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Curriculum Vitae Spring 2007

FABRIZIO COLONNA

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Major Fields of Concentration

Labor Economics, Econometrics, Growth

Education

<i>Degree</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Year</i>
Ph.D.	Economics	University of Minnesota (expected)	2008
Ph.D.	Economics	Universita' Tor Vergata di Roma (expected)	2008
M.A.	Economics	Universita' Tor Vergata di Roma	2002
B.A.	Economics	Universita Roma 3	2001

Dissertation

Title: "Essays on Labor Markets"

Dissertation Advisor: Professor Zvi Eckstein

Expected Completion: Summer 2008

Prelims Passed: Labor Economics, Industrial Organization, Econometrics, Growth and Development

References

Professor Zvi Eckstein

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Honors and Awards

- 2006 *Distinguished Instructor Award*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.
2002 *M.A. Scholarship*, Università degli studi di Tor Vergata,
1999-2000 *Erasmus Fellowship*, Universidad de Salamanca, Salamanca

Teaching Experience

- 2004-Present *Instructor*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
Taught International Economics, International Trade, Intermediate Microeconomics,
Managerial Economics
2003-2004 *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis,
Minnesota. Led recitation sections for *Principles of Microeconomics*, and *Principles of*
Macroeconomics

Research Experience

- 2004-2006 *Research Assistant* for Prof. Julia Thomas
2004-2006 *Visiting Scholar*, Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Minneapolis,
Minnesota.

Papers

(Papers can be downloaded from <http://www.econ.umn.edu/~fabrizio/research.html>.)

“Labor Market Institutions and College choice: Italy vs US” University of Minnesota, mimeo.

“European Union Membership, labor disputes and employment protection” University of Minnesota, mimeo

“Technological Innovation: Willing to gain or Scared to lose?” in progress

“Determinants of Geographical (Im)Mobility in the Italian Market”, with Stefania Marcassa, in progress

Computer Skills

Fortran, Matlab, Stata

Languages

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

Dissertation Abstract**Essay 1: Labor market and Schooling Choice: Italy vs US (JOB MARKET PAPER)**

The aim of this paper is to study the effect of labor market institutions on schooling choice. I introduce college decision in a search on-the-job model, where wage offers distribution depends on workers' innate ability and schooling level. The interaction between workers' heterogeneous abilities and labor market structure endogenously determine both college wage premium and college decisions. As in the classical search on-the-job model, higher labor mobility and higher wage dispersion increase workers' probability to reach the right tail of the wage distribution. This provide agents with a larger incentive to shift wage distribution to the right by attending school. The model fits US and Italian data, two countries that present wide differences in educational achievements. Specifically, the US presents a larger college premium, higher enrollment and graduation rates in college. I find that the labor markets in US and Italy differ significantly in two dimensions. The US is characterized by i) higher job mobility and ii) higher return of innate ability. The former accounts for around 30% of the different enrollment and graduation rates. The latter rises the observed college premium in US above Italy, despite the effect of schooling on wage being higher in Italy, and can account for almost 50% of differences in educational attainment.

Essay 2: European Union Membership, labor disputes and employment protection

This paper develops a model of voluntary union membership, where unions provide excludable employment protection to members, by supporting them in case of dismissal conflicts and enforcing higher firing costs. In Europe, where closed shops are exceptional and often unconstitutional, membership rates significantly vary across countries.

When calibrated to match the features of labor markets in different European countries, the model is able to account for both heterogeneity of membership rates across Europe and the pattern of (de)unionization observed in the 90s. Specifically I find that membership rates i) are low in countries where public employment protection is stronger, and/or available to a wider fraction of workers; ii) decrease when low unemployment duration reduces the welfare loss of a dismissal.