

Esteban Lopez, Ph.D.

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OCCUPATION

Current:

Assistant Professor, Fall 2021 - Present
 Urban and Regional Planning Program, School of Architecture and Planning
 College of Engineering & Integrated Design
 University of Texas at San Antonio
 San Antonio, TX. U.S.A
 Roles: 60% research, 30% teaching, 10% service

Previous:

Assistant Professor, [Business School, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez \(UAI\), Chile](#) 2017-2021
 Roles: 60% research, 30% teaching and mentoring undergraduate & graduate students, 10% outreach

Executive Director, [Center for Economics and Regional Policy, UAI, Chile](#) 2019-2021
 Roles: Fundraising, data project management, research coordination, media outreach

Academic Director, [Big Data for Public Policy Certificate Program, UAI, Chile](#) 2019-2021
 Roles: Teaching spatial analytics, statistics and programming, student selection and outreach

Adjunct Researcher, [Center for Cohesion and Conflict Studies \(COES\), Chile](#) 2020-present
 Roles: Research, editing and coordination of monthly labor market report, media outreach

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Regional Planning, Department of Urban and Regional Planning 2011-2016
 Regional Economics Applications Laboratory (REAL)
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), U.S.A.
 Dissertation Title: “*Three essays revisiting old housing issues in new contexts*”
Fulbright Scholar, Chile grant for doctoral studies

M.S. in Applied Economics, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics 2015-2016
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), U.S.A.

M.S. in Regional Science, Department of Economics 2008-2010
 Universidad Católica del Norte (UCN), Antofagasta, Chile.

B.S. in Commercial Engineering, Department of Business Administration 2003-2007
 Universidad de Tarapacá (UTA), Arica, Chile.

PUBLICATIONS

Published in peer-reviewed journals

1. Baker, D., Lopez, E. Greenlee, A. (2021) “An ex-ante model to estimate the displacement cost from transit-oriented developments” *CITIES*, Vol. 115. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2021.103212>
2. Backman, M., Lopez, E. & Rowe, F. (2020) “The occupational trajectories and outcomes of forced migrants in Sweden. Entrepreneurship, employment or persistent inactivity?” *Small Business Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11187-019-00312-z>
3. Bonilla, L., Lopez, E. & McMillen, D. (2019) “House prices and school choice: Evidence from Chicago’s magnet schools’ proximity lottery.” *Journal of Regional Science*. Vol. 60, Issue 1, pp. 33-55. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jors.12447>

4. **Lopez, E.** & Hewings G. (2018) “Housing price indices for small spatial units.” *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, Vol. 70, 57-71. (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.regsciurbeco.2018.02.005>)
5. **Lopez, E.** & Paredes, D. (2018) “Towards housing policies that consider household’s preferences: Estimating the demand for housing attributes in Chile.” *International Journal of Strategic and Property Management* Vol. 22(1), 24-36. (<https://doi.org/10.3846/ijspm.2018.320>)
6. Kleasson, J. **Lopez, E.** & Öner, Ö. (2018) “Who works longer – and why? Regional and individual characteristics in the timing of retirement.” *Tijdschrift voor economische en sociale geografie*, Vol. 109 (3) 350-370. (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tesg.12295/full>)
7. **Lopez, E.** & Greenlee, A. (2016) “Residential mobility and location choice as the product of housing displacement: An ex-ante analysis.” *Applied Geography*, Vol. 75, 156-175. (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2016.08.013>)
8. **Lopez, E.** & Aroca, P. (2012) “Estimating regional housing price inflation in Chile”. *Trimestre Económico*, Vol. LXXIX (315), 601-630. (<https://doi.org/10.20430/ete.v79i315.71>)

Working Papers

- “Covid-19 and employment relief programs: A tale of spatially blind policies, for a spatially driven pandemic” with Patricio Aroca and Juan Eberhard. **Revise and Resubmit** in the Journal of Regional Science
- “The effect of commuting on school performance: Evidence from a country-wide school reform” with Rocío Valdebenito (UIUC) and Patricio Aroca (UAI).

Research in Progress

- “Comparing spatial housing price indices to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 in the housing market.”
- “Measuring congestion costs between and within cities: the case of Chile” with Felipe Morales and Patricio Aroca (UAI).
- “Housing price dynamics in a developing economy: The case of Chile” with Patricio Aroca (UAI).
- “When green production yields poverty: The socioeconomic effects of forestry expansion in Chile” with Leonardo Bonilla (Central Bank of Colombia.)
- “Estimating the spatial distribution of firm power and its effects on regional migration” with Mikaela Backman (Jönköping University, Sweden).

RESEARCH GRANTS

Current

National Fund for the Development of Science* (FONDECYT-I in Spanish: 11190334) 2019-2022
 Title: “*Labor demand, commuting and housing prices: A spatial approach to understanding urban growth and its side effects in Chilean cities*”
 Role: **Primary Investigator**. Amount: US\$ 50,000

Research and Academic Networks (REDES-INICIAL: REDI170399) 2017-2020
 Chilean National Council for Research, Science and Technology (CONICYT)
 Title: “*International network to study the influence of territory on educational choices, outcomes and the labor market*”
 Role: **Primary Investigator**. Amount: US\$ 30,000

Toc-Toc Housing Data Contract for Individual Research 2020-present
 Title: “*Estimating harmonic spatio-temporal housing price indices from Toc-Toc sales and rental posting data*”
 Role: **Primary Investigator**. Amount: ad honorem, access to the data.

Contributions to ongoing funded research

Sao Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) & CONICYT (2018/08337-8) 2018-2021
 Title: *Agricultural and agro-industrial sustainability in Chile: Modeling the impacts of climate change and natural disasters in an integrated framework*
 Primary Investigators: Eduardo Haddad and Patricio Aroca. Amount US\$: 100,000
 Role: **Co-Researcher**

National Fund for the Development of Science* (FONDECYT: 1171230) 2017-2021
 Chilean National Council for Research, Science and Technology (CONICYT)
 Title: *“Concentration and centralism in Chile as limiting factors of its development and promoters of socio-spatial inequalities”*
 Primary Investigator: Patricio Aroca. Amount: US\$ 100,000
 Role: **Co-Researcher**

Previous

Business School Research Fund, University Adolfo Ibáñez 2017-2018
 Title: *“A network approach for understanding the dynamics of power within corporate directories and its influence in politics”*
 Primary Investigator: Alejandro Montecinos. Amount: US\$ 12,000
 Role: **Co-Researcher**

Lincoln Institute for Land Policy – Latin America and Caribbean Research (LDP091913) 2014
 Title: *“Estimating the demand for housing attributes in Chile”*
 Primary Investigator: Dusan Paredes. Amount: US\$ 30,000
 Role: **Co-Researcher**

* Chilean equivalent to National Science Foundation (NSF) grants

RECENT PRESENTATIONS**Workshop Speaker**

Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, CEPR + GobLab Zoom Webinar, April 2021
“Using data.table for data analysis in R” [Presentation on YouTube](#)
 Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, CEPR + GobLab Zoom Webinar, October 2020
“Report Automatization and Regional Labor Markets” [Presentation on YouTube](#)
 Chilean Chamber of Construction Zoom Webinar, October 2020
“A Better city: A challenge for urban mobility”
 Piensa Foundation Webinar, July 2020
“Local development through regional science” [Presentation on YouTube](#)
 Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Business School Zoom Webinar, May 2020
“Labor mobility in times of a pandemic” [Presentation on YouTube](#)
 Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, CEPR + GobLab Zoom Webinar, April 2020
“Spatial data science: what can we say (and what can we not say) from the COVID-19 data in Chile”
[Presentation on YouTube](#)
 Chilean Society of Regional Studies (SOCHER) San Pedro de Atacama, Chile, 2018
“Collection and management of big data for regional science research purposes”

Seminars – Guest Lecturer

Universidad de Tarapacá Arica, Chile, 2018
“Housing price dynamics in a developing economy: The case of Chile”
 Universidad Católica del Norte Antofagasta, Chile, 2016
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“Three essays revisiting old housing issues in new contexts”

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
 Research Seminar: Land Policy and Urban Development in Latin America
 Panamá City, Panamá, 2014
“A three-step model for estimating the demand for housing attributes in Chile: Insights of price and income elasticities in a developing economy”

Conference Presentations (selected)

Chilean Society of Economics (SECHI) Santiago, Chile, 2019
 “The effect of commuting on school performance: Evidence from a country-wide school reform”

North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) San Antonio, TX., 2018
 “Transit-Oriented Development and Housing Displacement: The case of the Chicago Red Line extension” &
 “Housing Prices Evolution in a Developing Economy: The case of Chile”

Sociedad Chilena de Estudios Regionales (SOCHER) Chillán, Chile. 2018
 “Assessing the effect of commuting on school performance: Evidence from Chile” & “Commercial forestry expansion and local economic outcomes: The case of Chile”

North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) Minneapolis, MN., 2017
 “Assessing the effect of commuting on school performance: Evidence from Chile” & “Commercial forestry expansion and local economic outcomes: The case of Chile”,
 “House Prices and School Choice: Evidence from the Chicago’s Magnet Schools Proximity Lottery”,

North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) Portland, OR., 2016
 “Residential Mobility and Location Choice as the Product of Housing Displacement: An ex ante Analysis”

Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Houston, TX., 2015
 “Residential Mobility and Location Choice as the Product of Housing Displacement: An ex ante Analysis”

Housing in an Unequal World, RC43. Chicago, IL., 2015
 “Residential Mobility and Location Choice as the Product of Housing Displacement: An ex ante Analysis”

Workshop on Ageing and the Economy. Jönköping International Business School. Sweden, 2015
 “Who stays longer? Individual and Geographical factors influencing the timing of retirement”

TEACHING

Assistant Professor, Business School, UAI 2017-present

Courses: Introduction to Economics (ECO121)
 Microeconomics I (ECO201)
 Microeconomics II (ECO211)
 Spatial Analytics – Master’s in Business Analytics ([Course on GitHub](#))
 Programming Course in R for Spatial Data Analysis
 Programing Workshop in R for Data Science

Instructor, Department of Business and Geography, UIUC 2015-2016
 Course: Business Location Decisions (Economic Geography) [BADM-205/GEOG-205](#)

Instructor, Department of Economics, UCN 2010
 Course: Introduction to Economics

Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, UCN

2008-2009

Courses: Econometric Applications
 Optimization Methods
 Microeconomics II

RECENT AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Best Young Researcher Award, Business School, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez 2019
Research Fellow, Centre for Spatial Economics and Entrepreneurship (CEnSE), Jönköping University 2018
First Place Student-lead Paper Competition, 2016
 North American Regional Science Council (NARSC), Minneapolis, MN.
Charles Tiebout Student Paper Finalist, 2016
 Western Regional Science Association (WRSA), Koa, HI.
Philip Israilevich Distinguished Research Fellow, REAL (UIUC) 2013-2014

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & SERVICE

Affiliations

Regional Science Association International (RSAI)
 North American Regional Science Association (NARSC)
 Western Regional Science Association (WRSA)
 American Planning Association (APA)
 Chilean Regional Science Association (SOCHER)

Referee Services

Journal of Regional Science and Urban Economics	2014-present
Papers in Regional Science	2017- present
Journal of Regional Science, Policy and Practice	2017-present
CEPAL Review	2017- present
Journal of Development Studies	2017-present
EURE	2018- present
Asia-Pacific Journal of Regional Science	2019- present
Journal of Regional Science	2019- present
Journal of Economic Geography	2020- present

Student General Coordinator

Regional Economics Applications Laboratory, UIUC 2012-2014

SKILLS

Languages	English (fluent), Spanish (native)
Modeling	Parametric and non-parametric regression methods (OLS, panel, locally weighted regression, spatial econometrics, regression discontinuity, event study), hedonic models, the Almost Ideal Demand System, discrete choice, machine learning, quasi-experimental methods (matching, counterfactual analysis), network analysis.

Programming

Main language: R (algorithms, data management and visualization, web-scraping, web app development, automatization of reports, mapping, python integration)

Proficient: STATA, SPSS, Ucinet 6.0, ArcGIS, QGIS

Above average: MATLAB, Geoda, Netlogo, Mathematica

Basic User: Python, SQL

Packages: 'GoogleDataSearch' R package (github.com/estebanlp/GoogleDataSearch)

REFERENCES

Prof. Geoffrey Hewings – hewings@illinois.edu (Ph.D. adviser and paper co-author)

Department of Geography, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Prof. Daniel McMillen – mcmillen@uic.edu (Ph.D. dissertation committee member and paper co-author)

Department of Finance and Real Estate, University of Illinois at Chicago

Prof. Patricio Aroca – patricio.aroca@uai.cl (Current co-worker and previous MS Adviser)

School of Business, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez

Prof. Andrew Greenlee – agreen4@illinois.edu (Ph.D. dissertation committee member and paper co-author)

Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign