**Supervisor: Prof. Davide Ferrari**

**Research area:** Statistics, applied econometric methods for policy analysis

**Current research:** My methodological research focuses on the development of model selection and inference methods for complex data. Recently, I have started to apply my methods to spatio-temporal econometric data in order to improve the quality of inferences and predictions in the context of policy evaluation and analysis. This allows me to combine my interest in statistical methodology with my interest in econometric applications.

**Available thesis projects:**

**Project 1) Robust aggregation of non-representative polls with applications to political opinion data.** A poll aggregator tracks and combines individual polls or surveys conducted by different organizations in order to measure public sentiment on key issues such as the rating of a political figure or the perceived effectiveness of a policy measure. Common aggregators simply take averages of polls leading to severely biased estimates and misleading forecasts in the presence of non-representative polls. This project develops an aggregator by applying a statistical technique called exponential tilting; the resulting aggregator is robust in the sense that it mitigates the effect of biased individual polls, thus leading to more accurate inference and forecasting. The methodology will be illustrated through the analysis of the 2020 US presidential election polling data.


**Project 2) Respondent-driven sampling for surveys on networks.** This project develops a new statistical technique to conduct surveys when responses are correlated and subjects are organized within a network structure. Differently from existing approaches, the new sampling model takes into account the interactions between statistical units, thus leading to more efficient use of information using small samples. The properties of the new sampling technique will be investigated by examining various datasets, such as contagion epidemiological network data related to the evaluation of health policy measures.


**Supervisor: Prof. Laura Valle**

**Research area(s):** Private Law, Contract of the Public Administration, Digitalization of the PA

**Current research:** Contract law, digital aspects of IT, consumer protection, fundamental rights and contract law, CSR and economic and environmental sustainability of economic activities.

**Available thesis projects:**

**Project 1) Identità personale e firme digitali**

**Project 2) Le procedure per l’assegnazione degli appalti pubblici e digitalizzazione del procedimento**

**Project 3) Le particolarità della disciplina dei contratti pubblici nella Provincia di Bolzano rispetto alla disciplina nazionale**

**Project 4) Indicatori di sostenibilità economica, ambientale e sociale nella contrattazione pubblica**

**Supervisor: Prof. Steven Stillman**

**Research area(s):** labor economics, health economics, political economy and development economics

**Current research:** My research focuses on empirical labour economics, specializing in the behavior of individuals and households, and the interplay between government policy and human behavior. I have done extensive work examining the impact of migration on immigrants and their families exploiting a lottery used to allocate migrant quota slots. In recent work, I have also examined voting behavior along a number of dimensions and how individuals have responded to changes in a number of policies, including minimum wages, the drinking age and doctor’s fees.

**Available thesis projects:** “Contact the supervisor to discuss available topics”
Supervisor: Prof. Monica Rosini
Research area(s): Law of Regions and Autonomies; constitutional end public law
Current research: the effect of the “major favour clause” on the competences of Autonomies Provinces of Bolzano; right to study; new features of the Italian economic constitution; e-voting
Available thesis projects:
- Uso delle lingue nella pubblica amministrazione
- Gli effetti del diritto europeo sulla autonomia altoatesina
- Forma di governo della Provincia di Bolzano
- Proporzionale linguistica
- Autonomia finanziaria provinciale o comunale. Confronto con Regioni ordinarie e/o Land Tirol
- Le competenze provinciali a 20 anni dalla riforma del Titolo V Cost. e a 50 anni dalla Statuto di autonomia
- C’è bisogno di un nuovo statuto di autonomia?
- Plurilinguismo e sistema scolastico
- Sono possibili ulteriori temi relativi alle regioni ordinarie o in prospettiva comparata.

Supervisor: Prof. Florian Kiesel
Research area(s): Empirical Finance, Sustainable Finance
Current research: Sustainable Investing and its impact on society. Framework for an ESG agenda.
Incentives for sustainable investing. Impact of political changes on the economy (Covid, Russian-Ukraine conflict, elections, etc.). For a detailed list, please check the supervisor’s website.
Available thesis projects: Please contact the supervisor to discuss topics of interest. Topics can be in all areas related to finance.

Supervisor: Prof. Marjaana Gunkel
Current research:
https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=de&user=cgpnbEsAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&sortby=pubdate
Available thesis projects: Contact the supervisor to discuss topics of interest.

Supervisor: Prof. Roberto Farneti
Research area(s): Political theory; Theory of International Relations; International Political Theory; Political Communication
Current research: Current research revolves around the concept of ‘curation’ related with contemporary art and documentary film-making, applied to the social sciences at large
Available thesis projects: Contemporary art venues as sites of political contestation
Students may also consider what is in the agenda of academic journals such as *Rhetoric & Public Affairs* and, more generally, *Political Communication* for inspiration in deciding the topic of their thesis. Professor Farneti considers thesis projects in cooperation with the ZeLIG School (www.zeligfilm.it), in particular with the European Social Documentary Project (EsoDoc). If interested in this specific realm, students may look up W.A. Callahan, *Sensible Politics: Visualizing International Relations* (Oxford University Press, 2020)

Supervisor: Dr. Jan Ditzen
Research area(s): applied econometrics, growth empirics
Current research: My methodological research focuses on large panel data models with dependence across units, panel data models with structural breaks and machine learning. My applied research focuses on the estimation of long run growth models (growth empirics) and house prices.
Available thesis projects: Please contact me to discuss topics of interest. A strong empirical focus of the dissertation is required.