

Pablo Geraldo Bastías

✉ pablo.geraldo@nuffield.ox.ac.uk
🌐 pablogeraldo.com 🔗 [pdgeraldo](https://pdgeraldo.com)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Oxford – Nuffield College

2023 - Postdoctoral Prize Research Fellow in Sociology

[Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science](#) (Oxford)

[Practical Causal Inference Lab](#) (UCLA)

[Inequality Data Science Lab](#) (UCLA)

EDUCATION

University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA)

2023 Ph.D. in Sociology

Dissertation: *Essays in credible causality with applications to educational inequality*

Committee: Jennie E. Brand (co-chair), Jacob G. Foster (co-chair), Chad Hazlett, Natasha Quadlin

2023 M.S. in Statistics

Thesis: *On the use of prognostic propensity scores in observational causal inference*

Committee: Chad Hazlett (chair), Onyebuchi Arah, Jennie E. Brand

2019 M.A. in Sociology

Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC-Chile)

2015 M.A. (Research) in Sociology, Class rank: 1/25

2010 B.A. in History, *summa cum laude*, Class rank: 1/92

Additional training

2026 *Causal inference: From theory to practice and back again*, Isaac Newton Institute (Invited)

2025 *LLMs for Social Science Workshop*, University of Oxford (One week)

2023 *Complexity Science Summer School*, Santa Fe Institute (Four weeks)

2023 *Graduate Certificate in Population Research*, CCPR-UCLA

2019 *RSF Summer Institute in Social Science Genomics* (Two weeks)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Methodology: causal inference, machine learning, networks, complexity, multi-agent simulation

Substantive: stratification and mobility, labor markets, educational inequality, policy evaluation

PUBLICATIONS

- 2025 Koch, B., Sainburg, T., **Geraldo, P.**, Jiang, S., Foster, J., and Sun, Y., "[A Primer on Deep Learning for Causal Inference.](#)" *Sociological Methods and Research*, 54(2): 397-447 [[tutorials](#)]
- 2024 Peña, S., et al., "[Tobacco Use and Uptake of COVID-19 Vaccinations in Finland: A Population-Based Study.](#)" *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, 26(11): 1553–1562
- 2021 Brand, J.E., Xu, J., Koch, B., and **Geraldo, P.**, "[Uncovering Sociological Effect Heterogeneity Using Tree-Based Machine Learning.](#)" *Sociological Methodology*, 51(2): 189-223

Award: ASA Mathematical Sociology Section's Outstanding Article Publication Award

- 2020 **Geraldo, P.** & Brand, J.E., "[Causal Inference.](#)" *Oxford Bibliographies in Sociology*, Ed. Lynette Spillman. New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2019 Gonzalez, K., **Geraldo, P.**, Estay, M., & Franklin, C. "[Solution-Focused Brief Therapy for Individuals With Alcohol Use Disorders in Chile.](#)" *Research in Social Work Practice*, 29(1): 19-35
- 2018 **Geraldo, P.** "[Secondary Schools' Vocational Track and the Reproduction of Social Inequality.](#)" *National Thesis Award: Thinking the Youth 2015*. Santiago, INJUV: 66-87 (in Spanish)

Award: Chile's National Youth Institute - Ministry of Social Development, National Thesis Award

- 2018 Maldonado L., & **Geraldo P.** "[Fixed Effects Regression and Effect Heterogeneity.](#)" In: Giesselmann M., Golsch K., Lohmann H., Schmidt-Catran A. (eds) *Lebensbedingungen in Deutschland in der Längsschnittperspektive*. Springer VS, Wiesbaden: 301-314
- 2013 **Geraldo, P.** "[The Crisis of Chilean Marxist Historiography.](#)" *Proceeding of 5th International Congress in Philosophy and Theory of History*. Viña del Mar, UAI: 283-291 (in Spanish)
- 2012 **Geraldo, P.** "[Catholic Church Members during Popular Unity Government.](#)" *Simon Collier Seminar*. Santiago, History Department, Universidad Católica de Chile: 79-111 (in Spanish)

Award: History Department, PUC-Chile, Outstanding Undergraduate Research Monographs

IN PROGRESS

- "[Credible causal inference beyond toy models](#)" (sole-authored)
- "Effects of tuition-free college on high school trajectories: Evidence from Chile" (sole-authored)
- "Tracking before tracking? Achievement and expectations in Chilean high schools" (sole-authored)
- "An evaluation of prognostic propensity score-based methods for treatment effect estimation" (with Chad Hazlett and Lenny Weinstein)
- "Recent developments in causal inference using graphical models", invited contribution to *Philosophical Transactions B.*, Special Issue: "Causal inference: An interdisciplinary exchange of methodological approaches to enhance validity of ecology and evolutionary biology research." (expected early 2027)

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2024 **ASA Mathematical Sociology Section**
Outstanding Article Publication Award
- 2023 **6th Annual Robert Mare Lecture**
For a graduating student to present in the CCPR seminar
- 2022 **ACIC Netflix Travel Award**
To attend and present at the *American Causal Inference Conference (ACIC)*
- 2019 **RC28 Aage B. Sørensen Conference Travel Award**
In recognition of good scholarship in stratification research
- 2015 **Thinking the Youth National Thesis Award**
First Place in Graduate Category. National Youth Institute (INJUV)
- 2011 **Simon Collier Historical Research Monograph Award**
Selected for publication. History Department, Catholic University of Chile
- 2010 **Jaime Eyzaguirre Academic Achievement Award**
Ranked 1st in B.A. class. History Department, Catholic University of Chile
- 2007-09 **Matrícula de Honor Academic Excellence Award**
Distinguished entrance score (2007), and best academic performance (2008, 2009),
History Department, Catholic University of Chile

FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2023 **SFI Complexity Science Summer School**
Four weeks training on complexity science scholarship (~ \$4,000)
- 2022-23 **UCLA Dissertation Year Fellowship**
Competitive funding to complete doctoral dissertation (\$38,000)
- 2021 **UCLA Summer Mentored Research Fellowship**
For research on the use of graphical models for causal inference (\$6,000)
- 2020 **UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program**
For research on causality and social science genomics (\$6,000)
- 2019 **RSF Summer Institute in Social Science Genomics**
Two weeks training on the use of genomic data for social sciences
- 2018 **UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program**
For research on education and causal inference (\$6,000)
- 2018-21 **National Agency for Research and Development - Chile (ANID)**
Stipend for doctoral studies – Becas Chile (~ \$60,000)
- 2017-22 **UCLA Sociology Department Fellowship**
Full funding for doctoral studies (~ \$175,000 tuition + \$100,000 stipend)
- 2013-14 **National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT)**
Full funding for master studies in Chile (~ \$3,000 tuition + \$12,000 stipend)
- 2013-14 **“Volcán Calbuco” Foundation - Chile**
Tuition fellowship for master’s studies in Humanities and Social Sciences
- 2007-10 **Catholic University of Chile (Beca Alberto Hurtado)**
Academic excellence award, full tuition for undergraduate studies

2007-10 **Ministry of Education - Chile (Beca Puntaje Nacional)**
Academic excellence award, full tuition for undergraduate studies

POLICY

I have worked as a policy consultant, providing training and expert methodological advice to public institutions in Chile.

- 2025 "Evaluating the preferential school voucher system", methodological support for the Research Department, *Ministry of Education*, Chile (Funded by the UNDP)
- 2025 "Methods for the evaluation of educational policy", training for the Research Department, *Ministry of Education*, Chile (Funded by the UNDP)
- 2024 "Methods for the evaluation of educational policy", training for the Research Department, *Agency for Quality in Education*, Chile

As a policy researcher, I participated in the design, analysis, and writing of the following policy reports (in Spanish). All were collective efforts and, as such, they have institutional authorship.

- 2018 ["Current situation and critical aspects in the Chilean system of Technical and Vocational Education and Training."](#) *Center for Public Policy*, Catholic University of Chile
- 2018 ["Training, Skills, and Productivity. Proposals to improve Technical Education in Chile."](#) *Center for Public Policy*, Catholic University of Chile
- 2016 ["Landscape of High School Vocational Education in Chile."](#) *Agency for Quality in Education*, Government of Chile
- 2016 ["Effects of Public Schools' Principals recruited by Public Competition."](#) *Agency for Quality in Education*, Government of Chile
- 2015 ["Factors Associated to Academic Achievement and Social and Personal Development."](#) *Agency for Quality in Education*, Government of Chile
- 2015 ["Initial Teacher Training in Chile: A Literature Review."](#) *Agency for Quality in Education*, Government of Chile

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (Selected)

Experimentation and Causal Inference, Netflix June 2022-September 2022
Position: Summer Graduate Intern

Description: Partnering with engineers in streaming networks, I worked on improving the experimental design and modeling used to analyze cluster-randomized trials at Netflix.

University of California Los Angeles April 2020-2023
Position: Graduate Research Assistant

Description: Study of cultural and behavioral innovation among Capuchin monkeys using 20 years of observational data. In collaboration with [Susan Perry](#) and [Jacob Foster](#).

University of California Los Angeles July-September 2019
Position: Graduate Research Assistant

Description: With [Jacob Foster](#) and team, we studied applications of Multi Agent Reinforcement Learning (MARL) to the Social Sciences in the context of sequential social dilemmas.

Center for Public Policy, Catholic University of Chile

October 2016-September 2017

Position: Researcher and Project Coordinator

Description: I led a multidisciplinary team conducting mixed-methods evaluation of public programs in education, and in the successful implementation of the [Labor Market Observatory for the Metropolitan Region of Chile](#). Funded by the Chilean Ministry of Education, National Service of Training and Employment (SENCE), and the Society for Industrial Development (SOFOFA)

Research Department, Agency for Quality in Education

March 2015-September 2016

Position: Researcher

Description: I conducted quantitative analysis of educational data, leading the elaboration of public reports based on the Chilean census of students and national standardized tests.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited talks (*Guest lecture)

- 2026 "Tuition-free college in Chile: current evidence and methodological challenges." *Labor Market Mismatch Research Initiative International Conference*, PUC-Chile (Scheduled, Jan)
- 2025 "Causal inference in the social sciences." (*) *Emory University*, USA (online)
- 2025 "Unanticipated effects of free college in Chile." *Labor Market Mismatch*, PUC-Chile
- 2024 "Recent developments in social stratification." (*) *Lingnan University*, HK (online)
- 2023 "Secondary effects of free college in Chile." *Nuffield Sociology Seminar*, Oxford
- 2023 "Secondary effects of free college in Chile." *Robert Mare Lecture*, CCPR-UCLA
- 2023 "Secondary effects of free college in Chile." *Workshop on Inequality and Stratification Research*, PUC-Chile (online)
- 2021 "Heterogeneous treatment effects." (*), *Graduate Causality*, Statistics-UCLA

Conferences and Seminars

- 2025 "Effects of tuition-free college on high school students' trajectories: evidence from a Chilean reform.", *RC28*, Milano, March
- 2024 "Secondary effects of free college in Chile.", *Inequality and Policy Research Group*, (DSPI-Oxford, June) and *European Consortium for Sociological Research* (UPF-Barcelona, September)
- 2024 "Prognostic propensity scores in observational studies." (jointly with Chad Hazlett and Lenny Wainstein), *EuroCIM* (University of Copenhagen-April) [Poster session]
- 2022 "Deep Learning of Potential Outcomes." (jointly with Koch BJ, Sainburg T, Jiang S, Sun Y, Foster JG.), *IC²S²*, Chicago, July [Poster session]
- 2022 "Building DAGs from the bottom-up." *American Causal Inference Conference* (ACIC), Berkeley, CA, May [Poster session]
- 2022 "A toolkit for the study of behavioral repertoires in wild primate populations." (jointly with Susan Perry and Jacob Foster), *MPI-EVAN*, Virtual Presentation, March

- 2021 “Moving beyond templates of empirical research.” ASA, Virtual Annual Meeting, Quantitative Methodology Session, August
- 2021 “Deep Learning of Potential Outcomes.” (jointly with Koch BJ, Sainburg T, Jiang S, Sun Y, Foster JG.), ICML, Virtual Workshop on Causal Assumptions, August
- 2021 “Deep Learning of Potential Outcomes.” (jointly with Koch BJ, Sainburg T, Jiang S, Sun Y, Foster JG.), PAA, Virtual Annual Meeting, May
- 2020 “Using machine learning to predict educational transitions.” (jointly with Bernard Koch and Georgina García-Obledo), ASA, San Francisco, CA, August [Roundtable, canceled due to Covid-19]
- 2019 “Schools as Sorting Machines: The Case of Vocational Tracking in Chile.” PAA, Austin, TX, April; RC28, Princeton, NJ, August
- 2019 “A Network Approach to Career and Technical Education in Chile.” PAA, Austin, TX, April [Poster session]
- 2016 “Using causal diagrams in social research.” 9th Chilean Congress of Sociology, Universidad Católica de Talca, Chile, October
- 2015 “Impacts of High School Vocational Education in Chile.” 1st International Congress of Education and Poverty, Villarrica, Chile, January
- 2014 “Primary and Secondary Effects of Vocational School Track in Chile.” (jointly with Elisa Salinas), 8th Chilean Congress of Sociology, Universidad Central, La Serena, Chile, October

TEACHING & MENTORING

Lecturer

Causal Inference in the Social Sciences (Graduate Sociology, University of Oxford, Hilary 2025)

Formation and Development of Modern Society (Undergrad Sociology, PUC Chile, Fall 2017)

Quantitative Methodology (Undergrad Government, Universidad de Talca, Chile, Fall 2017)

Workshop Instructor

Methods for the evaluation of educational policy (Mineduc, Chile) May 2025

Methods for the evaluation of educational policy (AQE, Chile) Dec 2024

Demystifying causal inference (University of Ediburgh) May 2024

An introduction to (quasi) experimental methods (UDP, Chile) Fall 2022

A crash course in causal inference (UCLA) Winter 2020, Summer 2020/2021

Supervised machine learning for social sciences (UCLA) Summer 2018

Teaching Assistant/Associate

UCLA

Causality. Graduate Statistics Spring 2021

Introduction to Sociology. Undergraduate Sociology Spring 2019 & Fall 2019

Introduction to Sociological Research Methods. Undergraduate Sociology Spring 2020

Statistical and Computational Methods for Social Research Fall 2018/2020 & Winter 2019-2021

PUC – Chile

Causal Inference. Graduate Sociology Fall 2015-2016

Critical Theory. Undergraduate Philosophy Fall 2012

<i>Philosophical Anthropology</i> . Undergraduate Philosophy	Fall 2012
<i>Historiography</i> . Undergraduate History	Spring 2009/2010 & Fall 2011
<i>Contemporary History</i> . Undergraduate History	Spring 2009/2010
<i>20th Century Latin America</i> . Undergraduate History	Spring 2009/2010

Mentorship

Zihao Zhang, MPhil Thesis, Sociology and Demography, University of Oxford (2025/26)

SERVICE

Organizing committee, <i>European Causal Inference Conference</i> , University of Oxford	2025/26
Co-organizer, <i>Generative² Social Science Lab</i> , Nuffield College	2025/26
Postdoctoral member, <i>Committee on Generative AI</i> , Nuffield College	2025/26
Service award, UCLA Department of Sociology	2022, 2023
Student member, PhD Admission Committee, UCLA Sociology	2022
Co-organizer, <i>Summer Institute in Computational Social Science-UCLA</i>	2019, 2020, 2021
Co-organizer, <i>Experimental Methods Working Group</i> , UCLA Sociology	2022-2023
Co-organizer, <i>Computational Sociology Working Group</i> , UCLA Sociology	2019-2021
Co-organizer, <i>Stratification, Inequality and Mobility Working Group</i> , UCLA Sociology	2018-2020

Occasional reviewer for *American Journal of Sociology*, *European Sociological Review*, *Sociological Methods and Research*, *European Societies*, *Educational Management Administration & Leadership*, *AERA Open*

PUBLIC WRITING (in Spanish)

2023 (May 1st), “Los demonios de la Nueva Derecha”, *Revista Rosa* [\[pdf\]](#) [\[link\]](#)
 2022 (Apr 28th), “Las transfiguraciones del Rechazo”, *El Mostrador* [\[pdf\]](#) [\[link\]](#)
 2021 (Dec 12th), “Columnistas temerarios”, *El Desconcierto* [\[pdf\]](#) [\[link\]](#)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

General: Unix/OSX, L^AT_EX, Quarto, git/GitHub

Programming: R, Python, Julia, Bash, SQL

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent)