

Antonio Merino

CONTACT INFORMATION

Florida International University
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development Economics, Policy Evaluation, Education, Inequality, and Time Use Studies.

EDUCATION

- **Ph.D. in Economics** Miami, USA
Florida International University Aug 2025
- **Master of Arts in Economics** Miami, USA
Florida International University Aug 2022
- **Economic and Financial Sciences Engineering** Quito, Ecuador
National Polytechnic School Sep 2019

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- **Florida International University** Miami, USA
Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor Aug 2025 - May 2026
 - Principles of Microeconomics (ECO 2023; Fall 2025, 3 sections; Spring 2026, 2 sections)
 - Intermediate Microeconomics (ECO 3031; Fall 2025)
 - Measurement and Analysis of Economic Activity (ECO 3410; Spring 2026)
 - Introduction to Urban Economics (ECO 3613; Spring 2026)
- **Florida International University** Miami, USA
Instructor (Graduate Teaching Assistant) Aug 2024 - Jul 2025
 - Principles of Microeconomics (ECO 2023; Fall 2024, Summer 2025)
 - Principles of Macroeconomics (ECO 2013; Spring 2024, Summer 2024)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Office of the Attorney General** Quito, Ecuador
Data Analyst Oct 2019 - Dec 2020
- **BOS+ (Belgian NGO), Ghent University** Quito, Ecuador
Project Assistant in Ecuador (Internship) Aug - Sep 2018

PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCH

- Merino, A. & Salazar, Y., “The intergenerational transmission of gender roles in Ecuador”. (Feminist Economics, Routledge. Accepted for publication, undergoing final editorial review).

JOB MARKET PAPER

- Merino, A. & Pfutze, T., “Now you receive it, now you don’t: The effect of losing a cash transfer in Ecuador”.

This paper evaluates the effects of losing the Ecuadorian unconditional cash transfer Bono de Desarrollo Humano (BDH) on education and labor outcomes, using two waves of the Ecuadorian Registro Social (RS) database from 2014 and 2018. We employ a regression discontinuity design that explicitly controls for the sample selection due high attrition in our sample. Our results show that losing the BDH has a negative impact on school attendance and increases the probability of becoming a NEET (not in education, employment, or training), particularly among young women. In addition, the likelihood of joining the labor force increases, especially for men.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Merino, A., *The short and long term impact of cash transfers on education and labor in Ecuador: A multidimensional RDD approach.*
- Merino, A., *Non-contributory elderly pensions, gender, and education. Evidence of Pensión para Adultos Mayores Program in Ecuador (with Sandy Noboa and Tobias Pfutze)*

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

- Workshop in Applied and Theoretical Economics (WATE), University of Florida 2025
- 61st Missouri Valley Economic Association Annual Conference, Kansas City, USA 2024
- Seminar *Reflections on Development in Latin America and Ecuador*, Quito, Ecuador 2024
- Economics Department Workshops, Florida International University 2023, 2024
- VII International Economy Congress, Loja, Ecuador 2019
- V Congress of Economics, Quito, Ecuador 2019

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Florida International University Aug 2020 - Present
- “Young researcher” Prize, VII International Economy Congress, Ecuador Jul 2019

SKILLS

- **Software and Programming:** Stata, R, SPSS, L^AT_EX, Python.

OTHER INFORMATION

- **Citizenship:** Ecuadorian
- **Languages:** Spanish (native), English (fluent)

REFERENCES

- Tobias Pfutze, Ph.D.
Graduate Director, Department of Economics
Florida International University
tpfutze@fiu.edu
Miami, USA
- Mihaela Pinteá, Ph.D.
Chairperson, Department of Economics
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- Abu S. Shonchoy, Ph.D.
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- Yasmín Salazar Méndez, Ph.D.
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Quito, Ecuador
- Debbie Eraly, Ph.D.
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