

Current Address:

Department of Geography and Environment,
London School of Economics,
Houghton Street, London, WC2A 2AE, UK
Tel. +44 (0)20 7852 3516 or +44 (0)20 7955 6036
E-mail: o.silva@lse.ac.uk
Home page: <http://personal.lse.ac.uk/silva/>

Personal Details:

Date of birth: July 23, 1977
Gender: Male
Civil Status: Single
Nationality: Italian

Current Position

09/2007-present Lecturer in Real Estate Economics and Finance (REEF); Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics (LSE), London.

Other Affiliations

06/2008-present Research Associate; Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC), LSE, London.
09/2007-present Research Associate; Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), LSE, London.
05/2006-present Research Fellow; IZA (Institute for the Study of Labor), Bonn.

Current Research Interests

Primary: Applied Microeconometrics; Economics of Education; Urban Economics.
Secondary: Applied Growth; Entrepreneurship.

Education

09/01-01/06 European University Institute (EUI), Dept. of Economics, Florence: PhD in Economics.
02/04-08/04 University College London (UCL), Dept. of Economics, London: Marie Curie Fellow.
09/00-06/01 Bocconi University, Dept. of Economics, Milan: Master in Economics (Distinction).
01/99-07/99 Institut d'Etudes Politiques (IEP), Paris: International Certificate of Political and Social Sciences.
09/96-09/00 Bocconi University, Dept. of Economics, Milan: B.Sc. in Economics.

Previously Held Positions

09/04-08/07 Research Officer, Education and Skills Programme; CEP, LSE, London.
12/02-02/04 Research Assistant (RA), Prof. A. Ichino; Dept. of Economics, EUI, Florence.
09/02-10/02 RA, Prof. R. Perotti; Dept. of Economics, EUI, Florence.
07/01-07/02 RA, Prof. F. Daveri; IGIER, Bocconi University, Milan.

Refereed Journal Articles and Chapters

‘Choice, Competition and Pupil Achievement’ (with S. Gibbons and S. Machin), *Journal of the European Economic Association*, vol. 6(4), pp. 912-947, 2008 (IZA DP 2214).

‘Urban Density and Pupil Attainment’ (with S. Gibbons), *Journal of Urban Economics*, vol. 63(1), pp. 631-650, 2008 (IZA DP 2728).

‘Why So Many Local Entrepreneurs?’ (with C. Michelacci), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, vol. 89(4), pp. 615-633, 2007 (CEMFI WP 0506 and CEPR DP 5828).

‘The Jack-of-All-Trades Entrepreneur: Innate Talent or Acquired Skill?’, *Economics Letters*, vol. 97, pp. 118-123, 2007 (IZA DP 2264).

‘New Technology in Schools: Is there a Payoff?’ (with S. Machin and S. McNally), *Economic Journal*, vol. 117, pp.1145-1167, 2007 (IZA DP 2234).

‘Competition and Accessibility in School Markets: Empirical Analysis Using Boundary Discontinuities’ (with S. Gibbons), in T.J. Gronberg and D.W. Jansen (eds.), *IMPROVING SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY: CHECK-UPS OR CHOICE?*, *Advances in Applied Microeconomics*, Vol.14, Elsevier, 2006.

‘Not only Nokia: What Finland tells us about *new economy* growth’ (with F. Daveri), *Economic Policy*, vol. 19(38), 2004.

Submitted Articles and Completed Research Papers

‘Faith Primary Schools: Better Schools or Better Pupils?’ (with S. Gibbons); IZA DP 4089, 2009 (revision request by the *Journal of Labor Economics*).

‘School Quality, Child Wellbeing and Parents’ Satisfaction’ (with S. Gibbons); CEE DP 103, 2009 (submitted).

‘Targeting Non-Cognitive Skills to Improve Cognitive Outcomes: Evidence from a Remedial Education Intervention’ (with H. Holmlund); IZA DP 4476, 2009 (submitted).

‘The Good, The Bad and The Average: Evidence on the Scale and Nature of Ability Peer Effects in Schools’ (with V. Lavy and F. Weinhardt); NBER WP 15600, 2009 (submitted).

‘Valuing School Quality Using Boundary Discontinuity Regressions’ (with S. Gibbons and S. Machin); SERC DP 0018, 2009 (submitted).

Research in Progress and Research Projects

‘Are Homeowners More Entrepreneurial?’ (with P. Bracke and C. Hilber); research-in-progress, 2009 (SERC-related project).

‘Entrepreneurship in England: Exploring the Origins of Spatial Disparities and their Consequences’; research-in-progress, 2009 (SERC-related project).

‘Homeownership and Social Capital: An Exploration Across European Countries and Institutions’ (with C. Hilber); research-in-progress, 2009 (SERC-related project).

‘Neighbourhood Quality and Educational Achievements in England’ (with S. Gibbons and F. Weinhardt); research-in-progress, 2009 (SERC-related project).

‘School Admissions Systems’ (with S. Gibbons and A. West); research project (CEP-related project).

‘School Governance in England’ (with S. Gibbons and S. Machin); research project (CEP-related project).

Selected Policy Reports and Non-Academic Articles

‘What Works in Primary Schools?’, *Centrepiece*, vol. 14(1), Spring 2009.

‘Targeting Pupils at Risk of Exclusion: An Evaluation of the xl Club Programme’ (with H. Holmlund), Report to The Prince’s Trust, June 2008.

‘The Effectiveness of Primary Education’, in C. Beria di Argentine (ed.), *SISTEMI EDUCATIVE E CAPITALE UMANO*, Atti del Congresso, 22-23 June 2007, Milano, Giuffrè Editore, 2007 (updated as IZA PP 5, 2009).

‘In Brief: Faith Primary Schools: Better Schools or Better Pupils?’ (with S. Gibbons), *Centrepiece*, vol. 12(1), Summer 2007.

‘Computers in Schools – New Technology in Schools: Is There a Payoff?’ (with S. Machin and S. McNally), *Vox* (<http://www.voxeu.org/>), December 2007.

‘The Educational Impact of Parental Choice and School Competition’ (with S. Gibbons and S. Machin), *Centrepiece*, vol.11(3), Winter 2006/2007 (lead article).

‘New Technology in Schools: Is There a Payoff?’ (with S. Machin and S. McNally), *Centrepiece*, vol.11(1), Summer 2006.

‘An Evaluation of the Impact of Aimhigher: Excellence Challenge Using the Labour Force Survey’ (with C. Emmerson, C. Frayne and S. McNally), Department for Education and Skills (DfES), Research Report RR813, 2006.

‘Evaluation of Aimhigher:Excellence Challenge – The Early Impact of Aimhigher on Pre-16 Outcomes: an Economic Evaluation’ (with C. Emmerson, C. Frayne and S. McNally), DfES Research Report RR652, 2005.

Fellowships and Grants

02/04-08/04 ENTER-Marie Curie Fellowship, UCL, London.

09/01-01/04 Italian Government Fellowship, PhD Program, EUI, Florence.

09/00-06/01 Fondazione Invernizzi Fellowship, MSc Program, Bocconi University, Milan.

01/99-07/99 Erasmus Fellowship for Visiting Students, IEP, Paris.

ESRC funded Centre for Economic Performance Education (CEP), 2010-2015; co-applicant for education-related projects within core funding (with J. Van Reenen, S. Machin and others): £6.08m total.

BERR/CLG/ESRC/WAG funded Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC), 2008-2010; co-applicant for core-funding (with H. Overman and others): £2.87m total.

Evaluation of the xl Clubs, The Prince’s Trust, London; principal investigator (with H. Holmlund): £24,375.

Teaching

2008-present ‘Applied Location and Spatial Analysis’; 3rd Year Undergraduate Course.

2007-present ‘Real Estate Finance’; Master Programme Course.

2007 only ‘Applied Urban and Regional Economics’; Master Programme Course.

2006-present ‘Theories of Regional Development and Change’; 3rd Year Undergraduate Course.

PhD Students (second supervisor)

Jose-Maria Casado Garcia (*Consumption Inequalities, Envy and Neighbourhood Effects*); Phil Wales (*Human Capital, Industrial Structure and the Economic Performance of UK Regions*); Felix Weinhardt (*Externalities and Spatial Inequalities in Education*).

Recent Conferences and Seminars

Speaker at conferences: *SOLE Annual Conference 2009 (Boston)*; *CEPR Research Network 'The Economics of Education and Education Policy in Europe' Annual Conference 2009 (London), 2007 (Madrid), 2006 (Padua), 2005 (Uppsala) and 2004 (Amsterdam)*; *IZA-SOLE Transatlantic Conference, 2008 (Buch/Ammresee)*; *EALE Annual Conference 2006 (Prague) and 2004 (Lisboa)*; *WPEG Annual Conference 2006 (Canterbury)*; *EEA Annual Conference 2005 (Amsterdam)*; *ESSLE-IZA 2005 and 2004 (Buch/Ammresee)*.

Speaker in seminars: *BeNA/DIW (Berlin)*, *Catholic University of Milan*, *CEP London School of Economics*, *CPB (The Hague)*, *University of Essex*, *EUI (Florence)*, *HECER (Helsinki)*, *IZA (Bonn)*, *University of Leicester*, *Policy Study Institute (PSI, London)*, *University of Reading*, *Tinbergen Institute (Amsterdam)* and *University College London*.

Seminar series co-organizer: 'Urban and Regional Economics', hosted by the Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC), London School of Economics (joint with Christian Hilber and Henry Overman).

Conference organizer: 'The Educational impact of School Competition and Choice'; Department for Education and Skills, London; May 2006.

Referee Activities

Referee for: *Applied Economics*; *Economic Development and Cultural Change*; *Economic Journal*; *Environment and Planning A*; *Journal of Labor Economics*; *Journal of Economic Geography*; *Journal of Population Economics*; *Journal of Public Economics*; *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*; *Journal of Urban Economics*; *Labour Economics*; *LABOUR: Review of Labour Economics and Industrial Relations*; *Regional Studies*; *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*; *Small Business Economics*; *World Development*.

Scientific Committee (paper selection), ASSET Annual Conference, 2008; EUI (Florence).

Selected Media Coverage

Articles/research featured in: *BBC News*, *Daily Mail*, *The Evening Standard*, *The Guardian*, *National Secular Society*, *The Economist*, *The Independent*, *Telegraph* and *Times Educational Supplement*.

Language Skills

Italian (native), English (fluent), French (good), Spanish (basic).
