



VISITING STUDENTS INITIATIVE

Description

Students are one of Bocconi's most important assets. To foster mentoring and research interactions between students and faculty members, IGIER invites Bocconi undergraduate and master students to join the center.

The Visiting Student position is for one academic year, renewable upon mutual agreement. Subject to space availability, Visiting Students are assigned a desk in the IGIER offices. Individual mentors chosen among IGIER's scholars will supervise students' research activities.

Visiting Students are expected to actively participate in the center's scientific activities (e.g., brown bag workshops, reading groups, conferences, and seminars) and to present a research paper (either original or published in academic journals) in one of IGIER's brown bag workshops or reading groups.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Eligible candidates are students who are enrolled in either the third year of a Bocconi undergraduate program («corsi di laurea triennale») or in the first/second year of a Bocconi master program («corsi di laurea magistrale»). Candidates should have a courses' grade average of at least 28/30 and never been subject to academic disciplinary procedure for inappropriate academic conduct. A selection committee consisting of IGIER scholars reviews the applications received and makes a selection based exclusively on merit.

Building Blocks

The Visiting Students Initiative is organized around a few building blocks to endow students with skills that will be helpful in developing successful academic or professional careers in Italy or abroad.

Tools (« Novel Ideas and Hard Proofs »)

Whether working for a world-class consulting firm or an international organization, or whether undertaking an academic career in one of the best research institutions in the world, the ability of thinking in an analytical and rigorous way is crucial. To acquire these skills, IGIER offers to students these two tutorial activities.

In the spring semester, the weekly *Reading Group in Mathematics*, coordinated by professors Fabio Maccheroni and Massimo Marinacci, will cover basic tools in functional analysis and optimization that are important for theoretical economics and finance.

In the same semester, a tutorial seminar on *Dynamic Optimization* will cover essential tools that are used in many fields in economics and finance (e.g., value functions, Bellman and Euler equations, etc).

As a prerequisite for the two tutorial activities above, IGIER Visiting Students are warmly encouraged to take the Real Analysis course taught by professor Fabio Maccheroni during the fall semester in the PhD program in Statistics.

Meet the IGIER Scholars

Twice a month, an IGIER scholar will present one of his/her published articles or current research projects to the students. The primary goal of this tutorial activity is to teach students what are the exciting and open questions in a given field, how to develop a novel research idea, the necessary tools and steps to write a paper, and the best research practices in a given field.

Learn from Visiting Scholars

Through its lively Visiting Faculty program and its monthly seminar series, IGIER hosts outstanding faculty members from research institutions abroad. Students are expected to attend the IGIER seminar series, as well as the lectures that some of the Visiting scholars will prepare for them.

This is the list of the Visiting Scholars who will give lectures to the students:

October 10-11 --- Aldo Rustichini (University of Minnesota) « Personality Theory and Decision Theory » and « Experiments and Game Theory »

October 27 --- Oriana Bandiera (LSE) « Incentives in Organizations: Evidence from Field Experiments » and « No margin, no mission? A Field Experiment on Incentives for Pro-Social Tasks »

March 2012 --- Pamela Jakiela (University of Maryland) « Incentives in Organizations: Evidence from Field Experiments »

April 2012 --- Francesco Caselli (LSE) « Topics in Economic Growth »

April 2012 --- Silvana Tenreyro (LSE) « Topics in International Finance »

June 2012 --- Stephanie Schmitte-Grohe (Columbia University) « DSGE Models, part I »

June 2012 --- Martin Uribe (Columbia University) « DSGE Models, part II »

The 2011-2012 IGIER seminar series will host these scholars:

September 23 Robert W. Staiger (Stanford)
October 13 Mark Gertler (New York University)
November 28 Adam Szeidl (UC Berkeley & CEU)

December 2 Luigi Zingales (Chicago)
January 25 Alberto Alesina (Harvard)
March 13 Drew Fudenberg (Harvard)
May 22 Andrew Postlewaite (Penn)
May 30 Raquel Fernandez (NYU)

Reading Groups

Based on students' research interests, IGIER will organize a reading group twice a month with IGIER scholars and all the Visiting Students in which each student will present and discuss an article or working paper.

Develop a Research Idea

Each student will be assigned a mentor among the IGIER scholars. One of the key roles of the mentor is to help the student learn how to develop a novel research idea, acquire the necessary tools, and write a paper in a professional way.

Enhance Your Presentation Skills

Regardless of which professional path the students will undertake once they graduate from Bocconi, the ability of presenting their ideas in a clear, rigorous, and confident way is an essential skill. Through the numerous tutorial activities and seminars, as well as through the interaction with the mentor, each student will learn helpful presentation skills.

Students Present Their Research Projects

At the end of the academic year, the Visiting Students enrolled in one of the laurea magistrale programs will present either an article in the literature or an original paper developed under the supervision of the mentor. The audience will consist of their fellow students and a number of IGIER scholars.

Building the Citizens of Tomorrow

IGIER intends to nurture and foster positive values among its Visiting Students. To this end, it will coordinate some pro bono activities through which the Visiting Students will devote some time and effort to help Bocconi undergraduate students who may encounter difficulties with first-year courses. IGIER Visiting Students will also be invited to help with Bocconi Orientation activities geared toward high-school students.