

Ignacio Lepe

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Last update: July 2026

Fields: Labor Economics, Economics of Education, and Market Design.

EDUCATION

Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Chile

Santiago, Chile

M.Sc. in Economics

2023 – 2024

Grade: 6.2/7.0 (*Maximum Distinction*)

Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Chile

Santiago, Chile

Commercial Engineering, B.Sc. in Economics

2019 – 2023

Grade: 6.2/7.0 (*Maximum Distinction*)

Class rank: 98.2nd percentile of cohort (Circle of Excellence).

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Publications

[Education Spending and Economic Growth: Short- and Long-Term Effects in a Global Panel](#). With Arturo Galindo and Dante Contreras. *Review of Development Economics*, 2026.

[Inteligencia Artificial Generativa en Centros Educativos: Preparación Institucional y Competencias digitales en ICILS 2023](#). With Christopher Neilson. *Papeles de Economía Española*, Issue 184, FUNCAS, 2025.

Working Papers

[Designing Smart School Choice Recommendations: Heuristics for Sure Alternatives](#). Master's thesis.

[Heterogeneous Effects of Lengthening the School Day on Students' Academic Achievement: A Longitudinal Study of Full Day School Reform in Chile](#). With Dante Contreras and Ignacio Riveros.

Policy Reports

[Extended School Day: Evidence, Implementation, Challenges and Recommendations](#). Technical note N° IDB-TN-2792. With Dante Contreras.

[Cost Analysis: Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles](#). Technical note ESA, Ministry of Energy. With Ignacio Rivas and Javier Contador.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Academic Excellence Scholarship, M.Sc. In Economics. FEN UCh.

2023 – 2024

Circle of excellence. FEN UCh. (x4)

2020 – 2024

High School Valedictorian.

2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Yale University

New Haven, CT

Pre-Doctoral Fellow

January 2026 – Present

Tobin Center for Economic Policy and Economics Department. Advisor: Prof. Christopher A. Neilson

ConsiliumBots

Santiago, Chile

Data Scientist & RA

July 2024 – January 2026

Support multicountry RCTs, school choice interventions, and applied research with Prof. Christopher A. Neilson on education, economics, and policy.

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab

Santiago, Chile

Senior Research Associate

September 2024 – July 2025

Lead analysis and coordination for education-focused RCTs in Latin America

Pontifical Catholic University of Chile

Santiago, Chile

Research assistant

April 2024 – November 2024

- “Evaluation of the School Admission System: Analysis of the algorithm and its effects on school segregation”. Authors: María Isidora Palma, Gabriel Gutiérrez, Francisco Lagos & Fernanda Ramírez.

Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Chile

Santiago, Chile

Research Assistant at UCh and IDB, Professor Dante Contreras

February 2023 – December 2024

OTHER EXPERIENCE

International CORE Economics

London, England

Consultant

January 2023 – January 2024

- The Economy After COVID: Elaboration of chapters, references and applied exercises for undergraduate economics course text. Supervisor: Óscar Landerretche.

Central Bank of Chile

Santiago, Chile

Intern

January 2023 – February 2023

- Methodologies and Quantitative Analysis Group, Prospective Analysis and Risk Department, Financial Stability Management. Supervisor: David Coble.

Energy Sustainability Agency, Ministry of Energy

Santiago, Chile

Intern

July 2022 – December 2022

- Co-author of “Cost Analysis: Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles in Latin America 2022 version”.

LEXEN Constitution 2022

Santiago, Chile

Assistant coordinator in the minutes preparation team

July 2021 – August 2022

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate - Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Chile

Santiago, Chile

Teaching Assistant Macroeconomics II (M.Sc. in Economics)

July 2024 – December 2024

professors Humberto Martínez & Eugenia Andreasen

Undergraduate - Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Chile

Santiago, Chile

Teaching Assistant Econometrics I, Professor Valentina Paredes

March 2024 – July 2024

Teaching Assistant Econometrics I, professors Valentina Paredes & Paola Bordón

March 2023 – July 2023

Teaching Assistant Macroeconomics III/Trade & Growth, Professor Pablo García

March 2023 – July 2023

Teaching Assistant Microeconomics III/Labor, Professors Dante Contreras & Esteban Puentes

March 2023 – July 2023

Teaching Assistant Statistics II, professors Eduardo Engel & Juan Díaz.

July 2021 – December 2021

July 2022 – December 2022

Teaching Assistant Statistics I, professors Eduardo Engel & Juan Díaz.

March 2021 – July 2021

March 2022 – July 2022

Teaching Assistant Introduction to Macroeconomics, Professor José de Gregorio.

July 2021 – July 2022

Teaching Assistant Introduction to Microeconomics, Professor Andrés Gómez-Lobo.

August 2020 – December 2021

Teaching Assistant Introduction to Microeconomics, Professor Óscar Landerretche.

March 2021 – July 2021

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

UCh Commercial Engineering Student Council

Santiago, Chile

Economics Students Delegate

August 2020 – October 2021

Academic Secretary's Office

August 2020 – October 2021

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

2026 Pre-Doctoral Economics Conference, Yale University. “Opportunity Costs of Elite Careers and Fertility: Evidence from Admission Cutoffs in Chile” (with Tamara Muñoz), presented by Tamara Muñoz. New Haven, CT. June, 2026.

Workshop on Economics of Education. Keynote speaker: Jesse Rothstein. Valle Nevado, Chile. August, 2025 (Attendee).

IDB Education Meeting – Annual Research Brief (Presenter). IDB Headquarters, Washington D.C, US. October, 2024.

Workshop on Economics of Education. Keynote speaker: Miguel Urquiola. Valle Nevado, Chile. August, 2024 (Attendee).

SKILLS

Programming: Python, STATA, MATLAB, LaTeX, Excel (Advanced), R (Intermediate).

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent).

REFERENCES

Christopher A. Neilson, Professor of Economics and Global Affairs, Yale University and Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research. christopher.neilson@yale.edu

Dante Contreras, Professor in the Department of Economics at the Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Chile, and Deputy Director of the Center for the Study of Conflict and Social Cohesion, COES. dcontrer@fen.uchile.cl