

Universidad de los Andes, Economía  
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# Leopoldo Fergusson

## Current Position

2011- Assistant Professor of Economics, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

## Education

2011 Ph.D. Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
2003 M.A. Economics, *honors*, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia  
2002 B.A. Economics, *magna cum laude*, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

## Experience

2005-07/10/11 Invited Lecturer, Department of Economics, Universidad de los Andes  
2010/11 Invited Scholar, Department of Economics, Universidad del Rosario  
2002-2005 Professor-Instructor, Department of Economics and Center for Studies in Economic Development (CEDE), Universidad de los Andes  
2001-2002 Junior Researcher and Analyst, Department of Economic Research, Central Bank of Colombia

## Research and Teaching Fields

Political Economy, Development Economics, Economic History, Fiscal Theory and Policy

## Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

2011 Bok Center Teaching Awards, Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Teaching Fellow, Course Gov 2006  
2010 George and Obie Schultz Fund Grant, "Words versus Bullets: Media and Democracy with Coercion," MIT, Economics  
2005 Lauchlin Currie Prize, Central Bank of Colombia Scholarship on doctoral studies  
2003 Juan Luis Londoño Prize, M.A. Thesis, Universidad de los Andes  
2000/01 Ramón de Zubiría Scholarship, Universidad de los Andes, Economics  
1999 Excelencia Académica Scholarship, Universidad de los Andes, Economics

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## Publications

### Books

- 2010 *Política Fiscal: Un Enfoque de Tributación Óptima*, (Fiscal Policy: An Optimal Taxation Approach) with Gustavo Suárez, Bogotá, Ediciones Uniandes

### Chapters in Books

- 2009 ¿Quién Manda Sobre las Cuentas Públicas? (Who Decides on Public Expenditures?) by Juan Carlos Echeverry with Jorge Alexander Bonilla, Andrés Clavijo, Andrés Moya, Verónica Navas and Pablo Querubín, Ediciones Uniandes, Bogotá

### Papers

- 2006 “Institutions for Financial Development: What are They and Where do They Come From?” *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 20 (1): 27-70
- 2004 “Impuestos, Crecimiento Económico y Bienestar en Colombia (1970-1999)” (Taxation, Welfare and Growth in Colombia (1970-1999)), *Desarrollo y Sociedad*, 52: 145-204.
- 2003 “‘Dollar’ Debt in Colombian Firms: Are Sinners Punished During Devaluations?”, with Juan Carlos Echeverry, Roberto Steiner and Camila Aguilar, *Emerging Markets Review*, 4(4): 417-449.

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## Research Papers and Work in Progress

“The Political Economy of Rural Property Rights and the Persistence of the Dual Economy” (revise and resubmit, *Journal of Development Economics*)

“He Who Counts Elects: Determinants of Fraud in the 1922 Colombian Presidential Election,” with Isaías N. Chaves and James A. Robinson, NBER Working Paper No. 15127, July 2009 (revise and resubmit, *American Political Science Review*)

“Media Markets, Special Interests, and Voters”

“Population and Social Conflict,” with Daron Acemoglu and Simon Johnson

“The Need for Enemies,” with James Robinson, Ragnar Torvik, and Juan Fernando Vargas

“The Rich-poor Divide, Within-groups Inequality and Armed Conflict,” with Juan Fernando Vargas

“Words versus Bullets: Media and Democracy with Coercion,” with Mauricio Vela and Juan Fernando Vargas

“Don’t Make War, Make Elections: Franchise Extensions and Violence in XIXth Century Colombia,” with Diana Salazar, Juan Fernando Vargas, and Giselle Vesga

“High-powered Incentives in Weakly-Institutionalized Environments,” with Daron Acemoglu, James Robinson, and Juan Fernando Vargas

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## Teaching

Lecturer at Universidad de los Andes

- 2003-05/11 Political Economy of Economic Policy, with Pablo Querubín
- 2011 Fiscal Theory and Policy

- 2010/11 Latin American Development in the Long Run, with Pablo Querubin and James Robinson, International Summer School
- 2004/05 Macroeconomics I: Intro to Macro
- 2006 Macroeconomics II: Long-run Macro
- 2004/05/07 Macroeconomics III: Short-run Macro, with Gustavo Suárez in Summer 2007
- 2004 Macroeconomics for Non-economists, with Andrés Escobar
  
- Teaching Assistant at Harvard and MIT
- 2011 Formal Political Theory II (graduate), Professor James Robinson
- 2010/11 Microeconomics (undergraduate, Professor Jeffrey Harris)
- 2009 Game Theory & Political Theory (graduate), Professor Jim Snyder
- 2008 Applied Economics for Managers (Sloan Fellows Program), Professor Thomas Stoker
- 2008/09 Microeconomic Theory and Public Policy (undergraduate), Professor Panle Jia and Professor Stephen Ryan

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## Professional Activities

### Conference Presentations

- 2011 X Workshop on Media Economics, New Economic School, Moscow
- 2011 VI International Research Seminar on Social Sciences and Political Studies: Redistribution and Conflict, National University of Colombia
- 2011 Royal Economic Society Annual Meeting
- 2010/11 Midwestern Political Science Association Annual Meetings
- 2003/04/07/09/11 Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association: Annual Meetings
- 2004/10 Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association: Political Economy Group Meeting (discussant)
- 2005 Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean: XVII Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy
- 2003 NBER Inter-American Seminar on Economics

### Refereeing

*American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Coyuntura Económica, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Ensayos Sobre Política Económica, Desarrollo y Sociedad, International Review of Law and Economics, Journal of Institutional Economics*

### Other

- 2011- Academic Committee, Colombian Longitudinal Survey (ELCA), Universidad de los Andes
- 2004- Technical Committee, Ensayos Sobre Política Económica, Journal of the Central Bank of Colombia
- 2005 Contributor to Inter-American Development Bank Economic and Social Progress in Latin America 2005 Report, Unlocking Credit: The Quest for Deep and Stable Bank Lending

2004/05 Revision of the Spanish translations of: Robert E. Lucas, Lectures on Economic Growth; Rudiger Dornbusch, Keys to Prosperity: Free Markets, Sound Money, and a Bit of Luck; and Paul Krugman, The Great Unraveling. Published in Bogotá, Colombia, Grupo Editorial Norma. With Juan Carlos Echeverry and Pablo Querubín