

# JUAN PASCUAL

juanpascualtorres@gmail.com    juanpascualt.github.io

University of Barcelona, John M. Keynes 1-11, (08034)

## EDUCATION

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**University of Barcelona** 2024 - 2028 (expected)  
PhD Candidate in Economics  
Thesis committee: Jennifer Ruiz-Valenzuela & Daniel Montolio

**Barcelona School of Economics** 2021  
MSc in Economics

**University of Valencia** 2016 - 2020  
BSc in Economics – Summa Cum Laude (Top 1%)  
Exchange: University of Bristol (UK) and Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain)

## AFFILIATIONS

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**Barcelona Institute of Economics (IEB)** 2024 -  
Affiliated Researcher

**Laboratorio de Oportunidades (Spanish Opportunity Lab)** 2025 -  
Affiliated Researcher

**Future Policy Lab** 2024 -  
Research Fellow

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

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Primary: Economics of Education  
Secondary: Intergenerational Mobility, Economics of Crime

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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*From Detention to Prevention: Firm-Based Vocational Education and Crime* (with Montolio, D. & Ruiz-Valenzuela, J.)

This paper examines the impact of an innovative firm-based vocational training program (DVT) on youth crime rates in Catalonia. Exploiting the staggered geographical implementation of DVT, which emphasizes extensive on-the-job training in companies relative to regular school-based vocational training, we use a Difference-in-Differences approach to estimate causal effects. Leveraging detailed administrative education and geolocated crime data, our analysis reveals that increased availability of firm-based vocational training significantly reduces local youth crime rates.

*Reshuffling the Desks? Affirmative Action, Segregation, and Educational Attainment* (with Oberhuemer C. & Quintana S.)

Barcelona's 2019 admission quotas reserve seats for socioeconomically vulnerable students in each public and charter school. We estimate impacts on school segregation, parental applications, and achievement-parental education gradients using difference-in-differences and a structural model of school and neighborhood choice. Preliminary results show sizable reductions in segregation as schools converge to quota targets, but higher vulnerable student shares lead to fewer applications.

## PRESENTATIONS

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- 2026** CESifo Junior Workshop on the Economics of Education (Forthcoming)
- 2025** 19th North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association (UEA);  
Second Freiburg PhD-Workshop on the Economics of Criminal Behavior
- 2024** UB PhD Applied Student Seminar; BSE Jamboree; UB Internal Applied Seminar

## REFERENCES

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### Jennifer Ruiz-Valenzuela

Associate Professor at Universitat de Barcelona  
jruizv@ub.edu

### Daniel Montolio

Full Professor at Universitat de Barcelona  
montolio@ub.edu

### Santiago Reyes

Economist at The World Bank  
sreyesortega@ifc.org

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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<b>The World Bank</b>	2023 - 2025
Field Coordinator	
<b>International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)</b>	2023 - 2024
Research Consultant	
<b>Knowledge Sharing Network (KSNET)</b>	2022 - 2023
Research Economist	
<b>University of Zurich</b>	2021 - 2022
Pre-Doctoral Fellow	
Supervisors: Bruno Caprettini & Hans-Joachim Voth	
<b>University of Valencia</b>	2020
Research Assistant	
Supervisor: Luis Miguel Granero	
<b>University of Bristol</b>	2019
Research Assistant	
Supervisor: Gianluca Veronesi	

## TEACHING

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<b>Universitat de Barcelona</b>	2024 - 2025
Teaching Assistant – Spanish Economy (undergraduate)	

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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Referee for Journal of Policy Evaluation

## GRANTS AND HONOURS

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FPU Scholarship – Spanish Ministry of Universities	2024 -
Extraordinary Degree Award – University of Valencia	2020

Undergraduate Scholarship – Ministry of Education  
Honors Distinction – High School Graduation

2016  
2016

## MISCELLANEOUS

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Citizenship Spanish  
Languages Spanish (native), Catalan (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate)  
Software Stata, Python, R, ArcGIS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

*Updated January 2026*