

## Higher Education and Equality of Opportunities

29-30 June 2023

University of Modena and  
Reggio Emilia

Department of  
Economics Marco Biagi

Via J. Berengario 51  
Modena



**UNIMORE**  
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI  
MODENA E REGGIO EMILIA



## PROGRAM

### THURSDAY 29 JUNE

9:30 – 10:00 REGISTRATION

10:00 – 10:15 WELCOME ADDRESS

**Tommaso Fabbri** (Director of the Department of Economics Marco Biagi)

**Fabrizio Patriarca** (P.I. Project University and Social Inclusion: the Unimore case)

10:15 – 11:10 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

**Núria Rodríguez-Planas** (City University of New York – Queens College) *Long-term educational outcomes of two different higher-education programs during COVID-19*

11:10 – 11:25 COFFEE BREAK

11:25 – 12:55 SESSION 1 – **INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN**

Chair: **Massimiliano Bratti** (University of Milan La Statale)

**Elena Lisauskaite** (University of Portsmouth) *Teacher Effects on Foreign Students in Higher Education*

**Carmen Aina** (University of Piemonte Orientale) *Effects of Workload Allocation per Course on Students' Academic Outcomes: Evidence from STEM Degrees - with Koray Aktas and Giorgia Casalone*

**Silvia Granato** (Joint Research Centre) *Why are lower socio-economic background students underrepresented in Erasmus? An analysis of Bologna University students - with Sylke V. Schnepf*

13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH



14:00 – 15:30 PARALLEL SESSIONS

PARALLEL SESSION 2A – **COVID-19 ISSUES** (Room 2)

Chair: **Núria Rodríguez-Planas** (City University of New York – Queens College)

**Zelda Brutti** (Joint Research Centre) *Muddying the waters: how grade distributions change when university exams go online* – with Daniel Montolio

**Marco Colagrossi** (Joint Research Centre) *Studying During a Pandemic: the Impact of Covid19 on Higher Education Choices in the Netherlands* – with Elena Meroni, Gianluca Mazzarella and Silvia Granato

**Daniela Piazzalunga** (University of Trento) *A lost generation? Impact of COVID-19 on high school students' achievements* – with Dalit Contini, Maria Laura Di Tommaso, Caterina Muratori and Lucia Schiavon

PARALLEL SESSION 2B – **GENDER BIASES** (Seminari Room)

Chair: **Giulia Santangelo** (CEDEFOP)

**Barbara Luppi** (University of Modena and Regio Emilia) *Good Friends and bad teachers: the gender gap in STEM and the channels of influence on college choice* – with Giuseppe Caruso, Chiara Giovinazzo and Fabrizio Patriarca

**Majlinda Joxhe** (University of Bologna) *Nature or Nurture? The effect of Twin Testosterone Transfers on Females schooling and Labor Market*

**Marina Murat** (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia ) *Culture, stereotypes, and self-empowerment: Gender gap in tertiary education*

15:35 – 17:05 SESSION 3 – **DROP OUT**

Chair: **Giorgio Brunello** (University of Padova)

**Cristina Iannelli** (University of Edinburgh) *Higher education retention in Ireland and Scotland: does school subject choice matter?* – with Patricia McMullin and Emer Smyth

**Francesco Berlingeri** (Joint Research Centre) *Preferred Field of Study and Academic Performance* – with André Diegmann and Maresa Sprietsma

**Massimiliano Bratti** (University of Milan La Statale) *Shall I try it again or maybe later? Number of exam sessions and university students' outcomes* – with Silvia Granato and Enkelejda Havari

17:05 – 17:20 COFFEE BREAK



17:20 – 19:20 SESSION 5 – **EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCES, FINANCIAL AID AND INFORMATION**

Chair: **Graziella Bertocchi** (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia - Einaudi Institute)

**Giuseppe Pignataro** (University of Bologna) *Inequality of Opportunity and Access - to Tertiary Education: evidence from an information experiment* – with Luca Bonacini and Veronica Rattini

**Davide Azzolini** (IRVAPP) *A savings-based approach to financial aid. Experimental evidence on university outcomes and an exploration of workforce development* – with Sonia Marzadro, Alession Tomelleri, Loris Vergolini

**Tommaso Agasisti** (Polytechnic University of Milan) *Tailoring nudging communication for students at risk: experimental evidence from an Italian university* – with Marta Cannistrà, Anna Maria Paganoni, Chiara Masci and Elena Claire Ricci

**Margherita Fort** (University of Bologna) *Triggering Parental Time-Investments on Pre-school Children through a mindful parenting program* – with Maria Bigoni Margherita Monfardini, Annalisa Guarini, Chiara Suttora, Alessandra Sansavin

20:15 SOCIAL DINNER

**Trattoria Aldina** - Via Albinelli 40, Modena (City Centre)

**FRIDAY 30 JUNE**

8:30 – 9:30 SESSION 6 – **THE SPATIAL DIMENSION**

Chair: **Luca Bonacini** (University of Bologna)

**Giuseppe Croce** (Sapienza University of Rome) *High-paid jobs in large cities: the missing piece of job polarization in Italy* – with Paolo Piselli

**Piero Esposito** (University of Cassino) *Higher education and innovative entrepreneurship* – with Francesco Ferrantea and Sergio Scicchitano

9:30 – 9:45 COFFEE BREAK

09:45 – 10:40 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

**Giorgio Brunello** (University of Padova) *The pathways to college. Does the type of secondary education matter?*



10:40 – 12:10 SESSION 8 – **SOCIAL MOBILITY**

Chair: **Maurizio Franzini** (Visitinps – Sapienza University of Rome)

**Fabrizio Patriarca** (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia) *Firm sorting and social mobility: the embedded nature of background wage premia* – with Luca Bonacini

**Matija Kovacic** (Joint Research Centre) *The effect of preschool education and early life conditions on inequality of opportunities in tertiary education*

**Orazio Giancola** (Sapienza University of Rome) *Propensities and educational choices: the dynamics of (re)production of inequalities in tertiary education* – with Adamo Lo Cicero and Federica Rizzi

12:10 – 12:20 COFFEE BREAK

12:20 – 13:50 SESSION 9 – **LABOUR MARKET OUTCOMES**

Chair: **Giovanni Gallo** (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

**Paolo Brunori** (University of Florence and London School of Economics) *Addressing Compensation and Reward in Data-Driven Approaches to Estimate Inequality of Opportunity* – with Pedro Salas-Rojo and Domenico Moramarco

**Petru Crudu** (University of Venice) *Long-term effects of early adverse labour market conditions: A Causal Machine Learning approach*

**Juliana Bernhofer** (University of Bologna) *Unfair opportunities or unequal abilities? Parental background effects on Italian graduates' early careers* – with Giuseppe Caruso and Fabrizio Patriarca

13:50 - 14:40 LUNCH

14:40 – 14:50 CONCLUDING REMARKS

**Maurizio Franzini** (Visitinps – Sapienza University of Rome)

15:00 GUIDED CITY TOUR OF MODENA CENTRE

17:00 TASTING OF MODENA VINEGAR - **Acetaia Malpighi** - Piazza Roma



**Scientific Committee:**

Graziella Bertocchi (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia - Einaudi Institute)

Maurizio Franzini (Sapienza University and Visitinps)

Fabrizio Patriarca (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Giulia Santangelo (CEDEFOP)

**Organising Committee:**

Juliana Bernhofer (University of Bologna)

Rita Bertozzi (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Giovanni Gallo (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Barbara Luppi (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Marina Murat (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Alberto Rinaldi (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

**Practical Information:** attendance at the sessions is free; social events are restricted to registered participants.

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