

# JOSÉ VILA-BELDA MONTALT

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## EDUCATION

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**PhD Candidate in Economics** **2017-Present**  
**University of Fribourg, Switzerland**

**MSc Social Research Methods, Statistics stream** **2011-2012**  
**London School of Economics and Political Sciences (UK)**

*Average grade: 78/100. Distinction and Best Overall Performance Prize*

*Fully-funded scholarship from La Caixa Foundation (Academic Excellence Programme)*

Fundamentals of Research Design, Qualitative Methods and four Statistics courses:

Applied Regression Analysis, Multivariate Methods and Measurement, Multilevel and Longitudinal Modelling and Causal Inference in Observational and Experimental Studies.

**MSc Economic Development, Integration and Institutions** **2008-2009**  
**Faculty of Economics, University of Valencia (Spain)**

*Average grade: 90/100. Best Overall Performance Prize*

International Economics; Institutional Economics; Theories of Economic Growth; History of Economic Development in Latin America, Africa and Asia; Food and Agriculture; Globalisation, Outsourcing and Inequality; Management of Development Projects.

**International Development Studies** **2007-2008**  
**Roskilde University Centre (Denmark)**

One-year long Erasmus exchange programme. Semester projects: a) *European Agricultural Policy and trade relations with medium- and low-income countries*; b) *Agricultural subsidies for pro-poor growth: the Green Revolution in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa*

**Five-year degree in Sociology. University of Valencia (Spain)** **2003-2008**

Core subjects: Economics, Statistics, Qualitative Methods, Population Theory.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Research Manager. Economics Dept., University of Zurich (Switzerland)** **Aug 2016-Present**

- Project management in impact evaluation studies.

**Senior Research Associate. J-PAL Latin America (Chile)** **Nov 2014-May 2016**

- In charge of data processing, statistical analysis and liaising with partner organizations in the Chilean government, under the project "Improving Public Procurement: Field Experiments in Chile", by Dina Pomeranz (Harvard Business School), Benjamin Olken (MIT) and Stephan Litschig (IAE).
- In charge of statistical analysis in Regression Discontinuity Design studies, analyzing the impact of tax and public procurement policies.

**Senior Training Associate. J-PAL Latin America (Chile)** **Feb 2014-Nov 2014**

- Led and coordinated experimental impact evaluation workshops for public officials in Uruguay (University of Montevideo), Chile (National Budget Office; IDB; Inter American Center of Tax Administrations), Mexico (National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy) and Peru (Ministry of Private Sector Development).
- Developed training contents such as presentations, case studies and discussion guides on measurement, quasi-experimental methods and experimental design.

- Member of J-PAL LAC's Measurement Team, in charge of developing the office's knowledge and skills on survey methodology and psychometrics.

**Research Methods Consultant. Arauco Foundation (Chile)**

**Nov 2013-Jan 2014**

- Designed and conducted a 32-hour long course on Statistics and SPSS, delivered to the organization's research staff, covering basic concepts, multiple and logistic regression, dimensionality reduction methods, factorial analysis, index construction and concepts on causality.

**Research Officer. Institute for Employment Studies (United Kingdom)**

**Sep 2012-Jun 2013**

- Supported the Principal Economist in the elaboration of impact evaluations of labour and educational programs commissioned by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the Department for Education.
- Participation in European projects: a) "Policies to support youth employment in Europe", author of the Swedish case study, documentary review and interviews to senior public officials; b) "Industrial relations and social dialogue", author of the case study on restructuring in the Spanish financial sector.

**Research Assistant. Valencian Institute of Economic Research (Spain)**

**Feb 2009-Sep 2011**

- Assistance in data processing and analysis in the EU KLEMS project for the European Commission (growth accounting methodology). Author of the dissemination papers for the project *Human Development in Spain: 1980-2007*. In charge of the editorial management of the Institute's dissemination papers: Capital & Growth (BBVA Foundation) and Human Capital Notes (Bancaja Foundation). Authored over thirty issues.

## IT SKILLS

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Advanced in Stata, SPSS and Excel.  
Intermediate in MPlus, SQL and LaTeX.

## LANGUAGES

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**Spanish:** Mother tongue; **Catalan:** Advanced  
**English:** Advanced (IELTS Overall Band Score: 8.5; July 2011)

## PUBLICATIONS

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Vila-Belda Montalt, J., Speckesser, S., Wiseman, J. and Gloster, R. (2013) *Evaluation of the Impact of Learning Below Level 2*. Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. BIS Research Paper 150. Online.

Vila-Belda Montalt, J., Speckesser, S, et al (2013) *Evaluation of the Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE 16 to 24) programme*. Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. BIS Research Paper 157. Online.

Vila-Belda Montalt, J., Speckesser, S., et al. (2013) *The Effectiveness and Cost-Benefits of Apprenticeships: Results of the Quantitative Analysis*. European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

Vila-Belda Montalt, J., Cox, A. & Hillage, J. (2013). *National Strategic Skills Audit for Wales 2012*, Institute for Employment Studies and Welsh Government. Available online.

## MISCELLANEA

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- Further training in 2013/14: *Survey Design* (eight-week postgraduate course at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 94/100); *Sampling Methods* (eight-week postgraduate course, audited at PUC); *Calculus I* and *Principles of Microeconomics* (Coursera.org, 90/100 in both courses).
- Volunteer work for *Make Poverty History Spain* and *Oxfam Spain*. 2005-2009.