



UNIMORE

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI
MODENA E REGGIO EMILIA

Dipartimento di Economia Marco Biagi



Higher Education and Equality of Opportunities

Workshop - Modena, 29-30 June 2023

Call for papers

The increase in economic inequalities makes the analysis of tertiary education and its impact on social mobility an absolute priority. Economic and sociological research have shown that the expansion of tertiary education has not substantially reduced inequalities in the labour market or increased social mobility, but, all the opposite, existing social and economic privileges have been maintained through an uneven access to quality education. These problems are common to different systems with diverse access costs to education. This underlines that household budget constraints, though relevant, are not the only hindering factor and suggests that other socially embedded lock-in mechanisms may be at work. Furthermore, Covid-19 has negatively affected tertiary education from different perspectives once again imperilling social cohesion.

The workshop will include keynote speeches, invited and selected presentations, a young researcher poster session and a conclusive round-table discussion. It aims at sharing frontier methodologies in the analysis of education-related inequalities and policies, and at acknowledging higher education as a key factor in the process of building a more inclusive society.

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

Núria Rodríguez-Planas (CUNY, Queens College and IZA)

Giorgio Brunello (University of Padua and IZA)

You are welcome to submit papers according to the list of topics below. The scientific committee will evaluate all submitted papers and accepts even preliminary draft version as long as the final product can be easily foreseen. Papers are to be submitted by sending an email to: info_heelo@unimore.it

Deadline: 20 April 2023 (23:59 CEST)

You will be notified of the acceptance of your paper by 3 May 2023.

A paper that has been accepted can only be included in the scientific programme if the presenting author has registered before 28 May 2023.

List of topics

- 1) Access to education, with a focus on admission policies, student financial aid and outreach programs: does the university system perpetuate or challenge socio-economic inequalities?
- 2) The relationship between family socioeconomic status and academic performance
- 3) Gender and ethnic equity: under-representation of minorities in different fields, promotion of diversity and inclusivity
- 4) University and labour market outcomes, including a focus on background occupational and wage premia
- 5) The impact of tertiary education on social mobility and inequality
- 6) Institutional factors: funding models, governance structures, and other policies affecting the impact of universities on socio-economic inequalities
- 7) Regional disparities in higher education
- 8) Mentoring, teacher training, curriculum development and their impact on the inequalities in access, enrollment and student performance
- 8) Disability and accessibility for disadvantaged students
- 9) Innovation, the Third Mission, and the role of universities in regional development

Scientific Committee: Graziella Bertocchi (Unimore, EIEF, CEPR); Maurizio Franzini (Sapienza University and Visitinps); Fabrizio Patriarca (Unimore); Giulia Santangelo (CEDEFOP)

Organising Committee: Juliana Bernhofer (University of Bologna); Rita Bertozzi (Unimore); Giovanni Gallo (Unimore); Barbara Luppi (Unimore); Marina Murat (Unimore); Alberto Rinaldi (Unimore)

Practical Information: The workshop will take place at the Department of Economics "Marco Biagi" of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, located in Modena in via Jacopo Berengario 51, and can be easily reached by train and from the International Airport of Bologna. There is no registration fee for the workshop. Participation in the social dinner on June 29th will be at the expense of participants.

