07 DWP (Department for Work and Pensions, UK), Employment Retention and Advancement Demonstration (ERAD) evaluation (with Richard Blundell, Mike Brewer, Alissa Goodman, Costas Meghir and Howard Reed from IFS, in consortium with MDRC, PSI and ONS).
- Jan 03-Dec 04 IFAU (Office for Labour Market Policy Evaluation, Uppsala), Evaluation of the active labour market programs in Sweden (with Costas Meghir, IFS and UCL).
- 2002 - 04 DfES (Department for Education and Skills, UK), Paid-time off for Training, (with Erich Battistin, Alissa Goodman, Lorraine Dearden and Helen Simpson).
- Jan 00-Dec 02 IFAU (Office for Labour Market Policy Evaluation, Uppsala), An evaluation of the Swedish labour market policy (with Costas Meghir, IFS and UCL).

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2006 1st Franco Modigliani Fellowship in Economics and Finance, 2+2 years (awarded but not taken up).
- 2006 Unicredit Research Contract in Economics and Finance, 2+2 years (awarded but not taken up).
- 1998-2002 Research Scholar, Institute for Fiscal Studies, ESRC grant M544285003.
- 1995-1998 Italian Ministry for University and Research: PhD scholarship.
- 1998 Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei: FEEM Fellowship for the MSc in Environmental and Resource Economics.
- 1993 Mitsui & Co.: selected as Italian representative for the stay in Japan within the MESP (Mitsui Europe Student Programme).
- 1989 DAAD (German agency for academic exchange programmes): scholarship for post-graduate studies in Germany.

PUBLICATIONS

- “Misreported Schooling, Multiple Measures and Returns to Educational Qualifications”, *Journal of Econometrics*, 181, 136-150, 2014, (with Battistin, E. and De Nadai, M.).
- “Misreported schooling and returns to educational qualifications: Evidence from the UK”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 93, 2, 495-509, 2011, (with Battistin, E.).
- “Differential Effects of Swedish Active Labour Market Programmes for Unemployed Adults during the 1990s”, *Labour Economics*, 15, 392-421, 2008.
- “Early education and children’s outcomes: How long do the impacts last?”, *Fiscal Studies*, 26, 4, 513-548, 2005, (with Goodman, A.).
- “Evaluating the Effect of Education on Earnings: Models, Methods and Results from the National Child Development Survey”, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A*, 168, 3, 473-512, 2005, (with Blundell, R. and Dearden, L.).
- “An Evaluation of the Swedish System of Active Labour Market Programmes in the 1990s”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 86, 1, 133-155, 2004.
- “Swedish Active Labour Market Programmes in the 1990s: Overall Effectiveness and Differential Performance”, *Swedish Economic Policy Review*, 8, 2, 133-169, 2001.
- “The Returns to Education: Macroeconomics”, *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 17, 2, 157-200, 2003, (with Van Reenen, J.).

“Human Capital Investment: The Returns from Education and Training to the Individual, the Firm and the Economy”, *Fiscal Studies*, 20, 1, 1-23, 1999, (with Blundell, R., Dearden, L. and Meghir, C.).

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Early education and children’s outcomes: How long do the impacts last?”, chapter 14 in Schneider, J., Avis, M. and Leighton, P. (eds), *Supporting Children and Families: Lessons from Sure Start for Evidence-Based Practice in Health, Social Care and Education*, Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 137-150, 2007, (with Goodman, A.).

“Employer-Provided Vocational Training: What are the Returns to NVQ Level 2 and the Potential Effects of ‘Train to Gain’?”, chapter 6 in D. Kehoe (ed.), *Practice Makes Perfect: The Importance of Practical Learning*, The Social Market Foundation, 88-98, 2007 (with Dearden, L., Goodman, A. and Simpson, H.).

“Measuring the Returns to Education”, chapter 7 in Machin, S. and Vignoles, A. (eds), *What’s the Good of Education? The Economics of Education in the UK*, Princeton University Press, 117-145, 2005, (with Blundell, R. and Dearden, L.). ISBN: 0-691-11734-9.

RESEARCH PAPERS

“Evaluating the labour market impacts of Universal Credit: A feasibility study”, (with Adam S. and Costa Dias, M.), DWP ad hoc research report no. 6, 2014.

“Dealing with randomisation bias in a social experiment: The case of ERA”, IFS Working Paper no.W14/10, 2014.

“Measuring the impact of government interventions”, *MethodsNews*, 2, Spring, 2012.

“The impact of the Employment Retention and Advancement Study on workers’ outcomes”, Department for Work and Pensions Working Paper no.759, 2011.

“Non-participation in the Employment Retention and Advancement Study: Implications for the experimental fourth-year impact estimates”, (with Chowdry, H.), Department for Work and Pensions Working Paper no.96, 2011.

“Non-participation in the Employment Retention and Advancement Study: Implications for the experimental first-year impact estimates”, Department for Work and Pensions Technical Working Paper No.77, 2010.

“Ethnic Parity in Labour Market Outcomes for Benefit Claimants”, (with Crawford, C., Dearden, L., Mesnard, A. and Shaw, J.), CEPR DP No. DP7042, November, 2008.

“Labour Market Programmes and Labour Market Outcomes: A Study of the Swedish Active Labour Market Interventions”, IFAU WP No. 2007:27 (with Adda, J., Costa Dias, M. and Meghir, C.), 2007.

“Non-participation in the Employment Retention and Advancement Study: A Quantitative Descriptive Analysis”, Department for Work and Pensions Technical Working Paper No.39, 2007, (with Goodman, A.).

“The Role of Credit Constraints in Educational Choices: Evidence from the NCDS and BCS70”, Centre for Economics of Education Discussion Paper No.48, 2004, (with Dearden, L. and McGranahan, L.).

“Returns to Education for the ‘Marginal Learner’: Evidence from the BCS70”, Centre for Economics of Education Discussion Paper No.45, 2004, (with Dearden, L. and McGranahan, L.).

“An In-depth Analysis of the Returns to National Vocational Qualifications Obtained at Level 2”, Centre for Economics of Education Discussion Paper No.46, 2004, (with Dearden, L. and McGranahan, L.).

“Returns to Education: A Non-Technical Summary of CEE Work and Policy Discussion”, mimeo, June, 2003.

“Comments on ‘Human capital in a global and knowledge-based economy, part II: Assessment at the EU country level’ by Angel de la Fuente”, European Commission - Employment and Social Affairs DG, Brussels, 2003.

The Returns from Education and Training to the Individual, the Firm and the Economy: A Review of the Theoretical and Empirical Literature, Technical Report to the DfEE Skills Task Force, London: Institute for Fiscal Studies, 202pp, July 1998, (with Blundell, R., Dearden, L. and Meghir, C.).

CONFERENCES WITH PRESENTATION

- 2013** University of Bath seminar, October 2: “Dealing with randomisation bias in a social experiment exploiting the randomisation itself: The case of ERA”
- 2012** IFS seminar, London, June 11.
ESRC 5th Research Methods Festival, St Catherine’s College, Oxford, July 3: “Misreported schooling in survey and administrative data and returns to educational qualifications” in the Survey Data Quality session
ESRC 5th Research Methods Festival, St Catherine’s College, Oxford, July 4: “What is (Propensity score) Matching?” in the What Is session
Work Pensions and Labour Economics (WPEG) Conference, Sheffield, September 13: “Dealing with randomisation bias in a social experiment: The case of ERA”
Annual Conference of the European Association of Labour Economists (EALE), Bonn, September 22: “Dealing with randomisation bias in a social experiment: The case of ERA”
4th Joint IZA/IFAU Conference on Labor Market Policy Evaluation, Bonn, October 25-26: “Dealing with randomisation bias in a social experiment exploiting the randomisation itself: The case of ERA”
- 2010** Invited speaker at the UK Stata Users Meeting Group, London, September 9-10.
Keynote speaker at the German Stata Users Meeting Group, Berlin, June 25.
Invited talk for the Westminster Applied Evaluation Workshop, jointly organised by the Centre for Employment Research at Westminster Business School and the Policy Studies Institute, HM Treasury, London, May 2010.
- 2009** Invited speaker at the “Colloque sur l’évaluation des politiques publiques de l’emploi” organised by the Department of Research, Studies and Statistics of the French Ministry of Labour (DARES), Paris, November 2009.
Dondena Seminar, Bocconi University, Milan, November 2009.
Invited speaker at the Joint Meeting of the Social Statistics Section & General Applications Section on “Causality in Statistical Investigations”, May 27.
- 2006** Franco Modigliani Fellowship workshop, Rome, February 3.
CEE seminar, London, February 24.
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, March 24.
University of Kentucky, March 27.
University of Maryland, March 28.
European University Institute, Florence, April 21.
“The evaluation of labour market, welfare and firm incentives programs”, Venice, May 11-13.
“Active Labour Market Programmes: The Swedish experience”, Invited paper for “Increasing Work and Income among Low-Income Households: Drawing Lessons from EU and US Reforms”, Madrid, Instituto de Estudios Fiscales, 1-2 June.
“Randomisation bias and post-randomisation selection bias in RCTs: The role of non-experimental methods in the ERA demonstration”, First Annual Conference on “Randomised Controlled Trials in the Social Sciences: Challenges & Prospects”, University of York, September 14-15.

University of Reading, October 23.

- 2005** Conference on “Econometric Evaluation of Public Policies: Methods and Applications”, ADRES, Paris, December 14-16.
Seminar at Bristol University, October 18.
Conference on “Parental Background and Child Outcomes: does money matter and what else matters?”, IFS, September 30.
PSI London, September 29.
Joint World meeting of SOLE/EALE, San Francisco, June 2-5.
“The Empirical Evaluation of Labour Market Programmes”, Congress Centre of Bundesagentur für Arbeit (Federal Employment Agency), Nuremberg, June 16-17.
HM Treasury, London, July 14.
- 2004** Nordic Conference 2004 on the Effects of Labour Market Policy and Education, Schäffergaarden (Denmark), February 26-28.
DTI Seminar on Returns to Workforce Skills, March 9.
IDEA (ISFOL Debates on Evaluation) Seminar, National ESF Evaluation Unit, Rome, October 18.
Econometrics Lunch Seminar, UCL/IFS, November 16.
- 2003** Policy Studies Institute, London, June.
ESEM conference in Stockholm, August 21.
CEE Conference on Returns to Education, London, November 15.
Labour Economics Workshop “Brucchi Luchino” in Milan, December 12-13.
- 2002** Cabinet Office, CMPS, Policy Evaluation Technical Seminar: “Measuring Policy Impact: Using Propensity Score Matching”, February 25.
Second “Villa Mondragone Workshop in Economic Theory and Econometrics”, Frascati (Rome), July 8-10.
Network of Excellence, “The Evaluation of Labour Market Policies”, Amsterdam, October 17-18.
Econometric Society Winter European Meeting, CEU Budapest, November 7-9.
UCL Applied Micro seminar, London, November 28.
- 2001** UK Stata Users Group, VII Meeting, London, May 14-15.
University of Copenhagen, April 26.
IZA Workshop, “Improving Labour Market Policies by the Evaluation of their Impact”, Bonn, June 1.
IVA conference, “What are the Effects of Active Labour Market Policy”, Stockholm, October 8.
PSI London, October 25.
IFAU (Office of Labour Market Policy Evaluation), Uppsala, October 6, 2000.
IFAU (Office of Labour Market Policy Evaluation), Uppsala, October 13, 1999.

SOFTWARE

psmatch, then superseded by

with Leuven, E., “psmatch2: Stata module to perform full Mahalanobis and propensity score matching, common support graphing, and covariate imbalance testing”,

<http://ideas.repec.org/c/boc/bocode/s432001.html>, 2003.

with Leuven, E., “film: Stata module to perform ‘fully interacted linear matching’, a fully interacted linear regression model in which the treatment dummy is interacted with each one of the other regressors”, May, 2004.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Organiser of IFS internal seminars series, 2005.

Short-listing and interview panel member for recruitment at IFS, 2005.

Member of the Intervention Study team of the European Social Fund (ESF) programme in Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences (QMSS), 2005, 2006.

Referee for the *American Economic Review*, *Econometrica*, *Economic Journal*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Empirical Economics* (special issue on *The Economics of Education and Training*), the European Commission, *European Economic Review*, *Fiscal Studies*, *International Economic Review*, *Labour*, *Labour Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *Journal of Econometrics*, *Journal of Economic Surveys*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Labour Economics*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Statistical Methods and Applications*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Journal of Statistical Software*, *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, World Cancer Research Fund International.

Panel discussant at the one-day “Seminar on Human Capital, Employment, Productivity and Growth – Phase II at national level”, European Commission - Employment and Social Affairs DG, Brussels, March 21, 2003.

Peer reviewer for systematic review protocol for the Evidence for Policy and Practice and Information Co-ordinating Centre (EPPI-Centre), April, 2005.

Member of the programme committee for ADRES Conference on “Econometric Evaluation of Public Policies: Methods and Applications”, Paris, December 14-16, 2005

Peer reviewer for the Home Office – Research Development and Statistics Directorate (RDS) National Offender Management Service (NOMS) Research & Evaluation, November 2006.

Peer reviewer for Europe Economics’ “Study on the methodology for estimating the annual value of contracts competitively advertised in OJ/TED” commissioned by DG MARKT, European Commission.

Co-organiser of the joint IZA/IFS Conference on Labour Market Policy Evaluation, London, October 18-19, 2013.

Member of the Program Committee for the conference COUNTERFACTUAL METHODS FOR POLICY IMPACT EVALUATION (COMPIE) organised by the European Commission, Rome, November 27 and 28, 2014.

Peer reviewer for DWP ad hoc report no. 7, “Evaluating the impact of Universal Credit on the labour market in live service and the North West expansion”, (with Stuart A. and Costa Dias, M.), Annex A, 2014.