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MAURICIO ESTEBAN BUCCA OLEA

[mebucca@uc.cl](mailto:mebucca@uc.cl) | [mebucca.github.io](https://mebucca.github.io)

Avenida Vicuña Mackenna 4860, Casilla 306, Correo 22, Macul,  
Santiago

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BIO

I am an Assistant Professor in Sociology at the Universidad Católica de Chile. Previously, I was a Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow at the European University Institute and I earned a Ph.D. in Sociology from Cornell University. I study labor market inequalities, intergenerational mobility, and beliefs about inequality using a combination of statistical modeling, empirical strategies for causal inference, experimental and computational methods. I also serve as Associate Editor of Research in Social Stratification and Mobility.

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EDUCATION

2018            Ph.D. in Sociology, Cornell University, United States  
                  Ph.D. Minor in Applied Statistics  
                  Committee: Kim Weeden (chair), Kendra Bischoff, Vida  
                  Maralani, Martin Wells (Statistics)

2016            Master of Arts in Sociology, Cornell University,  
United States

2009            Master's in Sociology, Pontificia Universidad

Católica de Chile

2007 Bachelor's Degree in Sociology, Pontificia  
Universidad Católica de Chile  
Professional Sociologist Title  
Minor in Philosophy

#### PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

2010-2011 Analyst, Ministerio Secretaría General de la  
Presidencia (General Secretariat of the Presidency Ministry),  
Government of Chile

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#### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Intergenerational mobility, social inequality, assortative  
mating, beliefs about inequality, quantitative methods for  
policy analysis

#### PUBLISHED ARTICLES

- Robles, A., Pesando, L.M., Abufhele, A., Bucca, M., Urbina,  
D.R. (2024). Marrying across Borders in Latin America:  
Visualizing Intermarriage Flows. *Socius* (IF: 2.0), 10.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231241290679>
- Bucca, M. (2024). Colorism Revisited: The Effects of Skin  
Color on Educational and Labor Market Outcomes in the United  
States. *Sociological Science* (IF: 2.1), 11. <https://doi.org/10.15195/v11.a19>
- Bucca, M., Drouhot, L.G. (2024). Intergenerational Social  
Mobility Among the Children of Immigrants in Western Europe:

- Between Socioeconomic Assimilation and Disadvantage. *Sociological Science* (IF: 2.1), 11. <https://doi.org/10.15195/v11.a18>
- Bucca, M. (2024). Are Within-Racial Group Inequalities by Skin Color Really Greater Than Inequalities Between Racial Groups in the United States? *Socius* (IF: 2.0), 10. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231241259656>
  - Bucca, M., Urbina, D.R. (2021). Lasso Regularization for Selection of Log-Linear Models: An Application to Educational Assortative Mating. *Sociological Methods & Research* (IF: 6.5), 50(4). <https://doi.org/10.1177/0049124119826154>  
Award: American Sociological Association Methodology's Clifford Clogg Award
  - Weeden, K.A., Cha, Y., Bucca, M. (2016). Long Work Hours, Part-Time Work, and Trends in the Gender Gap in Pay, the Motherhood Wage Penalty, and the Fatherhood Wage Premium. *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* (IF: 3.9), 2(4). <https://doi.org/10.7758/rsf.2016.2.4.03>  
Media coverage: New York Times
  - Bucca, M. (2020). Heatmaps for Patterns of Association in Log-Linear Models. *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* (IF: 2.0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/2378023119899219>
  - Molina, M.D., Bucca, M., Macy, M.W. (2019). It's Not Just How the Game is Played, It's Whether You Win or Lose. *Science Advances* (IF: 12.5), 5(7). <https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.aau1156>  
Media coverage: New York Times, Washington Post, New Scientist, Science Daily, Cornell Chronicle, De Correspondent, Esquire

- Bucca, M. (2016). Merit and Blame in Unequal Societies: Explaining Latin Americans' Beliefs about Wealth and Poverty. *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* (IF: 2.0), 44. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rssm.2016.02.005>

#### ONGOING RESEARCH

- Linking Absolute and Relative Mobility: A Tractable Framework, a Decomposition Method, and an Application to Black-White Mobility Differences  
Status: Under Review at *Sociological Methods and Research*  
Media coverage: *Tercera Dosis*
- People Reject Unfairness but Normalize Inequality (with Mario D. Molina)  
Status: Under Review at *Nature*  
Media coverage: *Diario El País*
- High Migration yet Low Intermarriage: Tracing Demographic Profiles of Latin America's Cross-Border Unions (with Robles, A., Pesando, L.M., Abufhele, A., Urbina, D.R.)  
Status: Under Review at *International Migration Review*
- Class-Based Name Giving Patterns in 20th Century Chile (with Mario Molina, Luca Pesando, Roberto Cantillán)  
Status: Working paper  
Media coverage: *Radio Bío Bío*
- Black-White Differences in Intergenerational Mobility in the U.S.: Evidence from Heterogeneous Sibling Correlations  
Status: Working paper
- Once in a Blue Moon: Barriers to Intermarriage among Second-Generation Muslims in France (with Lucas Drouhot)

Status: Working paper

- Educational Assortative Marriage and Income Inequality among Black and White Families in the U.S., 1976–2017

Status: Working paper

- Intersectional Dynamics of Intermarriage and Migration in Latin America (with Luca Pesando, Alejandra Abufhele, Daniela Urbina)

Status: In preparation

- The Impact of Air Pollution and Extreme Weather on Educational Achievement by SES in Chilean Schools (with Risto Conte)

Status: In preparation

- Intergenerational Mobility and Occupational Plans (with Kim Weeden)

Status: In preparation

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

2026 Fondecyt Regular - New Approaches to the Study of Social Mobility: Expanding Theory, Data, and Methods

2022-2025 Núcleos de Ciencias Sociales - Millennium Nucleus for Labor Market Mismatch: Causes and Consequences (Principal Investigator)

2022-2025 Fondecyt Iniciación - Inequality of Outcomes and Opportunity and Its Effects on the Legitimacy of Inequality and Social Cohesion (Principal Investigator)

2018 Max Weber Fellowship, European University Institute (EUI)

2010 Beca Chile Doctorado, Fondecyt, Agencia Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo (ANID), Government of Chile

2010 Fulbright Equal Opportunities Scholarship, Fondecyt,

ANID, Government of Chile, Fulbright Commission

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025 "Why Do Some Groups Experience More Mobility than Others?" COES The Future of Social Mobility Conference, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

"Why Do Some Groups Experience More Mobility than Others?" International Conference LM2C2, Núcleo Milenio LM2C2

"People Reject Unfairness but Normalize Inequality." ECSR Annual Conference, University of Cologne

"Class-Based Name Giving Patterns in 20th Century Chile." Sociological Science Conference, Cornell University

2024 "People Reject Unfairness but Normalize Inequality." ISUC Colloquium, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

"People Reject Unfairness but Normalize Inequality." Sixth Annual Conference on Experimental Sociology, Università di Torino

"Class-Based Name Giving Patterns in 20th Century Chile." Chilean Congress of Sociology, Universidad Alberto Hurtado

2023 "People Reject Unfairness but Normalize Inequality." School of Government Colloquium, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez

"Workflow: Best Practices for Efficient and Reproducible Data Work." Invited Speaker, Centre for Demographic Studies, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

"Once in a Blue Moon: Barriers to Intermarriage among Second-Generation Muslims in France?" Invited Speaker, Social Research and Public Policy Cluster,

New York University Abu-Dhabi

"Online Experiments in the Social Sciences." Keynote Speaker, Summer Institute in Computational Social Science

"Inequality of Opportunity and Outcomes, and Its Effects on the Legitimacy of Inequality and Social Cohesion." Workshop on Experiments on Social Inequality

2022 "White-Black Differences in Intergenerational Transmission: Modeling Heterogeneity in Sibling Correlation in Income." Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, USA (presented twice)

"Educational Assortative Mating and Income Inequality among Black and White Families in the US, 1976-2016." Population Association of America Annual Meeting

"Once in a Blue Moon: Barriers to Intermarriage among Second-Generation Muslims in France?" Population Association of America Annual Meeting

"Inequality of Opportunity and Outcomes, and Its Effects on the Legitimacy of Inequality and Social Cohesion." Annual Meeting of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists

"Inequality of Opportunity and Outcomes, and Its Effects on the Legitimacy of Inequality and Social Cohesion." Summer Institute of Computational Social Science

"How Adolescent Plans Affect Social Mobility: A Declarative Social Mobility Framework." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

2021 "Intergenerational Social Mobility Among the Second Generation in Europe." CLIC Research Centre

"Colorism Revisited: The Effects of Skin Color on Educational and Labor Market Outcomes in the United

States." Population Association of America Annual Meeting

"Once in a Blue Moon: Barriers to Intermarriage among Second-Generation Muslims in France?" American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

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## TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

### Undergraduate Teaching

2023-2025 Data Analysis II, SOL114  
2024 Sociology of Inequality, SOL186S  
2022 Sociology of Inequality, SOL186S  
2010 Formation and Development of Modern Society, SOL102S  
2009 Sociology of Rationalization, SOL130T  
Formation and Development of Modern Society, SOL102S  
(2 sections)

### Graduate Teaching

2020-2025 Categorical Data Analysis, SOL3070  
Thesis Seminar, SOL3080  
Thesis, SOL3081  
2024 Social Stratification, SOL3016  
2021-2023 Doctoral Thesis I, SOL3093  
2021-2022 Doctoral Thesis II, SOL3094  
Annual Follow-up Activity I, SOL3086  
2020-2022 Doctoral Thesis Project II, SOL3091  
Candidacy Exam, SOL3092  
2022 Doctoral Thesis III, SOL3095  
Doctoral Thesis IV, SOL3096  
Annual Follow-up Activity II, SOL3087

## Other Teaching

2019 Workshop on Simulation and Resampling Methods for Inference and Hypothesis Testing, Graduate Academy of the University of Lucerne, Switzerland  
2019 Introduction to Quantitative Methods, Part-time Professor, SPS Department, European University Institute, Italy  
2019 SPS Summer Academy, European University Institute, Italy  
2009-2011, Event History Analysis, Teaching Assistant, Cornell University, United States  
2015

## Completed Master's Thesis Supervision

2022-2024 Rebeca Orellana, Master's in Sociology  
"Citizen populist discourse during the Chilean social outburst"  
2022-2024 Diego Olivares, Master's in Sociology  
"Globalization or Glocalization? A case study of music consumption trends on the Spotify platform at the country level"  
2020-2023 Matias Urra, Master's in Sociology  
"Effect of economic insecurity on satisfaction with democracy in Chile (1995-2018)"  
2020-2023 David García, Master's in Sociology  
"Effects of Socioeconomic Status of origin and academic competencies of school students on their Transition from Secondary Education to Higher Education"

## Master's Thesis Committee Participation

2022-2026 Karina Maldonado

2024-2025 Alonso Gonzalo Quintero Contreras  
2023-2025 Catalina Belén Alarcón Barbe  
Josefina Teresa Manns Soto  
2022-2024 Cristobal Karle  
Constanza Cabrera  
2021-2023 Eleonora Jotz  
Natalia Yañez  
2020-2023 Martín Aranzaes  
2019-2023 Lya Rogers  
2019-2022 Marlene Rivas  
2018, 2021 Gregorio Hernandez  
William Baeza

Doctoral Dissertation Direction

2019-2025 Roberto Velásquez, Ph.D. in Sociology (Completed)  
"The Art of Worth: An Empirically-Based Theory of  
Artistic Value, Tastemakers,  
and Network Dynamics in Chile"  
2023-Present Marlene Rivas, Ph.D. in Sociology  
"Equalization, Compensation, or Compounding of Social  
Origin (Dis)advantages:  
Effects of a Preferential School Subsidy Policy on  
Educational Outcomes and Transitions"  
2022-Present Roberto Cantillán, Ph.D. in Sociology  
"Structurally Conditioned Diffusion Reproduces  
Skills-Based Stratification"  
2021-Present Matías Gomez, Ph.D. in Sociology  
"Household Debt and Protest Dynamics in Chile"  
2021 Guillermo Beck

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## SERVICE TO THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

### Editorial Committees and Peer Review

2026-Present Associate Editor, Research in Social Stratification and Mobility

Reviewer American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, International Migration Review, Sociology of Education, Work & Occupations, Sociological Science, Sociological Methods and Research, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A, Social Science Research, Research in Social Stratification and Mobility, Acta Sociologica, Population Research and Policy Review, Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, European Sociological Review

Evaluator ANID (National Agency for Research and Development) Memberships RC28, American Sociological Association (ASA), Population Association of America (PAA)

2023-Present Expert, Inclusive Policy Lab, UNESCO

2024-Present Social Programs Evaluation Expert, Budget Office, Government of Chile

### Service at UC and Organization of Academic Events

2025-2027 Faculty Representative, Academic Council, Institute of Sociology

2023-2025 Faculty Representative, Academic Council, Institute of Sociology

2025-2026 Member, School Director Search Committee, Sociology

2024-2025 Academic Pastoral Advisor

2022-Present Director, "Quantitative and Computational Social Science Research Group" Laboratory

2020-Present Teaching open workshops on research techniques and methods

Development of the methodological section of the undergraduate degree exam (twice per year)

2020-2024 Diploma in Data Analysis for the Social Sciences  
using R  
2026 Creation: Minor in Computational Social Sciences  
2025 Hosting academic visit of Prof. Daniela Urbina  
(University of Southern California)  
2024 FONDEDOC: Redesign of the Undergraduate Degree Exam  
in Sociology (Collaborator)  
Hosting academic visit of Risto Conte (Max Planck  
Institute of Demographic Research)  
International Conference Núcleo Milenio LM2C2 2024  
2023 Head of the Diploma Program in Webscraping and Web  
Data Access  
2022 Redesign: Sociology (methodological line)  
2021 Update: Probability and Inference in Social  
Statistics  
Hosting academic visit of Professor Paola Tubaro  
2020 Update: Categorical Data Analysis  
Workshop on Inequality and Social Stratification  
Workshop "Multidisciplinary Research Workshop on  
Inequality and Discrimination"

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## LANGUAGES

Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), Italian (Fluent)

## REFERENCES

Kim Weeden

Jan Rock Zubrow '77 Professor

Department of Sociology, Cornell University, USA

+1 (607) 254-4904  
kw74@cornell.edu

Fabrizio Bernardi  
Professor of Sociology  
SPS Department (Head), European University Institute, Italy  
+39 (055) 4685-316/3491  
fabrizio.bernardi@eui.eu

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