

# Alberto Marcato

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## Research Interests

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*Primary: Labor Economics*

*Secondary: Economics of Education and Training, Regional Economics*

## Education

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**Economics PhD Student**, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy

*September 2017 – present*

**Ca' Foscari University**, Venice, Italy

MSc in Economics,

*2016*

**Ca' Foscari University**, Venice, Italy

BSc in Business and Economics

*2013*

## Working papers

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### **Lights and Shadows of Employer Concentration: On-the-Job Training and Wages** [\[JM PAPER\]](#)

This paper studies the effect of employer concentration on the provision of on-the-job training and wages. I rely on administrative micro-data from Italy and an IV empirical strategy to address the endogeneity of employer concentration. Employers in highly concentrated labor markets provide more training at extensive and intensive margins. Specifically, moving from the 25th to 75th percentile of employer concentration increases the employer's expenditure in training per worker by 50% and the probability that an employer provides any training by 10%. I also find a negative and statistically significant effect of concentration on wages with an elasticity of -0.1. I interpret the results through the lens of an oligopsonistic model. Employers internalize their labor demand on the wages leading them to spend more on on-the-job training per worker. These findings suggest that using employer concentration as a direct measure of labor market competition could underestimate the negative effect of concentration on wages.

### **On-the-job training and labor market competition**

*jointly with Abi Adams-Prassl and Thomas Le Barbanchon*

In this paper, we provide a new set of stylised facts on firm provision of on-the-job training and labor market competition. We exploit job ad texts taking a supervised machine learning approach to identify training offers. We find that around 20% of US job posts offer on-the-job training, with an upward trend over the last decade. Training offers are positively correlated with local labor market concentration, a finding that is robust to an instrumental variables strategy based on the local differential exposure to national firm-level trends. Moving from the first to the third quartile of labor concentration increases training by almost 5%. We interpret our results through the lens of a directed search model where training acts to reduce the time to fill a vacancy and training has a greater expected benefit to the employer in less competitive labor markets given the lower separation rates.

## Skill Demand and Labor Market Concentration: Evidence from Italian Vacancies

*jointly with Emilio Colombo*

This paper analyses the relationship between labor market concentration and employers' skill demand. Using a novel data set on Italian online job vacancies during 2013-2018 we show that employers in a highly concentrated labor market demand competencies associated with the ability of workers to learn faster (e.g. Social skills) rather than actual knowledge. They also require less experience but higher education. These results are consistent with the hypothesis that employers in more concentrated labor markets are more prone to train their employees. Instead of looking for workers who already have job-specific skills, they look for workers who can acquire them faster and efficiently.

## Policy Papers

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**The regional economic impact of the Alpine World Ski Championships 2021**, [in italian]

*jointly with Francesco Decarolis and Giorgio Ivaldi*

## Teaching Assistant

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### Bocconi University,

Macroeconomics (*BSc*, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023); Prof. A. Gibert Rivas

Economics of Labour and Human Resources (*BSc*, 2022, 2023); Prof. T. Boeri

Microeconomics (*BSc*, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023); Prof. C. Carnehl, Prof. F. Panunzi

Econometrics (*MSc*, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022); Prof. M. Marcellino

Empirical Industrial Organization (*MSc*, 2020); Prof. F. Decarolis

Labour Economics (*BSc*, 2019); Prof. T. Le Barbanchon

### Ca' Foscari University,

Mathematics (*BSc*, Fall 2014); Prof. A. Ellero

## Research experience

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**Studiare Sviluppo**, Italian Ministry of Economics and Finance  
Economic Junior Expert and Research Assistant for Prof. F. Decarolis

Rome, Italy  
*June 2020 - December 2021*

**Université Libre de Bruxelles**, Department of Applied Economics  
Research Assistant for Prof. I. Tojerow

Brussels, Belgium  
*May 2017 - Aug. 2017*

**Bank of Italy**, Regional Economic Research Department  
Research Assistant

Venice, Italy  
*Oct. 2016 - Apr. 2017*

## Awards and Scholarships

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Fondazione Romeo ed Enrica Invernizzi Research Scholarship

*2021 - 2023*

Ph.D. Fellowship, Bocconi University, Milan

*2017 - 2021*

Riccardo Faini Award for best master thesis (Ca' Foscari University)

*2016*

*Erasmus+* Scholarship for exchange at Université Catholique de Louvain

*2015*

## Other Academic Activities

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**Conferences/Seminars:** Bank of Italy, lunch seminar (Rome); 15th RGS Doctoral Conference in Economics (Ruhr University Bochum); Workshop on Labour Economics (University of Trier); Scottish Economic Society Conference 2022 (University of Glasgow); Food for Thought (Bocconi University); 26th Spring Meeting of Young Economists (University of Orléans); 23rd IZA Summer School in Labor Economics (Ammersee); 5th IDSC of IZA Workshop: Matching Workers and Jobs Online (Online); 37th National Conference of Labour Economics (University of Salerno)

## Skills

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<b>Languages</b>	Italian (native), English (fluent), French (dormant)
<b>Communication skills</b>	BEAT PhD Students – Bocconi Excellence in Advanced Teaching
<b>General skills</b>	GRE, 2016: Verbal, 158; Quantitative, 170
<b>Computer skills</b>	Stata, Python, Matlab, Eviews, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, Microsoft Office

## References

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Abi Adams-Prassl  
University of Oxford  
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