



Direzione Ricerca,
Innovazione e
Internazionalizzazione

**UNIVERSITÀ
DI TORINO**

ID

VP_075_ESOMAS

Visiting Professor Program Academic Year 2025/2026

TEACHING COMMITMENT: 16 hours

COURSE TITLE

The Political Economy of Organized Crime

TEACHING PERIOD

I semester

SCIENTIFIC AREA

Economia Politica

LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH

English

COURSE SUMMARY

The module will discuss the economics of crime using modern microeconomic tools. It reviews the main conceptual framework in which criminal actions derive from rational occupational choices of individuals, and then covers a range of different topics including cutting edge empirical applications (whenever necessary, the basic intuition of the empirical approaches used in the different applications should be explained to guarantee a deep comprehension). It should emphasize the intersection of crime with other social and economic factors such as labor markets or poverty; the growth of organized crime in developing countries (especially in Latin America); and the role of key policies, such as policing or incarceration.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Foster a curious thinking on how basic economic analysis could be applied to understand seemingly irrational social phenomena such as crime.

- Understanding the determinant of the large growth of organized criminal enterprises in developing countries, especially in those of Latin America.
- Understand the impact of of conflict reduces policies and the evidence of it.
- Foster the ability to read applied papers (on the economic of crime and otherwise).

OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDE THE COURSE

Research seminar and individual meetings with PhD students.

VISITING PROFESSOR PROFILE

Developing economist with PhD, with a special interest in crime, (especially organized crime). and public policy evaluation. Professor of Economics (tenured) with experience as Visiting Professor in leading academic institutions of the U.S. or Europe. Affiliation to international research networks such as the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) and Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) is desirable. At least 8 peer review publications.

CONTACT REFERENT

Juan Vargas
juan.vargas@unito.it