

Francisco Eslava Sáenz

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🐦 Feslavas

Employment

2025–Present **Post-doctoral fellow**, Geneva Graduate Institute, Geneva, Switzerland.

Education

2018–2025 **Ph.D. Economics**, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

2013–2015 **M.A. Economics**, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.

2009–2013 **B.A. Economics**, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.

Fields of Interest

Economic Development, Political Economy, Economic History.

Professional Experience

2019–Present **Vancouver School of Economics (VSE)**, *Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant*.

Supervisors: Siwan Anderson, Claudio Ferraz, Nathan Nunn, Felipe Valencia-Caicedo

2013–2018 **Center for Development Studies (CEDE)**, *Research and Teaching Assistant*, Economics Department, Universidad de los Andes.

Supervisors: Leopoldo Fergusson, Marcela Eslava

Professional References

Dr. Siwan Anderson. Contact: siwan.anderson@ubc.ca

Dr. Claudio Ferraz. Contact: claudio.ferraz@ubc.ca

Dr. Nathan Nunn. Contact: nathan.nunn@ubc.ca

Dr. Felipe Valencia Caicedo. Contact: felipe.valencia@ubc.ca

Publications

Articles

“Campaign Finance and Welfare when Contributions Are Spent on Mobilizing Voters”, with Oskar Nupia (2021). *Social Choice and Welfare*, Vol. 58, 2021, pp. 589-618.

“The Origins of Latin American Inequality”, with Felipe Valencia-Caicedo (2023). *Prepared for the “Latin American and Caribbean Inequality Review”*.

Book chapters

“Politics and Reconciliation: A Critical Juncture for State Building” in *Colombia in Motion 2010 - 2013 - 2016*, Castano, LM (comp), Bogotá, Ediciones Uniandes. With Leopoldo Fergusson and Andres Moya.

Working papers

“Conflict and Female Leaders: Evidence from Colombia” (2024).

“The Spanish Legacy in the US Southwest”, with Felipe Valencia-Caicedo (2023).
“Indigenous Governance and Economic Wellbeing: Evidence from Mexico” (2024).

Teaching Experience

University of British Columbia

- Winter 2023 **Teaching Assistant**, Comparing Societies (graduate - joint with the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy).
- Winter 2024 **Teaching Assistant**, Political Economy II (graduate).
- Fall 2023 **Teaching Assistant**, Seminar in Applied Economics (undergraduate).
- Winter 2023 **Teaching Assistant**, Political Economy II (graduate).
- Fall 2022 **Teaching Assistant**, Introduction to Research (undergraduate).
- Winter 2022 **Teaching Assistant**, Seminar in Applied International Economics (undergraduate).
- Fall 2021 **Teaching Assistant**, European Economic History (undergraduate).
- Winter 2020/21 **Teaching Assistant**, Political Economy (undergraduate).
- Summer 2021 **Teaching Assistant**, Economics of non-renewable resources (undergraduate).
- Fall 2020 **Teaching Assistant**, Canadian Economic History (undergraduate).
- Fall 2019 **Teaching Assistant**, Introduction to Empirical Methods (undergraduate).

Universidad de los Andes

- Summer 2020 **Lecturer**, Game Theory (undergraduate).
- Summer 2019 **Lecturer**, Advanced microeconomics (undergraduate).
- 2013-2018 **Teaching Assistant**, Advanced microeconomics, Game Theory, Introductory Macroeconomics (undergraduate), and Empirical Political Economy (graduate).

Honors, Awards and Grants

- 2024 Stone Centre on Wealth and Economic Inequality Fellowship
- 2023 PhD research grant - Association for the Study of Economics, Religion and Culture (ASREC)
- 2022 Small Grants in Innovative Data (joint with Professor Felipe Valencia-Caicedo) - Centre for Innovative Data in Economics Research (CIDER) - University of British Columbia
- 2021 Best Second Year Paper Award - University of British Columbia
- 2020 Small Grants in Innovative Data (joint with Professor Claudio Ferraz) - Centre for Innovative Data in Economics Research (CIDER) - University of British Columbia
- 2020 – 2022 President’s Academic Excellence Initiative - University of British Columbia
- 2020 – 2022 Faculty of Arts Graduate Award - University of British Columbia
- 2018 – Today International Student Tuition Award - University of British Columbia
- 2018 A D Scott Fellowship in Economics - University of British Columbia

Conferences and Seminars

- 2025 Association for Economic Research of Indigenous Peoples (AEIRP – at the ASSA meetings)*

- 2024 NBER Gender in the Economy, Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics (SIOE)
- 2023 Research Institute for Development, Growth and Economics (RIDGE)
- 2022 NBER Gender in the Economy Summer Institute (participant), Applied Young Economists Webinar (AYEW), Trans-Atlantic Doctoral Conference at London Business School (TDC), VSE Development and Political Economy Brown Bag.
- 2021 NBER Economics of National Security Summer Institute, CEPR Workshop on Development, UCLA Politics of Development Lab, Canadian Economic Association Summer Meetings (CEA), Globalization and Development (GLAD), Empirical Studies on Conflict (ESOC), VSE Persistence and Culture Lab, VSE Development and Political Economy Brown Bag, American Political Science Association Meetings (APSA), Research Institute for Development, Growth and Economics (RIDGE), Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA).
- 2020 North-East Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC), VSE Development and Political Economy Brown Bag.

Professional Service

- Referee The Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Latin American Economic Review, Studies in Comparative International Development, Inter-American Development Bank, Economic Systems.
- Co-organizer VSE's informal Economic History Seminar Series.

Computer skills

- Advanced Stata, \LaTeX , QGIS, R
- Basic Python, Matlab

Languages

- Native Spanish
- Fluent English
- intermediate French
- Basic Italian, Portuguese