Vicente Guerra

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Interests

Political Economy, Economic History, Econometrics, Machine Learning

Education

2023– **University of British Columbia** — Ph.D. in Economics

2021–2023 **Stanford University** — SIEPR Predoctoral Research Fellow (GPA: 3.91/4.0)

Fall 2018 **Stockholm School of Economics** — MSc Exchange Student, Business & Economics

2014–2020 **Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México**
B.A. Law (Top 1%, 9.46/10) | B.A. Economics (Top 2%, 9.23/10)

Research

I work on a computational political economy of values — using NLP, causal inference, and dynamical-systems methods to study how moral norms emerge, contest each other, and shape policy.

Publications

- "International Evidence on Happiness and Social Media," with John F. Helliwell, Lara B. Aknin, Haifang Huang, Mariano Rojas, Shun Wang, and Adam Danyluk. Chapter 2 in *World Happiness Report 2026*. University of Oxford: Wellbeing Research Centre, 2026.

Under Review

- "Social Media and Well-Being Across Latin America," with John F. Helliwell. *Under review.*

Working Papers

- "Belief Measurement in Elite Speech"
- "Political and Economic Spillover Effects of Brain Drain in Developing Countries: The Case of Mexico"

Undergraduate Thesis

- "Are All Same-Sex Marriage Rights Created Equal? Homophobia and Labor Market Segregation from Heterogeneities in Same-Sex Marriage Legalization" (2022). *B.A. Economics, ITAM.*

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

2023–2024 Oskar Morgenstern Fellowship, Mercatus Center, George Mason University
2022 ExITAM Research Prize (Honorary Mention), Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México
2015–2017 Academic Excellence Scholarship, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México

Research Grants

"Political and Economic Spillover Effects of Brain Drain in Developing Countries"
2023 *Institute for Humane Studies* — $5,000

Research Experience

University of British Columbia
2025–2026 Research Assistant to John F. Helliwell (Professor Emeritus, OC, FRSC)

Stanford University
2021–2023 Predoctoral Research Fellow to Guido Imbens, Colleen Honigsberg, and Rebecca Lester at SIEPR

Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México
2019–2020 Research Assistant to Joyce Sadka and Andrei Gomberg (Center for Economic Research)
2018 Research Assistant to Ana Micaela Alterio (Law Department)

Teaching Experience

University of British Columbia

2025–2026 Teaching Assistant, ECON 333: Economic History of Europe (Prof. Mauricio Drelichman)

2025–2026 Teaching Assistant, ECON 241: Introduction to Global Development (Prof. Amartya Lahiri)

Selected Graduate Coursework

Stanford ECON 202 *Microeconomics I* (I. Segal & R. Jagadeesan) • ECON 241 *Public Economics I* (C. M. Hoxby) • ECON 247 *Labor Economics II* (N. Bloom) • ECON 272 *Methods for Applied Econometrics* (G. Imbens) • ECON 291 *Social and Economic Networks* (M. Jackson) • POLECON 683 *Political Development Economics* (S. Jha)

UBC Y1 ECON 600 *Microeconomics I* • ECON 601 *Microeconomics II* • ECON 602 *Macroeconomics I* • ECON 603 *Macroeconomics II* • ECON 626 *Econometric Theory I* • ECON 627 *Econometric Theory II*

UBC Y2 ECON 628 *Applied Econometrics* (S. Norris & R. Saggio) • ECON 629 *Advanced Econometrics* (V. Marmer) • ECON 517 *Comparing Societies* (N. Nunn with J. Moscona & J. A. Robinson) • ECON 531 *Economic History I* (N. Nunn) • CPSC 532Z *Physics-Informed AI* (P. Y. Chen) • CPSC 550 *Advanced Machine Learning* (D. Sutherland)

Languages and Skills

Spanish (native), English (advanced)

Programming: Python, R, Stata, SQL, LaTeX, Git

Machine learning & NLP: PyTorch, scikit-learn, Hugging Face Transformers, sentence-transformers, spaCy

Data engineering: HPC (SLURM), Docker, web data collection (Selenium), geospatial analysis (GeoPandas)

Methods: causal inference (DiD, IV, synthetic controls, double/debiased ML); large-scale text analysis and embedding pipelines; record linkage and entity resolution; matrix and tensor completion.