

Paola Gabriela Villa Paro

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Bachelor in Social Sciences with a major in Economics, graduated with honors. Strong orientation in research with interest in Development Economics, Labor Economics, Political Economics, and Public Economics. Experience managing laboratory and field experiments. Currently, Research Assistant at Centro de Investigación de la Universidad del Pacífico (Research Center of the Universidad del Pacífico in Peru). Previously, Research Associate at Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA).

Education	Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Lima, Peru B.A., Economics, (1st place) Highest CraEst (Standardized Academic Performance Coefficient) Award.	2016
Work Experience	Research Center of Universidad del Pacífico (CIUP) Research Assistant of Noelia Bernal Review Literature, clean and analyse administrative data-sets, and design research proposals. Topics: pension system, informality, and health insurance effects	Set 2018 - present
	Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) Research Associate Implement, monitor, and evaluate the Pilot of a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) to promote the participation of informal workers in the Pension System through a matching contribution scheme.	Set 2017 - Set 2018
	Behavioral and Experimental Economic Lab (at PUCP) Research Assistant Design, implement and analyse laboratory experiments. Use oTree platform to program economic games (public goods, beauty contest, and prisoner dilemma) and test them with university students in order to evaluate their preferences and choices.	Jul 2016 - Jul 2017
	Central Bank of Peru Research Assistant Clean data and present reports using Stata and R. Organize papers in LaTeX for their publication in the Economics Studies Journal (REE, Revista de Estudios Económicos)	Jul 2015 - Dic 2015
Academic Achievements	Academic Excellence PUCP Award given to the first place of academic achievement among the graduating class of the school of economics offered by Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú	2016
Work in Progress	<u>Voice Messages and Early Immunization: A Field Experiment?</u> (w/ <i>Kristian Lopez and Sandro Parodi</i>) We conduct a field experiment in the metropolitan area of the Dominican Republic to study the impact of sending voice messages on early immunization behavior. Target message recipients were households that included either women who were at least six months pregnant or with children five years old or less. We found significant spillover effects by the Vice-President voice messages.	

(continue)

Do informal workers of small firms self-insurance for retirement?

(w/ Noelia Bernal)

We study how individuals working in small firms in Peru decide to plan and save for retirement in different options. We use a novel and unique data from a survey applied in Lima Metropolitan area in 2018, which contains information about expectations, planning and saving actions the individuals have taken for retirement. Our results indicate that, contrary to the common assumption, they do think about retirement, plan and take some actions to finance it. The saving option most frequently chosen is having their own business, and the less chosen is saving through pension systems.

Research
Assistance

Research Papers

Sebastián Galiani, Noelia Bernal, and Oswaldo Molina (forthcoming);
Does Matching Contributions incentivize informal workers to participate in retirement saving plans? A Randomized Evaluation in Peru

Joan Costa-Font, Noelia Bernal, and Patricia Ritter (forthcoming);
Does Health Insurance Expansion Improve Children's Health? Evidence from Peru's Seguro Integral de Salud

Conferences
(Presenter)

Congress of the Peruvian Economic Association, Peru, 2019

2nd Health Economics Network Meeting, Peru, 2019

Languages
and Skills

Spanish (native), English

Advanced: Stata , L^AT_EX, SurveyCTO , oTree. Interdmediate: Python, R, Git, HTML.

Teaching

Economics, Universidad del Pacífico

Teaching Assistant:

2018 - 2019

Responsible for two hours of classes a week, designing exams, and grading.

Course: Microeconomics I

Economics, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

Teaching Assistant:

2017

Responsible for ten hours of classes a week, designing exams, and grading.

Courses: Macroeconomics I, Microeconomics I, Applied Economics

References

[Kristian López-Vargas](#)

Assistant Professor

Economics Department

University of California, Santa Cruz

klopezva@ucsc.edu

[Noelia Bernal](#)

Assistant Professor

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