

Sebastián Montaña

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2025- Assistant Professor, Universidad de Los Andes, Departamento de Economía

EDUCATION

2025 Ph.D. in Economics, University of Maryland
2021 M.A. in Economics, University of Maryland
2018 M.A. (equivalent) in Statistics, Universidad Nacional de Colombia
2014 M.Sc. in Economics, Universidad de Los Andes
2009 B.A. in Political Science, Universidad Nacional de Colombia

RESEARCH FIELDS

Primary: Labor Economics, Economics of Education
Secondary: Household Finance, Applied Microeconometrics

PUBLISHED & FORTHCOMING PAPERS

2025 “Signaling Specific Skills and the Labor Market of College Graduates” (with M. Busso and J. Muñoz). Accepted at *Review of Economics and Statistics*
2024 “The Unintended Consequences of Merit-based Teacher Selection: Evidence from a Large-scale Reform in Colombia” (with M. Busso, J. Muñoz, and N. Pope). *Journal of Public Economics*
2024 “Unbundling Returns to Degrees and Skills: Evidence from Postsecondary Education in Colombia” (with M. Busso and J. Muñoz). *Education Economics*

WORKING PAPERS

2025 “Promotions in Law Enforcement: Financial Outcomes and Household Labor Supply Responses” (with C. Posso)
2024 “Beyond the Bennett Hypothesis: Financial Aid, College Quality, and Education Expansion” (with A. Montoya)

WORK IN PROGRESS

2022 “Give Teachers a Break? Teacher Preparation Period and Student Outcomes” (with N. Petek, N. Pope, and G. Zuo)

CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2025	Tec. Monterrey, U. Los Andes, Fedesarollo
2024	NBER Education, Banco de la República, U. Rosario, U. EAFIT
2023	LACEA-LAMES, U. Rosario, U. Nacional
2022	SOLE, NEUDC-Yale, RIDGE-LACEA
2021	Banco de la República, U. EAFIT

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Los Andes	Microeconometrics (Instructor, Master) Math Logic for Economists (Instructor, Undergraduate)
Maryland	Economics of Education Policy (Instructor, Undergraduate) Principles of Microeconomics (Instructor, Undergraduate) Economic Analysis of Law (TA, Master) Economics Applications of R Programming (TA, Master) Inequality: Determinants and Policy Remedies (TA, Undergraduate) Intermediate Microeconomic Theory and Policy (TA, Undergraduate)
Javeriana	Seminar in Statistical Learning (Co-instructor, Undergraduate)

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

2019-2025	Graduate Assistant, University of Maryland
2021-2022	Research Assistant to Professor Nolan Pope, University of Maryland
2016-2019	Research Consultant, Inter-American Development Bank
2015-2016	Data Analyst, Ministerio de Educacion Nacional
2014-2015	Data Analyst, Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje

SKILLS

Coding	Stata, R, Python, Jupyter, Github, HTML
Languages:	Spanish (native), English

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee:	<i>Journal of Development Economics, Economics of Education Review, Cuadernos de Economía, Latin American Research Review</i>
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REFERENCES

Sergio Urzua	Nolan Pope	Matias Busso
University of Maryland	University of Maryland	Inter-American Development Bank
Department of Economics	Department of Economics	Research Department (RES)
surzua@umd.edu	npope@umd.edu	mbusso@iadb.org