

## HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Placement Director: Claudia Goldin	CGOLDIN@HARVARD.EDU	617-495-3934
Placement Director: Lawrence F. Katz	LKATZ@HARVARD.EDU	617-496-5079
Assistant Director: Brenda Piquet	BPIQUET@FAS.HARVARD.EDU	617-495-8927

**Office Contact Information**

1805 Cambridge St  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
617 495-2144

**Undergraduate Studies**

M.Sc. in Economics, Bocconi University, 110/100 <i>cum laude</i>	2017
B.A. in Economics, Università degli Studi di Torino, 110/110 <i>cum laude</i>	2014
Diploma in Economics, Collegio Carlo Alberto, <i>with distinction</i>	2014

**Graduate Studies**

Harvard University, 2017  
Ph.D. Candidate in Political Economy and Government (Economics Track)  
Expected Completion Date: May 2023

**References**

Professor Emily Breza  
Harvard University  
EBREZA@FAS.HARVARD.EDU

Professor Gautam Rao  
Harvard University  
GRAO@FAS.HARVARD.EDU

Professor Rema Hanna  
Harvard University  
REMA\_HANNA@HKS.HARVARD.EDU

Professor Nathan Nunn  
University of British Columbia  
NATHAN.NUNN@UBC.CA

**Teaching and Research Fields**

Development Economics (primary)  
Political Economy, Economic History, Behavioral Economics (secondary)

**Teaching Experience**

*Harvard University – Teaching Assistant for:*

EPoD Executive Education Program on Policy Design	Spring 2021, Fall 2021
Analyzing Education Policy, Prof. Michela Carlana	Spring 2020, Fall 2020
Behavioral Economics of Poverty and Development, Prof. Gautam Rao	Spring 2020, Fall 2021
– <i>Certificate of Distinction in Teaching</i>	
Economics of Morality, Prof. Ben Enke	Fall 2019
Poverty and Development, Prof. Nathan Nunn	Spring 2019
– <i>Certificate of Distinction in Teaching</i>	

**Research Experience**

<i>National Bureau of Economic Research</i>	Feb 2020 - Feb 2021
Research Assistant for Professor Emily Breza.	
<i>Precision Agriculture for Development</i>	May 2018 - Dec 2018
Consultant, Microeconomic analysis of an RCT in Rwanda	
<i>Bocconi University</i>	Jul 2015 - Jul 2017
Research Assistant for Professor Eliana La Ferrara	

## Professional Activities

Co-chair of the <i>Harvard Econ-PhD Students Diversity and Inclusion Group</i>	2019-2021
Member of <i>Harvard Grad Women in Econ</i>	2018-2021
Reviewer for <i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> , <i>The Journal of Political Economy</i> , <i>The Review of Economic Studies</i> , and <i>The Journal of Urban Economics</i> .	

## Invited talks

Conference on Culture and Economic Development UCSD/UCLA (forthcoming)	2022
Warwick Applied Microeconomic Seminar (forthcoming)	2022
Quebec Political Economics Webinar Series (forthcoming)	2022
LEAP Seminar at Stellenbosch	2022
Center for African Studies - Addressing the Legacies of Colonialism in Africa	2022
Wheeler Institute - African history through the lens of Economics	2022
Frontiers of Development Symposium on Resilient Resource Use	2020

## Conferences

<b>2022:</b> African Meeting of the Econometric society	
<b>2021:</b> NEUDC, Young Economist Symposium, CEPR/LEAP Workshop in Development Economics, DEVPEC - Stanford and Berkeley	
<b>2020:</b> World Bank and UNHCR Conference on Forced Displacement, The Sadie Collective Conference	

## Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

Harvard University, Doctoral Fellowship	2021,2022
Association for Comparative Economic Studies, ACES Research Grant	2021
Banca d'Italia, Borsa di Studio Bonaldo Stringher	2019, 2020
Istituto Lombardo Accademia di Scienze e Lettere, Premio di Laurea Fondazione Grazioli	2017
Unicredit and Universities Foundation, Marco Fanno Scholarship	2017,2018

## Selected Grants

<i>En Route: The Colonial Origins of Francophone Africa's Emigration.</i> (Co-PI Ariane Salem)	
NSF, Dissertation Improvement Grant - \$ 24,145	2022
Weiss Fund Research Grant - \$ 29,415	2022
Schmidheiny Fund Grant - \$ 8,550	2022
Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (STEG) SR Grant - \$ 20,569	2021
The Lab for Economic Applications and Policy (LEAP) at Harvard - \$ 7,373	2021
HKS-REStat Research Funding - \$ 4,990	2021
<i>Migration, Misreporting and Selection Neglect (pilot stage)</i>	
Warburg Foundation Research Prize	2021
<i>The Economic and Social Integration of Asylum Seekers in Italy.</i> (Co-PI Francesca Miserocchi)	
Roberto Franceschi Research Grant for PhD Students	2019

## Academic Affiliations

Center for International Development at Harvard; Evidence for Policy Design at Harvard;  
Laboratory for Effective Anti-Poverty Policies at Bocconi.

## Working Papers

### **“*En Route: Colonial Conscription, Emigration and Economic Development in Morocco.*”**

with Ariane Salem. **Job Market Paper**

*Abstract:* Between 1900 and 1962 the French army enlisted 6 million Africans who were then scattered around the colonial empire to guard its borders. Soldiers would serve a minimum of three years in the army and then return to their communities of origin. Exploiting the arbitrary assignment of military troops to different locations, we use a newly digitized dataset on Moroccan colonial soldiers to evaluate the effect of military deployment on historical and contemporary economic development outcomes. We find that cohorts of soldiers with a higher fraction that served in France are more likely to be located in France decades later, to be better educated and to speak more languages. We don't find the same effects for other military destinations. At the municipality level, deployment to France leads higher economic development today. We interpret this as being most likely driven by the returns from emigration. Indeed, while the effects on education are not found on subsequent cohorts, the effects on emigration to the *Métropole* persist for over 50 years, consistent with emigration networks being established. Taken together, these results show that colonial policy had long lasting economic effects that persisted today through the establishment of emigration networks between the colonies and the *Métropole*, and also suggests that emigration might have long-run positive effects on the economic development of the sending communities.

### **“Age Set vs. Kin: Culture and Financial Ties in East Africa.”**

with Jacob Moscona *Revise and Resubmit at the American Economic Review*

*Abstract:* We study how social organization shapes patterns of economic interaction and the effects of national policy, focusing on the distinction between age-based and kin-based groups in sub-Saharan Africa. Motivated by ethnographic accounts suggesting that this distinction affects redistribution, we analyze a cash transfer program in Kenya and find that in age-based societies there are consumption spillovers within the age cohort, but not the extended family, while in kin-based societies we find the opposite. Next, we document that social structure shapes the impact of policy by showing that Uganda's pension program had positive effects on child nutrition only in kin-based societies.

### **“Mass Media and Racial Protests: Evidence from the United States.”**

*Abstract:* Do mass media affect protests? And how? I address these questions studying racial protests in the United States between 1954 and 1970. I first exploit the exogenous variation in timing of television introduction caused the Federal Communications Commission "freeze" in order to estimate the causal effect of TV on protest outbreak. I then complement the analysis with variation in over-the-air signal strength due to topography and climate, as additional source of exogeneity. I find a positive and significant effect of TV on the probability of protest outbreak and on the likelihood that protest is initiated by African Americans. Finally, I extend the analysis disentangling the channels through which television has influenced demonstrations. I find that TV served as a mean to overcome a collective action problem but also that African American role models depicted in TV series are likely to have influenced demonstrators' ambitions.

## Work in Progress

### **“Migration, Misreporting and Selection Neglect.”**

with Francesca Misericchi.

### **“Digitizing the Ethnographic Survey of Africa: New Data on Pre-Colonial sub-Saharan African Culture and Politics.”**

with Sara Lowes, Jacob Moscona and Nathan Nunn