

Paulo Matos

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Research Fields

Political Economy, Applied Microeconomics, Crime, Formal Theory

Education

Ph.D. Social Sciences, California Institute of Technology, 2022-Present.

M.Sc. Social Sciences, California Institute of Technology, 2024.

B.A. Economics, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, 2017.

Research

Work in progress

“Trusting Each Other? Learning, Information Leakage and Optimal Incarceration Policies”

“Mass Incarceration and the Expansion of Gangs: Evidence from El Salvador” with Felipe Goncalves, Carlos Schmidt-Padilla and Maria Micaela Sviatschi.

“Who’s Leading? Institutional Challenges in Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement”

“We Have Your Back? Discretion and Peer Effects on Police Discipline.”

Book chapters

Barrantes, R. and Matos, P. (2020). Who benefits from Open Models?: The role of ICT access in the consumption of Open Activities. In M. Smith and R. Seward (eds.). *Making Open Development Inclusive: Lessons from IDRC Research* (pp. 219-248). MIT Press.

Policy Reports

“Issues in the Spatial Analysis of Police Use of Force Data” with Claire Kelling, Cristian Allen and Elizabeth Brault. *CHANCE*, 37(4), 11–17. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09332480.2024.2434436>

Previous Employment

Senior Research Specialist, Princeton University, 2019-2022.

Research Associate, Innovations for Poverty Action, 2018-2019.

Research Assistant, Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, 2015-2018.

Research Assistant, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, 2014-2015.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Stephen A. Ross Memorial Fellowship, California Institute of Technology, Summer 2024.

"XX Research Annual Contest CIES", Consorcio de Investigación Económica y Social (CIES). Research grant (16,000 USD), 2018.

"XVIII Research Annual Contest CIES", Consorcio de Investigación Económica y Social (CIES). Research grant (4,000 USD), 2016.

"Support Program for Academic Research Initiation (PAIN)", Direction of Management of Academic Research (DGI). Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú. Research Grant (3,000 USD), 2015.

First place in "IV Monograph Competition", Department of Social Sciences, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, 2015.

"Scholarship for Visiting Student Program", Academic Direction of Institutional Relationships (DARI), Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, 2013.

"Award for Academic Research", Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, 2013.

Conferences

2025: Midwest Political Science Association Conference, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.

2018: Communication Policy Research Conference Latin America; TPRC46: Research Conference on Communications, Information and Internet Policy.

2017: Annual Research Seminar CIES; Annual Conference of the Peruvian Economic Association; Communication Policy Research Conference Latin America.

2016: Communication Policy Research Conference Latin America.

Teaching

As Teaching Assistant

California Institute of Technology

Investments (BEM 104; Fall 2025)

Bayesian Statistics (Ec/ACM/CS 112; Winter 2025)

Introduction to Economics (Ec 11; Winter 2023, Fall 2024)

Department of Economics, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú:

Regulation Theory (ECO381, Fall 2017)

Industrial Organization (ECO320, Spring 2016)

Public Economics (ECO225, Fall 2016)

Microeconomics 2 (ECO263, Spring 2015)

Introduction to Microeconomics (ECO113, Fall 2015)

Introduction to Economics (ECO204, Fall 2015)

Additional Information

Research Software

ArcGIS (advanced), Git (advanced), Julia (basic), Matlab (basic), Python (advanced), R (advanced), Stata (advanced).

Languages

Spanish (native), English (fluent)

References

Michael Gibilisco, Professor of Political Science, California Institute of Technology.

Maria Micaela Sviatschi, Professor of Economics, Princeton University.

Felipe Goncalves, Assistant Professor of Economics, UCLA.

Carlos Schmidt-Padilla, Assistant Professor of Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley's Goldman School.

Alexander Hirsch, Professor of Political Science, California Institute of Technology.