

Exemplary Research Topics

PHD Programme in Economics and Finance

at the Free University of **Bozen-Bolzano**

Joint programme with Università degli Studi di **Trento**

Current research topics and fields offered by the members of the commission board of the joint PHD in Economics and Finance unibz and unitn

Update: 19.02.2026

Working title/Research field	Faculty member	Supervision 26/27 A = available C = conditionally available N = not available
Bounded Rationality and Learning in Games	Prof. Luciano Andreozzi (unitn)	A
Evolutionary Economics		
Social Preferences and Altruism		
Market Microstructure, Price Formation, and Demand Inelasticity	Prof. Flavio Bazzana (unitn)	A
Information Asymmetries and Knowledge Asymmetries in Financial Markets		
High-Frequency Trading, Artificial Intelligence, and Market Quality		
Computational Statistics/Risk Management: Modeling and Estimating Non-standard Loss Distributions, with Applications to Actuarial and Operational Risk.	Prof. Marco Bee (unitn)	A
Multivariate Extreme Value Theory, with Application to Tail Dependence Estimation in Financial Markets.		
Generation of Synthetic Time Series Datasets for Testing and Validation of Data-driven Financial Products.		
Industrial Organization	Prof. Federico Boffa (unibz)	A
Applied Theory		
Political Economy		
Disclosure Strategies in Private firms	Prof. Massimiliano Bonacchi (unibz)	N

Banking and Innovation	Prof. Claudia Curi (unibz)	A
Financial Education and Sustainability		
State-Owned Enterprise and Sustainability		
Political Economics	Prof. Giacomo De Luca (unibz)	N
Development Economics		
Organized Crime		
Stochastic Modeling Using Copulas, with a Focus on Extremes	Prof. Francesca Marta Lilja Di Lascio (unibz)	C
Imputation Methods and Preservation of Multivariate Dependence		
Institutional Economics: Formal vs Informal Institutions	Prof. Marco Faillo (unitn)	A
Social Norms: Theory and Empirical Measures		
Experimental Economics: Voluntary Cooperation in Social Dilemmas		
Industrial Organization and Cybersecurity Economics	Prof. Alessandro Fedele (unibz)	C
Industrial Organization and Digital Economics		
Social Economy		
Quantifying the Identification Uncertainty in Econometric Models	Prof. Davide Ferrari (unibz)	A
Outlier and Anomaly Detection in High-Dimensional Econometric Models		
Machine Learning and Statistical Learning for Econometrics		
Field: Artificial Intelligence and Counterfactual Evaluation. Title: The Use of LLM as a Surrogate to Generate Counterfactual Samples.	Prof. Roberto Gabriele (unitn)	A
Field: Digitalization, AI, and Firm Performance. Title: The Impact of AI on Competitiveness, Employment Structure, and Performance of Firms.		
Field: Firm Strategy and Industrial Dynamics. Title: Firm Diversification Strategies: The Case of the Semiconductor Industry		
Monetary Policy in Bi-partite Production and Financial Networks	Prof. Edoardo Gaffeo (unitn)	A
An Agent-based Approach to AI Adoption, Automation and Labor Reinstatement		
Macroprudential Policy under Strategic Complementarities in Financial Regulation and Supervision		
Spatial Statistics and Econometrics	Prof. Diego Giuliani (unitn)	C
Model-based Discrete Spatial Partitioning of Geographically Weighted Regression		
Spatial Point Process Modelling of Industrial Agglomeration		
Optimization and Multi-Criteria Decision Making	Prof. Andreas Hamel (unibz)	A
Set-Valued and Variational Analysis		
Applications of the above in Economics, Finance, Statistics, Game Theory		
Sustainable Finance	Prof. Florian Kiesel (unibz)	A
ESG Ratings		

Behavioral and Experimental Approaches to Tax Compliance and Norm Formation	Prof. Luigi Mittone (unitn)	A
Heuristics, Misinformation, and Decision-Making: Experimental Investigations of Cognitive Biases and Social Influence		
Experimental Asset Markets, Bubbles, and Real Options under Behavioral Frictions		
Public Sector Economics	Prof. Alexander Moradi (unibz)	A
Development Economics		
Economic History		
Sustainable Finance and Greenwashing	Prof. Sandra Paterlini (unitn)	C
Computational Methods in Finance		
Industrial Dynamics	Prof. Fabio Pieri (unitn)	A
Organizational Economics		
Productivity		
Experimental Study of Strategic Interaction	Prof. Matteo Ploner (unitn)	A
Biases in Financial Decision-making		
Social Preferences and Motivated Cognition		
Financial Disclosure & Capital Markets (e.g., CSR Disclosure Tone, Green Bond Reporting, Risk Premia)	Prof. Paul Pronobis (unibz)	A
AI-Driven Financial Analysis & Automation (e.g., NLP Applied to Financial Texts, AI in Accounting Processes)		
Corporate Governance & Reporting Quality (e.g., Shareholder Characteristics, Multinational Reporting Standards)		
Econometrics of Large and Big Database	Prof. Francesco Ravazzolo (unibz)	A
Energy Economics; Macro Finance		
Bayesian Estimation of Structural Models		
Risk Perception and Communication in Financial and Health Decisions	Prof. Lucia Savadori (unitn)	A
Behavioral Economics of Disaster Preparedness and Climate Change		
Numerical Cognition and Financial Literacy in Economic Decision-Making		
Culture and Finance	Prof. Per Linus Siming (unibz)	C
Nonmonetary Awards and Compensation Systems		
Bank Governance		
Empirical Topics in Political Economy	Prof. Steven Stillman (unibz)	A
Health Economics		
Labor Economics		
Gaussian and Non-gaussian Graphical Models: Algorithms, Estimations and Applications to Economic and Financial Data	Prof. Emanuele Taufer (unitn)	

Multivariate Cumulant-based Approximations to Multivariate Distributions and their Applications to Portfolio and Risk Evaluations		A
Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of ESG Indicators: Developing new Indicators and Evaluating their Performance		
Firms in International Trade	Prof. Chiara Tomasi (unitn)	A
Industrial Dynamics and Firms' Productivity		
Impact Evaluation: Industrial and International Trade Policies		
Field Experiments in Behavioral Economics	Prof. Mirco Tonin (unibz)	C
The Economics of Charitable Giving		
Institutional Economics and Governance (Institutions, law & economics, and comparative institutional analysis)	Prof. Massimiliano Vatiere (unitn)	A
Digital Platforms and Information Markets (Governance of digital infrastructures, competition and media regulation, and the economics of attention)		
Corporate Governance (Shareholder and stakeholder models of governance, and prosocial corporate purpose)		
Theoretical and Empirical Asset Pricing	Prof. Alex Weissensteiner (unibz)	A
Quantitative Asset Management		
Information Economics		