

# AUGUSTO CERQUA

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Department of Social Sciences and Economics  
Sapienza University of Rome  
P.le Aldo Moro, 5  
00185, Rome, IT

Email: [augusto.cerqua@uniroma1.it](mailto:augusto.cerqua@uniroma1.it)

## Current/Previous Appointments

2022-	<b>Tenure-track Assistant Professor (RTD-B) in Economic Statistics</b> Department of Social Sciences and Economics, Sapienza University of Rome
2018-2022	<b>Assistant Professor (RTD-A) in Economic Statistics</b> Department of Social Sciences and Economics, Sapienza University of Rome
2016-2018	<b>Senior Research Fellow</b> Department of Economics & Quantitative Methods, Centre for Employment Research, Westminster Business School, University of Westminster
2015-2016	<b>Research Fellow</b> Department of Economics & Quantitative Methods, Centre for Employment Research, Westminster Business School, University of Westminster
2014-2015	<b>Research Associate</b> Department of Economics & Quantitative Methods, Centre for Employment Research, Westminster Business School, University of Westminster

## Education

2010-2014	<b>PhD in Economic Statistics</b> Doctoral School of Economics, Sapienza University of Rome Dissertation: <i>"Developments in the evaluation of capital subsidy policies"</i> , advisor Prof. Guido Pellegrini Committee: Dr. Cristina Bernini, Dr. Paolo Postiglione, Dr. Marco Alfò
2011-2012	Visiting PhD Student Department of Economics, University College London
2008-2010	<b>M.Sc. in Statistics</b> Sapienza University of Rome Final mark: 110/110 cum laude (1 <sup>st</sup> )
2008-2009	Erasmus Student Department of Statistical Science, University College London
2004-2007	<b>B.Sc. in Statistics</b> Sapienza University of Rome Final mark: 110/110 cum laude (1 <sup>st</sup> )

## Fields of Interest

Regional and Industrial Policy; Political Economy, Applied Econometrics, Education and Labor Economics.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed international journal articles

1. [Celli, V., Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2023. \*The long-term effects of mass layoffs: do local economies \(ever\) recover?\* \*\*Journal of Economic Geography\*\*, 23, 1121-1144.](#)
2. [Cerqua, A., Ferrante, C., Letta, M., 2023. \*Electoral earthquake: local shocks and authoritarian voting.\* \*\*European Economic Review\*\*, 156, 104464.](#)
3. [Cerqua, A., Zampollo, F., 2023. \*Deeds or words? The local influence of anti-immigrant parties on foreigners' flows.\* \*\*European Journal of Political Economy\*\*, 77, 102275.](#)
4. [Cerqua, A., Di Stefano, R., Pellegrini, G., 2023. \*What kind of region reaps the benefits of a currency union?\* \*\*Journal of Regional Science\*\*, 63\(3\), 552-582.](#)
5. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2022. \*I will survive! The impact of place-based policies when public transfers fade out.\* \*\*Regional Studies\*\*, available online 21 November 2022.](#)
6. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., Tarola, O., 2022. \*Can regional policies shape migration flows?\* \*\*Papers in Regional Science\*\*, 101\(3\), 515-536.](#)
7. [Cerqua, A., Letta, M., 2022. \*Local inequalities of the COVID-19 crisis.\* \*\*Regional Science and Urban Economics\*\*, 92, 103752.](#)
8. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2022. \*Decomposing the employment effects of investment subsidies.\* \*\*Journal of Urban Economics\*\*, 128, 103408.](#)
9. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2022. \*How much does state aid mitigate employment losses? Local policy effects at a time of economic crisis.\* \*\*Regional Studies\*\*, 56\(10\), 1698-1712.](#)
10. [Celli, V., Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2021. \*Does R&D expenditure boost economic growth in lagging regions?\* \*\*Social Indicators Research\*\*, published online: 25 September 2021.](#)
11. [Cerqua, A., Di Stefano, R., 2022. \*When did coronavirus arrive in Europe?\* \*\*Statistical Methods and Applications\*\*, 31, 181-195.](#)
12. [Cerqua, A., Di Stefano, R., Letta, M., Miccoli, S., 2021. \*Local mortality estimates during the COVID-19 pandemic in Italy.\* \*\*Journal of Population Economics\*\*, 34, 1189-1217.](#)
13. [Cerqua, A., Urwin, P., Thomson, D., Bibby, D., 2020. \*Evaluation of Education and Training Impacts for the Unemployed: Challenges of New Data.\* \*\*Labour Economics\*\*, 67.](#)
14. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., Tarola, O., 2020. \*Quality competition and environmental damage: is there a role for relative preferences?\* \*\*Journal of Cleaner Production\*\*, 266, 1-13.](#)
15. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2020. \*Local multipliers at work.\* \*\*Industrial and Corporate Change\*\*, 29\(4\), 959-977.](#)
16. [Bernini, C., Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2020. \*Endogenous amenities, tourists' happiness and competitiveness.\* \*\*Regional Studies\*\*, 54\(9\), 1214-1225.](#)

17. [Bernini, C., Cerqua, A., 2020. Are eco-labels good for the local economy? \*\*Papers in Regional Science\*\*, 99\(3\), 645-661.](#)
18. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2018. Are we spending too much to grow? The case of Structural Funds. \*\*Journal of Regional Science\*\*, 58\(3\), 535-563.](#)
19. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2017. Industrial policy evaluation in the presence of spillovers. \*\*Small Business Economics\*\*, 49\(3\), 671-686.](#)
20. [Bernini, C., Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2017. Public subsidies, TFP and Efficiency: a tale of complex relationships. \*\*Research Policy\*\*, 46\(4\), 751-767.](#)
21. [Cerqua, A., Di Pietro, G., 2017. Natural disasters and university enrolment: evidence from L'Aquila earthquake. \*\*Applied Economics\*\* 49\(14\), 1440-1457.](#)
22. [Cerqua, A., 2017. The signalling effect of eco-labels in modern coastal tourism. \*\*Journal of Sustainable Tourism\*\* 8, 1159-1180.](#)
23. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2014. Do Subsidies to Private Capital Boost Firms' Growth? A Multiple Regression Discontinuity Design Approach. \*\*Journal of Public Economics\*\* 109, 114-126.](#)
24. [Cerqua, A., 2014. If You Get Knocked Down, How Long Before You Get Up Again? \*\*International Journal of Sport Finance\*\* 9\(4\), 284-304.](#)

#### **Refereed Italian journal articles**

25. [Cerqua, A., Letta, M., Zampollo, F., forthcoming. The Italian geography of discontent. \*\*Scienze Regionali\*\*, 3/2022, 367-384.](#)
26. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2020. Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Firm Subsidies in Lagging-Behind Areas: The Italian Job. \*\*Scienze Regionali\*\*, 3/2020, 477-500.](#)
27. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2017. Intensità ed efficacia dei Fondi Strutturali Europei. \*\*EyesReg\*\* 7\(6\).](#)
28. [Cerqua, A., 2015. La valutazione delle politiche di incentivazione agli investimenti. \*\*EyesReg\*\* 5\(6\).](#)
29. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2014. Conviene incentivare le piccole imprese piuttosto che le grandi? Un'analisi basata sul multiple regression discontinuity design. \*\*Rassegna Italiana di Valutazione\*\* a. XVIII - n. 58, 197-219.](#)

#### **Chapters in international edited books**

30. [Cerqua, A., Di Stefano, R., Letta, M., Miccoli, S., 2023. COVID-19 and Local Mortality Estimates. \*\*Handbook of Labor, Human Resources and Population Economics\*\*, first online: 20 April 2023.](#)
31. [Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2019. Quantitative Evaluation Techniques for Regional Policies. In R Capello, P Nijkamp \(ed.\) \*\*Handbook of Regional Growth and Development Theories\*\*, Second Edition, Edward Elgar Publishing, chapter 28.](#)

#### **Chapters in Italian edited books**

32. [Cerqua, A., Di Stefano, R., Letta, M., Miccoli, S., 2021. Was there a Covid-19 Harvesting Effect in Northern Italy? In: Bernini, C., Emili, S., "Regions Between Challenges and Unexpected Opportunities".](#)

33. Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2015. *La dimensione spaziale nella valutazione degli incentivi alle imprese: cosa cambia se si tiene conto degli spill-over?* In: Antonietti, R., Corò, G., Gambarotto, F., "Uscire dalla crisi. Città, comunità, specializzazione intelligenti".
34. Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2014. *Spillovers and Policy Evaluation*. In: Mazzola, F., Musolino, D., Provenzano, V., "Reti, nuovi settori e sostenibilità. Prospettive per l'analisi e le politiche regionali".

#### Other articles (Technical reports and non-peer reviewed publications)

35. [Cerqua, A., 2023. Guidance note for the impact evaluation of State aid for R&D in Slovenia, Crivellaro, E., Ferrara, A. and Granato, S. editor\(s\), Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, JRC133939.](#)
36. [Bunt, K., Taylor, L., Fearn, A., Andersson, D., Porter, A., Urwin, P., Cerqua, A., Hussain, H., 2023. Evaluation of Tax-advantaged Venture Capital Schemes. HM Revenue and Customs \(HMRC\) research report No. 736.](#)
37. Concluding chapter of the book "[Environmentalism + Capitalism = Happy Growth](#)" published in 2021 by the European Liberal Forum in cooperation with Fondazione Luigi Einaudi Onlus.
38. Bowyer, A., Cerqua, A., Di Pietro, G., Gorman, E., Urwin, P., 2019. *Assessing Factors that Affect the Labour Market Decisions of Young People aged 16 to 24: Research Informing LPC Review of Youth Rates*. Project Report. Low Pay Commission, UK.
39. Cerqua, A., Pellegrini, G., 2018. The Effects of EU Regional Policy on the Growth of European Regions. Chapter of the "The Impact of Cohesion Policies in Europe and Italy" dossier published by the Impact Assessment Office of the Senato della Repubblica Italiana.
40. Gifford, J., Urwin, P., Cerqua, A., 2017. *Strengths-based performance conversations: an organisational field trial*. Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development November 2017 Report, London.
41. Cerqua, A., Urwin, P., 2017. *Identifying Variation in Learner Outcomes by Further Education Provider*. Project Report. Department for Education, London.
42. Pellegrini, G., Cerqua, A., 2016. *Measuring the impact of Structural and Cohesion Funds using the regression discontinuity design in the period 1994-2011*. Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission, Luxembourg, 2016.
43. Cerqua, A., Urwin, P., 2016. *Returns to Maths and English Learning in Further Education*. Project Report. BIS, London.
44. Bibby, D., Cerqua, A., Thomson, D., Urwin, P., 2015. *Further Education: Social Mobility, Skills and Second Chances*. Project Report. BIS, London.
45. Bibby, D., Cerqua, A., Thomson, D., Urwin, P., 2015. *Impact of skills and training interventions on the unemployed*. Project Report. BIS, London.
46. Bibby, D., Buscha, F., Cerqua, A., Thomson, D., Urwin, P., 2014. *Further development in the estimation of labour market returns to qualifications gained in English Further Education using ILR-WPLS Administrative Data*. Project Report. BIS, London.

## Working Papers

- [Cerqua, A., Galli, E., Fiorino, N., 2023. Do Green Parties Affect Local Environmental Outcomes? DISSE Working Papers Series No. 23/2023.](#)
- [Cerqua, A., Di Matteo, D., 2023. The bright side of breaking up: How territorial fragmentation increases political engagement in local communities. Documento di Valutazione N. 15, Senato della Repubblica.](#)
- [Cerqua, A., Letta, M., Menchetti, F., \(July\) 2023. Losing Control \(Group\)? The Machine Learning Control Method for Counterfactual Forecasting. Available at SSRN.](#)
- [Cerqua, A., Nocito, S., Pinto, G., 2022. Money talks: the effect of a pay rise on local politicians' quality. Available at SSRN.](#)
- [Cerqua, A., Montalbano, P., Temerbulatova, Z., 2021. A decade of Eurasian Integration: An ex-post non-parametric assessment of the Eurasian Economic Union. DISSE Working Papers Series No. 1/2021.](#)
- [Cerqua, A., Galli, E., 2020. Income tax rate increases and heterogeneous taxpayers' reactions: a spatial regression discontinuity design. DISSE Working Papers Series No. 17/2020.](#)

## Research grants

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|--------------|--|
| 2023-ongoing | PRIN 2022, Co-investigator, €209,484<br>Project title: Strengthening TARgeting and Guidance with Actionable and Timely Evidence (STARGATE) for the implementation of the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan |
| 2016-2018    | ESRC (ES/P000975/1), Co-investigator, £200,000<br>Project title: Early identification of young people at risk of poor educational and labour market outcomes: the role of educational institutions                     |

## Conference, Seminar Presentations

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| 2024 | University of Padua, invited seminar.  |
| 2023 | IRVAPP, invited seminar. NetCIEx Workshop (European Commission), Ispra. Italian Public Economics Association Conference, Verona. Italian Regional Science Association Conference, Naples. University of Florence, invited seminar. University of Bari Aldo Moro, invited seminar.                                    |
| 2022 | Webinar of the recent developments on the geography of discontent. Sapienza University, Sapienza DISSE internal seminar, Rome. Italian Economic Association Conference, Turin. Italian Regional Science Association Conference, Milan. COMPIE Conference, Mannheim. University of Minho (Portugal), invited seminar. |
| 2021 | Journal of Population Economics web conference on COVID-19. Italian Regional Science Association web conference. COMPIE, web conference. Italian Statistical Society web conference. Regional Science Association International Conference, Marrakech. Lynn University (US), online invited seminar.                 |
| 2020 | Politecnico di Milano, webinar. JRC, European Commission, online seminar. Italian Regional Science Association web conference.   |

2019	<b>GDS17, Roma Tre University, Rome. Italian Economic Association Conference, Palermo. European Regional Science Association Conference, Lyon. Italian Regional Science Association Conference, L'Aquila.</b>
2018	<b>Italian Regional Science Association Conference, Bolzano. European Association of Labour Economists Conference, Lyon. Challenges in Evaluating Regional and Urban Policy Conference, Rome.</b>
2017	<b>MasterClass on EU Cohesion Policy, Bruxelles. Italian Regional Science Association Conference, Cagliari. EEA Conference, Lisbon.</b>
2016	<b>Sapienza University of Rome, invited seminar. CVER conference, London. European Commission conference, Sofia.</b>
2015	<b>European Commission seminar, Rome. Roma Tre University, invited seminar. Italian Regional Science Association Conference, Rende.</b>
2014	<b>COMPIE conference, Rome. WPEG conference, Sheffield.</b>
2013	European Regional Science Association Conference, Palermo
2011	European Regional Science Association Conference, Barcelona

## Scientific Associations

Treasurer of the Italian Association of Regional Science (AISRe) (2022-2025).

Member of the Italian Association of Regional Science (AISRe) since 2013 and the Italian Economic Association (SIE) since 2019.

## Teaching Experience

2019-2023	Lecturer on <b>Program Evaluation Techniques</b> to master and PhD students Sapienza University of Rome
2019-2023	Lecturer on <b>Econometrics</b> to undergraduate students Sapienza University of Rome
2020-2023	Lecturer on <b>Statistical Methods for Public Policies</b> to master students Sapienza University of Rome
Spring 2018	Lecturer on <b>Statistics</b> to undergraduate students Sapienza University of Rome
Fall 2016	Lecturer on <b>Statistics</b> to PhD students Sapienza University of Rome
Spring 2016	Lecturer on <b>Advances in Statistics</b> to PhD students Sapienza University of Rome
Fall 2015	Lecturer on <b>Principles of Statistics</b> to undergraduate students University of Westminster
Fall 2012	Teaching assistant on <b>Economic Statistics</b> to both undergraduate and master students Roma Tre University
Fall 2012	Teaching assistant on <b>Program Evaluation Techniques</b> to master students Sapienza University of Rome

## PhD Supervision

Expected PhD defence in 2025	Federico Zampollo - co-supervisor with Dr. Andrea Ascani and Prof. Alessandra Faggian
Expected PhD defence in 2025	Alberto Maria Radici - co-supervisor with Dr. Andrea Ascani
Expected PhD defence in 2024	Valerio Ferdinando Calà – supervisor
Expected PhD defence in 2024	Costanza Giannantoni – supervisor
Expected PhD defence in 2024	Luisa Collina – co-supervisor with Prof. Guido Pellegrini
PhD defence in 2021	Chiara Ferrante – co-supervisor with Dr. Nicola Pontarollo
PhD defence in 2021	Roberta Di Stefano – co-supervisor with Prof. Guido Pellegrini
PhD defence in 2020	Viviana Celli – co-supervisor with Prof. Guido Pellegrini
PhD defence in 2018	Gissa Izadi – co-supervisor with Prof. Franz Buscha, and Prof. Peter Urwin
PhD defence in 2018	Hiba Hussein – co-supervisor with Prof. Peter Urwin, Dr. Giorgio Di Pietro, and Prof. Franz Buscha

## Awards

2016	Best Evaluation Proposal – European Commission DG REGIO
2015	Certificate of Honor for the PhD thesis (Italian Regional Science Association)

## National Academic Qualifications as Associate Professor

I hold two National Academic Qualifications (Abilitazioni) as Full Professor in Italian Universities in the areas of Economic Statistics (13-D2) and Political Economy (13-A2).

## Selected referee assignments

Journal of the European Economic Association; European Economic Review; Journal of Economic Growth; Regional Science and Urban Economics; Economic Inquiry; Research Policy; Journal of Population Economics; Journal of Regional Science; Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society; Regional Studies; World Development; Journal of Development Studies; Papers in Regional Science; Social Indicators Research; Tourism Management; Spatial Statistics; European Journal of Population; Italian Economic Journal; Economia Politica; Applied Economics.

## Scientific committees

- Member of the Ph.D. in Social Sciences and Economics board, Sapienza University of Rome.
- Member of the Italian National Institute of Statistics' committee aimed at validating the methodologies defined for the classification of national and regional areas of specialization for the period 2020-2023.
- Royal Economic Society's PhD Meeting in 2016, 2017, and 2018;
- Recent Advances in Causal Inference for Policy Evaluation, Roma Tre International Workshop in 2017.

## Computer Skills

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|--------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| • <i>MS Office</i> | Advanced | • <i>ArcGIS</i> | Advanced |
| • <i>STATA</i>     | Advanced | • <i>QGIS</i>   | Advanced |
| • <i>R</i>         | Advanced | • <i>Matlab</i> | Basic    |

## Languages

**English**    Fluent

**Italian**    Mother tongue