Pre-Scholarship
Duration: 7 months (from October 2024 to April 2025)

The University of Barcelona School of Economics invites applications for one pre-Scholarship to work on the project “The causal effects of language-in-education policies and language training in a bilingual society: novel evidence for the case of Catalonia”, funded by the "Institut d’Estudis d’Autogovern" of the Generalitat de Catalunya. The project aims at investigating the causal effects of language skills and language policies on different socioeconomic outcomes, focusing on the case of Catalonia.

We are seeking candidates at the pre-doctoral level interested in joining the PhD in Economics programme at the University of Barcelona in the academic year 2024-2025. Opportunities for PhD supervision are welcome, and candidates will be assisted in applying for full scholarships to start on May 1, 2025.

Essential skills:

- Excellent quantitative and data analysis skills for economic research
- Proficiency in Stata
- Committed and collaborative team player with the ability to work constructively and effectively with international and interdisciplinary research partners
- Able to manage their own areas of responsibility independently without constant direct supervision
- High levels of accuracy and attention to detail, along with a demonstrated ability to take responsibility for the delivery of research outputs
- Good writing skills in English
- Ability to undertake literature reviews and synthesize evidence effectively

Preferred skills (but not essential):

- Skills in impact evaluation techniques for causal analysis
- Ability to work with georeferenced data and skills in GIS techniques
- Previous research on topics related to labour and education economics
- Interest and enthusiasm for carrying out research on the economics of language and language policies

We offer the opportunity to develop the PhD thesis in the field of the economics of language and language policies, under the supervision of Antonio Di Paolo from the Regional Quantitative Analysis Group (ADR). The chosen candidate will have the chance to collaborate as a co-author on a paper associated with the research project, serving as the potential first chapter his/her PhD dissertation.
Applications

Only complete applications will be considered (Step 1 and 2). Candidates must:

1. Complete the application to PhD in Economics programme of the University of Barcelona before March 15, 2024.

2. Send a letter of interest (500 words max in pdf) to school.economics@ub.edu before March 31, 2024, indicating your past experience, interest in the areas covered by the project, why you would be a great candidate, and what you expect to like the most and least about the position. Please use the following email subject: “Economics of Language and Language Policies” followed by your name and surname (for instance, “Economics of Language and Language Policies: Mary Black”)

Email enquiries should be directed to: school.economics@ub.edu

The University of Barcelona is a leading center in southern Europe, 1st university in Spain, deeply committed to excellence in research. With a longstanding tradition in teaching, it offers a wide array of undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs in Economics and Business. Within this framework, the UB School of Economics serves as a pivotal platform for research and graduate education in Economics. According to IDEAS, the UB School of Economics is ranked 107th in the world, making it a top 10% economics department.

The PhD in Economics programme has been awarded the distinction of Excellence following a comprehensive and rigorous external evaluation conducted by the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU). This recognition acknowledges the quality and impact of the research conducted within the framework of the PhD programme.