José Belmar

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Research Fields

Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Institutions, Infrastructure, Environment and Energy

Education

Brown University — Providence, RI, USA
Ph.D. in Economics — 2024
M.A. in Economics — 2017

Universidad de Chile — Santiago, Chile
M.A. in Economic Analysis — 2014
B.A. in Economics — 2012

References

Prof. **Oded Galor**
Brown University
oded_galor@brown.edu

Prof. **Stelios Michalopoulos**
Brown University
stylianos_michalopoulos@brown.edu

Prof. **Pedro Dal Bó**
Brown University
pedro_dal_bo@brown.edu

Employment

Inter-American Development Bank — Washington, DC
Economics Consultant, Infrastructure and Energy Sector — Since June 2024

Brown University — Providence, RI
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics — 2017–2024
Quantitative Analyst, Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning — 2023
Research Assistant for Oded Galor — 2018

Universidad de Chile — Santiago, Chile
Research Assistant, Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies (COES)
for Daniel Hojman, Nicolas Grau and Sofia Donoso — 2015–2016
for Pablo Egaña — 2015–2016
Research Assistant, Department of Economics
for Roberto Alvarez — 2014–2015
for Manuel Agosin — 2012–2013

The World Bank — Santiago, Chile
Consultant, International Income Distribution Database (I2D2) — 2014–2015

Working Papers

Governing Environmental Markets: Evidence from Irrigation in Water Markets
with *Maximiliano García*. Submitted

Powering Through Drought: How Electricity Systems Respond to Water Scarcity
with *Lisa Bagnoli, Lenin Balza and David Matías*
Previously circulated as "The Impact of Water Scarcity on Electricity Generation," IDB Working Paper, 2025

Trade and Structural Change: Evidence from Colombia and the Panama Canal

Bimodal Transportation Infrastructure and Regional Development: Evidence from Argentina, 1960–1991
with *Diego Gentile*. CAF Working Paper, 2021

Work in Progress

Balancing Act: Hydropower Generation and Competing Water Uses
with *Lenin Balza and Maximiliano García*

Drought and the Power Mix in Latin America: Short-Run Substitution and Long-Run Investment
with *Lenin Balza and Ye-Rim Lee*

Who Turned On the Lights? Electricity Supply Shocks and Development in Ecuador
with *Julio Acuña, Lenin Balza and Nicolás Gómez-Parra*

A Tale of Two Pathways: The Local Economic Impacts of Solar Energy Investments in Colombia
with *Lenin Balza and Laura Heras*

Agrarian Reform, Structural Transformation and Regional Development in Post-Revolutionary Mexico, 1916–1976
with *Laura Heras*

Scholarships and Awards

- Teaching Award, Department of Economics, Brown University 2023
- S4 Graduate Student Paper Prize, Brown University 2022
- Winners of CAF-Development Bank Call (Joint with Diego Gentile) 2020
- Third Year Paper Award, Brown University Department of Economics 2019
- Graduate Program in Development Fellowship, Watson Institute, Brown University 2018-2019
- Graduate Student Scholarship, Brown University 2017-2023

Presentations

- NBER Environment and Energy Economics Program Meeting, Spring (presented by coauthor) 2026
- SEA Annual Meeting, Tampa 2025
- SEA Annual Meeting, New Orleans 2023
- LACEA Annual Meeting, Bogota 2023
- Encuentro Anual SECHI 2023 2023
- Internal Growth Seminar at Brown University (multiple times) 2018-2022
- 6th Southern Hemisphere Economic History Summer School, UdeLaR, Uruguay 2018

Professional Activities

- Referee for Energy Economics 2025
- Referee for Journal of Economic Growth 2018, 2023, 2024
- Referee for Journal of Population Economics 2019
- Co-organizer of Graduate Students Economic Growth Seminar, Brown University 2020-2022

Courses, Certificates and Languages

- The Sheridan Teaching Seminar – Reflective Teaching (Certificate I), Brown University 2022
- Introduction to GIS Methods in Business Research 2021
- Theory and Research in Development (DEVL2000) 2018
- GIS Institute, Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences, Brown University 2017
- **Languages:** Spanish (native), English

Teaching Experience

Instructor

- Introduction to Microeconomics, Pre-College Programs 2018
- Macroeconomics, Federico Santa Maria Technical University, Chile 2015

Teaching Assistant at Brown University

- International Trade *(Prof. Kellie Forrester)* Spring 2024
- The Economics of Latin Americans *(Prof. Pedro Dal Bo)* Fall 2023, 2021, 2020
- Welfare Economics and Social Choice Theory *(Prof. Roberto Serrano)* Spring 2023
- Game Theory and Applications to Economics *(Prof. Roberto Serrano)* Fall 2022
- Theory of Economic Growth *(Prof. Oded Galor)* Spring 2022
- Intermediate Macroeconomics *(Profs. Kellie Forrester and Pascal Michaillat)* Summer 2021, Fall 2017
- Intermediate Microeconomics *(Profs. Fahri Ulusoy and Teddy Mekonnen)* Spring 2020, Fall 2019
- Introduction to Econometrics *(Profs. Borja Mesa Sanchez and Lint Barrage)* Summer 2020, Spring 2018

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