

Javier Rivas

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Employment

- 2025 - present: Professor of Economics, University of Bath (UK).
- 2013 - 2025: Senior Lecturer in Economics, University of Bath (UK).
- 2008 - 2013: Lecturer in Economics, University of Leicester (UK).

Education

- PhD in Economics, European University Institute (Italy), 2004-2008.
- MSc in Economics, European University Institute (Italy), 2004-2005.
- PGC in Academic Practice in Higher Education, University of Leicester (UK) 2009-2010
- BSc in Mathematics, UNED distance learning (Spain), 2009-2013.
- BSc in Economics, Universidad de Alicante (Spain), 2000-2004.

Research Interests

Political Economy, Public Economics, Development Economics, Heath Economics, Economic Theory, Game Theory, Microeconomics.

Publications

Vying for Support: Lobbying a Legislator with Uncertain Preferences, (with A. Go and N. Kokonas) (2026), forthcoming in **Economic Modelling**.

Demographic Interactions of the Last Hunter-Gatherers and the First Farmers, (with A. Cortell-Nicolau, E. Crema, S. Shennan, O. Garcia-Puchol, J. Kolar, R. Staniuk and A. Timpson) (2025), **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)** 122 (14).

Interest Groups, Campaign Contributions and Political Competition (2025), **Social Choice and Welfare** 65, 883-926.

Regime Change and Critical Junctures (2023), **European Journal of Political Economy** 76, 102269.

Extremism, Expressive Voting, and Identity Politics (2021) (with J. Rockey) **European Journal of Political Economy** 67, 101956.

Voter heterogeneity and political corruption (2020) (with E. Aragones and A. Toth), **Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization** 170, 206-221.

Common value elections with private information: experts vs masses when priors are asymmetric (2017) (with F. Mengel), **Games and Economic Behavior** 104, 190-221.

Deliberation, Leadership and Information Aggregation (2017) (with C. Rodríguez-Álvarez), **Manchester School** 85, 395-429.

Cash Incentives and Unhealthy Food Consumption (2017) (with M. Flores), **Bulletin of Economic Research** 69, 42-56.

Private Agenda and Re-election Incentives (2016), **Social Choice and Welfare** 46, (4), 899-915.

Mechanism Design and Bounded Rationality: the Case of Type Misreporting (2015), **Mathematical Social Sciences** 78, 6-13.

Cooperation, Imitation and Partial Rematching (2013), **Games and Economic Behavior** 79, 148-162.

Probability Matching and Reinforcement Learning (2013), **Journal of Mathematical Economics** 49 (1), 17-21.

An Axiomatization of Learning Rules when Counterfactuals are not Observed (2012) (with F. Mengel), **The B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics** 12 (1).

The Effects of the Market Structure on the Adoption of Evolving Technologies (2010), **Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control** 34 (12), 2485-2493.

Friendship Selection (2009), **International Journal of Game Theory** 38 (4), 521-538.

Working Papers

Contests with a Jury, 2025.

Whom to Ask First? A Model of Sequential Consultation (with M. Le Quement and K. Kawamura), 2025.

Voting with Correlated Information, 2024.

Minimax Regret in Practice - Four Examples on Treatment Choice, 2006. (with P. Eozenou and K. Schlag).

General Interest Publications

How human connections shaped the spread of farming among ancient communities (with A. Cortell-Nicolau), **The Conversation** 2025

Expressive voting: the desire of voters to boo parties they dislike has become an important predictor of turnout (with J. Rockey), **LSE British Politics and Policy**, 2021.

Our experiment into how voters think shows that they go with their guts, **The Conversation** 2018.

Subsidies for healthy foods are a price worth paying to tackle obesity, **The Conversation** 2017.

Editorial Work

Editor: BE Journal of Theoretical Economics, 2013-present.

Referee: Journal of Economic Theory, Games and Economic Behavior, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, International Journal of Game Theory, Journal of Public Economic Theory, Mathematical Social Sciences, Journal of Industrial Economics, Economic Modelling, Economics of Governance, GAMES, Computational Economics, SERIEs, Cognition, Learning and Behavior, Journal Socio-Economic Planning Sciences, Expresión Económica, ESRC grants.

Invited Seminars (alphabetical)

European University Institute, Tempe S.A., University of Aberdeen, Universidad de Alicante, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, University of Bath, University of Brunel, University of Cardiff, Universidad Carlos III, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, University of Exeter, Universidad de Granada, Universidad de Guadalajara, University of Leicester, University of Manchester, University of Middlesex, Universidad de Navarra, University of Sheffield, University of Vienna, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Waseda University.

Invited Workshop and Conference Presentations

24th Annual SAET Conference (Ischia, Italy) (2025), The 14th Conference on Economic Design (Essex, UK) (2025), 48th Symposium of the Spanish Economic Association (Salamanca, Spain) (2023), 4th ETH Workshop on Democracy: Theoretical Political Economy (online, Zurich), NICEP Conference 2018 (Nottingham, UK) (2018), 42nd Symposium of the Spanish Economic Association (Barcelona, Spain) (2018), 3rd European University Institute Alumni Conference (Florence, Italy) (2018), 17th SAET Conference on Current Trends in Economics (Faro, Portugal) (2017), Workshop in Economic Theory (Bristol, UK) (2017), 5th World Congress of the Game Theory Society (Maastricht, The Netherlands) (2016), Political Economy: Theory meets Empirics (Bath, UK) (2016), GW4 Game Theory Workshop: Incentives for Conflict and Cooperation (Bristol, UK) (2016), Association of Southern-European Economic Theorists ASSET (Granada, Spain) (2015), 14th Journées Louis-André Gerard-Varet Conference in Public Economics (Aix-en-Provence, France) (2015), Meeting of the European Public Choice Society Conference (Groningen, The Netherlands) (2015), 12th Meeting of the Society for Social Choice and Welfare (Boston, USA) (2014), Erasmus Political Economy Workshop (Rotterdam, The Netherlands) (2014), 24th International Conference on Game Theory at Stony Brook (New York, USA) (2013), 4th World Congress of the Game Theory Society (Istanbul, Turkey) (2012), 26th Annual Congress of the European Economic Association (Oslo, Norway) (2011), 65th European Meeting of the Econometric Society (Oslo, Norway) (2011), Royal Economic Society Annual Conference (London, UK) (2011), 35th Symposium of Economic Analysis (Madrid, Spain) (2010), Association of Southern-European Economic Theorists ASSET (Alicante, Spain) (2010), 10th SAET conference on Current Trends in Economics (Singapore) (2010), Royal Economic Society Annual Conference (Guildford, UK) (2010), 20th International Conference on Game Theory at Stony Brook (New York, USA) (2009), Midlands Game Theory Workshop, University of Manchester (UK) (2009), 32nd Symposium of Economic Analysis (Granada,

Spain) (2007), 22nd Annual Congress of the European Economic Association (Budapest, Hungary) (2007), 62nd European Meeting of the Econometric Society (Budapest, Hungary) (2007), 18th International Conference on Game Theory at Stony Brook (New York, USA) (2007), Minimax Regret and Related Concepts, European University Institute (Florence, Italy) (2006).

Visits

Graduate School of Economics, Waseda University (Japan), November 2025.
Departamento de Fundamentos del Análisis Económico II, Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain), May 2015.
Departamento de Fundamentos del Análisis Económico II, Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain), September 2011 - January 2012.
Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA), August - December 2006.

Student Supervision

Current PhD students:

Connaugh Gratton-Smith, Graham Snell and Isaac Griffin.

Past PhD students:

Anne Marie Go (graduated 2020), Leyla Sayin (graduated 2020), Noha Nagi Elboghdadly (graduated 2020), Di Xiao (graduated 2018) and Alaa Al Khourdajie (graduated 2017).

Past MSc and BSc students:

More than 70 MSc and 70 BSc dissertations supervised on various topics.

Research Funding/Scholarships

Funding for Political Economy UK Group (POLECONUK) (2016-present), £10,000 per year.

The Sasakawa Foundation (2025), £2,000.

National Institute for Public Health in Mexico (INSP) (2020), £20,000.

Giving World Online (GWO) (2013), £12,000.

Santander Travel Grant (2011), £750.

Ministry of Education (Spain), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Spain) and European University Institute. Ph.D. scholarship (2004-2008), fees + £12,000/year subsistence.

European University Institute. US exchange program scholarship (2006-2007), £1,500.

University of Alicante. Honorary mention for undergraduate students (2005) and Research Assistant grant for undergraduate students (2003-2004), £2,000.

Knowledge Exchange

Work on anthropology featured in 38 international outlets (e.g. Science Daily, Yahoo UK, MSN.com) and a reach of 178 million people and media value over £1.6 million.

Work on unhealthy food consumption and sugar taxes featured across 145 news websites, three national newspapers (The Independent, The Daily Mirror), approximately 2.5 million viewers and media value over £40,000.

Research cited by Public Health England, the King's Fund, the Food and Land Use Coalition, and the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Diabetes.

Various interviews with outlets such as BBC, The Economist, Courthouse News, and others.

Leadership and Management

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Departmental Lead (U. of Bath 2023-present).

Member of the Executive Board, Department of Economics (U. of Bath 2014-2017 and 2024-present).

Faculty Board of Studies (U. of Bath 2025-present).

Foundational and Executive member of POLECONUK (2016-present).

Athena SWAN Departmental Silver submission lead (U. of Bath 2023-2025).

Director of Studies BSc Economics and Mathematics (U. of Bath 2021-2024).

Director of Research (U. of Bath 2014-2016).

Deputy Director of the PhD Program (U. of Bath 2013-2015 and 2018-2021, U. of Leicester 2010-2013).

Southwest Doctoral Training Centre Economics Pathway Leader, (U. of Bath 2017-2021).

Departmental Research Committee Member (U. of Bath 2014-2017, 2020-2021).

Open University Validation Program and Open University External Examiner.

Organizer of the 2nd POLECONUK Political Economy Workshop (Bath, 2018).

Organizer of the event "Prof. Daron Acemoglu Honorary Degree Ceremony, Public Lecture and Seminar", University of Bath (2017).

Economic Theory Research Group leader (U. of Bath 2014-2016).

Acting Head of Department (U. of Bath September 2014).

2nd year direct entry and foundation year admissions (U. of Leicester 2010-2013).

Teaching

Strategic Decision Making and Incentives 2025-present, final year undergraduate, University of Bath.

Political Economy 2014-present, final year undergraduate, University of Bath.

Advanced Microeconomics 2020-2025, final year undergraduate, University of Bath.

Advanced Economic Theory, 2016-2020, MRes program, University of Bath.

Economic Theory and Applications II 2013-2016, MSc program, University of Bath.

Intermediate Microeconomics 2013-2014, 2nd year undergraduate, University of Bath. (Tutor)

Introduction to Microeconomics 2013-2014, 1st year undergraduate, University of Bath. (Tutor)

Bounded Rationality and Learning 2009-2013, PhD program, University of Leicester

Intermediate Microeconomics II 2012-2013, 2nd year undergraduate, University of Leicester.

Market Power and Market Failure 2008-2012, 2nd year undergraduate, University of Leicester.

Solving Economic Problems 2010-2012, 1st year undergraduate, University of Leicester.

Using Maths in Economics 2008-2011, 1st year undergraduate, University of Leicester.

Microeconomics 2009-2010, 1st year undergraduate, University of Leicester.

Background Course in Mathematics 2007-2008, PhD program, European University Institute.

Microeconomics I 2005-2006, PhD program, European University Institute. (Teaching Assistant)

Other Information

Associate of the Higher Education Academy.

Spanish Bureaucracy: Acreditado como Profesor Titular por la ANECA.