

PIERA BELLO
Curriculum Vitae

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Nationality: Italian
Gender: Female
Contact: piera.bello@unibg.it;

CURRENT OCCUPATION

10/2025 – present: Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Bergamo (Italy)

RESEARCH GROUPS

05/2023– present: Visiting Senior Fellow, LSE-Social Policy Department, London
02/2021– present: Non-Resident Research Associate, ZEW Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research.
10/2020– present: Non-Resident Research Fellow, Netspar, Tilburg
04/2019– present: Non-Resident Fellow, Baffi-CAREFIN Centre (Pension Economics Unit), Bocconi University
02/2016 – present: Non-Resident Fellow, AXA Research Lab on Gender Equality, Bocconi University, Milan

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

10/2021 – 09/2025: Assistant professor (RTDb), Department of Economics, University of Bergamo (Italy)
10/2020 – 09/2021: Post-doctoral research fellow, Department of Economics, University of Zurich (UZH)
Supervisor: Josef Zweimüller
02/2019 – 09/2020: Swiss National Science Foundation post-doctoral research fellow
Department of Economics, University College London. Supervisor: Orazio Attanasio
10/2018 – 01/2019: Post-doctoral research fellow
Department of Economics, Ca' Foscari University of Venice.
Supervisor: Agar Brugiavini
02/2017 – 07/2018: Swiss National Science Foundation post-doctoral research fellow
Department of Economics, University College London. Supervisor: Orazio Attanasio

EDUCATION

09/2012 – 12/2016: Università della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano, Switzerland
PhD in Economics (thesis defense 19/12/2016)
(Supervisors: Vincenzo Galasso, Mario Padula)
Thesis Title “Three essays in applied economics”
Thesis Committee: M.Jametti, J.Zweimüller, V. Galasso, M.Padula
02/2015 – 06/2015: Boston College, Boston, USA
Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics
01/2013 – 01/2014: Studienzentrum Gerzensee (Foundation of the Swiss National Bank), Switzerland
Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students in Economics
09/2008 – 04/2011: Bocconi University, Milan, Italy
M.Sc. in Economics and Social Sciences
(Supervisors: Alessandra Casarico, Paola Profeta)
09/2005 – 09/2008: Bocconi University, Milan, Italy
B.Sc. in Business Administration, Bocconi University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Public economics, Gender economics, Pension economics

PUBLICATIONS

1. Gender Quotas and the Quality of Politicians. **Journal of Public Economics**, October 2014, 118 pp. 62-74 (with A. Baltrunaite, A. Casarico and P. Profeta)

Winner of the 2018 Bocconi Research Impact Award, Milan

Winner of the 2018 Prize for scientific contributions on issues of equal opportunities and/or diversity, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano

2. Exchange rate effects on cross-border commuting: Evidence from the Swiss-Italian border. **Journal of Economic Geography**, Volume 20, pages 969–1001 (2020)
3. Old before their time: The role of employers in retirement decisions. **International Tax and Public Finance**, Volume 27, pages 1198–1223 (2020) (with V. Galasso),
4. The politics of aging and retirement: Evidence from Swiss Referenda. **Population Studies**, Volume 75, pages 3-18 (2021) (with V. Galasso)
5. The environmental cost and the accident externality of cross-border commuting: evidence from the Swiss franc's appreciation. **Economic Inquiry**, Volume 59, pages 1440-1458 (2021)
6. Education and COVID-19 excess mortality. **Economics and Human Biology**, Volume 47, (2022) (with L.Rocco)
7. Gender price discrimination in the annuity market: Evidence from Chile. **European Economic Review**, Volume 151, (2023)
8. Annuity puzzle: Evidence from a Swiss pension fund. **Journal of Risk and Insurance** (2024) (with A. Brugiavini and V. Galasso),
9. Alleviating Loneliness During COVID-19: The Impact of Neighbour Cohesion and Social Connections in England. **Socio-Economic Planning Science**, Forthcoming (2024) (with C. Di Novi, G. Martini & C. Sturaro)
10. Women Empowerment through Financial Literacy in a Developed Country with A. Cristini, E. Manzoni, F. Origo, M. Puca, C. Sturaro, Forthcoming, **Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance**
11. Hard times for women in STEM. The heterogeneous effects of distance learning on student achievement during the Covid pandemic (with F. Origo, A. Cristini, A. Falzoni) Università degli Studi di Bergamo, 2023. Working papers, n. 21 Forthcoming, **Journal of Economic Inequality**
12. "Research Similarity and Women in Academia" (with A. Casarico and D. Nozza), Forthcoming, **Economic Journal**

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2023-24: MUR, PRIN-PNRR 2022

Project: The impact of population ageing on preferences for local public spending.
Principal Investigator

2023-24: MUR, PRIN 2022

Project: BREAK THE BIAS: new data and methods to investigate the presence and impact of gender stereotypes on economic outcomes. (Research Member)

2023-24: Cariplo, Inequalities Research

Project: Gender and education inequalities: the role of digital and financial literacy to support women empowerment. Principal Investigator

2020-21: Return Grant, Swiss National Science Foundation,

Project: Life Span Variation and Annuity Prices. Principal Investigator

2019-20: Advanced Postdoc. Mobility fellowship, Swiss National Science Foundation

- Project: Adverse Selection in the Annuity Market. Principal Investigator
2018: The 2018 Prize for scientific contributions on issues of equal opportunities
2017-18: Early Postdoc. Mobility fellowship, Swiss National Science Foundation
Project: Exchange rate fluctuations and border crossings. Principal Investigator
2012: Annual post-graduate scholarship in the Department of Institutional Analysis and Public Management, Bocconi University

REFeree ACTIVITY

Journal of Public Economics, European Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Economic Geography, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Labour Economics, Journal of Economic Inequality, Hacienda Publica Espanola/ Review of Public Economics, Journal of Pension Economics and Finance, Aging and Society, Public choice

ADDITIONAL TRAININGS

- 2021: ETH, Summer Institute in Computational Social Sciences (machine learning, text as data, web scraping, digital field experiments, and ethics)
2020: UCL, Public Economics by E. French
2016: Mannheim, IIPF Doctoral School "Social Insurance Programs" by J. Zweimuller and L. Pistaferri
2015: Boston College, Topics in Labor Economics by C. Olivetti
2015: Boston College, Topics in International Economic Policy by J.E. Anderson
2014: LASER, Econometric Methods to Estimate Causal Effects by S.O.Becker
2014: Università della Svizzera Italiana, Urban Taxation by K. Schmidheiny
2014: Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, Panel Data Linear Analysis by B.Baldagi
2014: Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, Dynamic and Non-linear Panel Data Models by S.Jiménez Martín
2014: Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, Labor Market Outcomes by R. Shimer
2013: Università della Svizzera Italiana, Political Economy by V.Galasso and T.Nannicini

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

- 10/2022 – present: Undergraduate, Empirical Economics, University of Bergamo
10/2021 – present: Undergraduate, Population and Health Economics, University of Bergamo
02/2015 – 07/2016: Undergraduate, Macroeconomics, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano
09/2015 – 01/2016: Undergraduate, Political Economy, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano
02/2013 – 07/2013: Graduate, Pension Economics and Finance, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano
09/2012 – 08/2013: Undergraduate International Economics, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano
09/2011 – 09/2012: Undergraduate Public Economics, Bocconi University, Milan

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- 05/2024: Gender and Economics Workshop (Luxembourg)
08/2023: SABE-IAREP Conference (Nice) 2024
06/2023: International Workshop on Applied Economics of Education (Catanzaro), June, 2023
06/2023: International Pension Workshop (Leiden) June 2023
04/2023: Monash-Warwick-Zurich Text-as-Data Workshop (online)
03/2023: Workshop on Gender and Institution (Venice) March, 2023
11/2022: Southern Economic Association Conference (Fort Lauderdale) 2022
10/2020: RSA, Annual Congress (online)
09/2020: AIEL, Annual Congress (online)
09/2020: Annual Conference of the Italian Society of Public Economics, Annual Congress (online)
08/2020: European Economic Association, Annual Congress (online)
08/2020: ES, World Congress (online)
08/2020: IIPF, Annual Congress (online)
09/2019: 9th ifo Dresden Workshop on Regional Economics, Dresden
09/2019: Annual Conference of the Italian Society of Public Economics, Turin

08/2019: Conference on Pension Finance and the Teaching of Pension Finance, Vaduz, Liechtenstein
01/2019: Alp-Pop Conference, La Thuille; Population Days, Milan
09/2018: Annual Conference of the Italian Society of Public Economics, Padova
08/2018: IIPF Annual Congress, Tampere
04/2018: PAA Annual Congress, Denver
09/2017: Annual Conference of the Italian Society of Public Economics, Catania
08/2017: European Economic Association Annual Congress, Lisbon
07/2016: CEMIR Junior Economist Workshop on Migration Research, Munich
04/2017: Royal Economic Society Annual Conference, Bristol
01/2017: Alp-Pop Conference, La Thuille,
06/2016: Annual Meeting of the French Economic Association, Nancy
02/2016: Young Swiss Economists Meeting, ETH Zurich
06/2015: CRR Seminar Series, Center for Retirement Research, Boston

LANGUAGES

Italian: mother tongue, English: fluent, Spanish: basic

COMPUTER SKILLS

MS Office, Stata, R, Python, and LATEX