

## CRISTIAN POP-ELECHES

### Contact Information:

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### Professional Appointments and Affiliations:

#### **Columbia University**

Professor, SIPA, 2019-present  
Associate Professor (with tenure), SIPA, 2013-2019  
Associate Professor (without tenure), SIPA and Economics, 2010-2012  
Assistant Professor, SIPA and Economics, 2003-2010

#### **National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)**

Faculty Research Associate, 2013-present  
Faculty Research Fellow, 2007-2013

#### **Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD)**

Fellow, 2018-present  
Affiliate, 2008-2018

#### **Data Analytics & Quantitative Analysis (DAQA), SIPA, Columbia University**

Specialization Director, 2022-2025

#### **Data Science for Policy (DSP), SIPA, Columbia University**

Concentration Co-Director, 2025-present

#### **Center for Development Economics and Policy (CDEP), SIPA, Columbia University**

Co-Director, 2014-present  
Associate Director 2013-2014

#### **Journal of Human Resources**

Co-Editor, 2015-2018

#### **New York University**

Visiting Professor, Abu Dhabi, 2020-2021.  
Visiting Associate Professor, Abu Dhabi, 2016-2017.  
Associate Professor, HMSS - Steinhardt, 2012-2013.

## **Education:**

Ph.D., Economics, Harvard University, 2003

M.A., Economics, Harvard University, 2000

B.A., Economics, Harvard University, 1998

## **Published or Forthcoming Papers:**

- “Self-, Peer- and Teacher Perceptions under School Tracking ,” joint with Andreea Mitrut, Ofer Malamud and Miguel Urquiola, *forthcoming at Review of Economics and Statistics*
- “Why do households leave school value added “on the table”? The roles of information and preferences,” joint with Robert Ainsworth, Rajeev Dehejia and Miguel Urquiola, *American Economic Review*, 2023, 113(4): 1049-82.
- “Interactions Between Family and School Environments: Access to Abortion and Selective Schools,” joint with Leonard Goff, Ofer Malamud and Miguel Urquiola, *Journal of Human Resources*, 2023.
- "The Impact of Abortion on Crime and Crime-Related Behavior,” joint with Randi Hjalmarsson and Andreea Mitrut, *Journal of Public Economics*, 200, 2021.
- "The Effect of Education on Mortality and Health: Evidence from a Schooling Expansion in Romania," joint with Ofer Malamud and Andreea Mitrut, *Journal of Human Resources*, 2021
- "The Effect of Fertility on Mothers’ Labor Supply over the Last Two Centuries," joint with Daniel Aaronson, Rajeev Dehejia, Andrew Jordan, Cyrus Samii, and Karl Schulze, *The Economic Journal*, 131(633), 1-32, 2021
- "From Local to Global: External Validity in a Fertility Natural Experiment," joint with Rajeev Dehejia and Cyrus Samii, *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 39(1) 2021.
- "Parental Monitoring and Children's Internet Use: The Role of Information, Control, and Cues," joint with Francisco Gallego and Ofer Malamud, *Journal of Public Economics*, 2020.
- "The role of education interventions in improving economic rationality," joint with Hyuncheol Bryant Kim, Syngjoo Choi, and Booyuel Kim, *Science*, 362(6410), 83-86, 2018
- "Local Instruments, Global Extrapolation: External Validity of the Labor Supply - Fertility - Local Average Treatment Effect," joint with James Bisbee, Rajeev Dehejia and Cyrus Samii, *Journal of Labor Economics*, 35(S1), 99-147, 2017
- “Going to a Better School: Effects and Behavioral Responses,” joint with Miguel Urquiola, *American Economic Review*, 103(4), 1289-1324, 2013

- “The Effect of Absenteeism and Clinic Protocol on Health Outcomes: The Case of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV in Kenya,” joint with Markus Goldstein, Josh Graff Zivin, Harsha Thirumurthy and James Habyarimana, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 5(2): 58-85, 2013
- “The Effects of Home-Based HIV Counseling and Testing on HIV/AIDS Stigma among Individuals and Community Leaders in Western Kenya: Evidence from a Cluster-Randomized Trial,” Low C, Pop-Eleches C, Rono W, Plous E, Ndege S, Goldstein M, Thirumurthy H, *AIDS Care* 25: S1, 2013
- “Differences between self-reported and electronically monitored adherence among patients receiving antiretroviral therapy in a resource-limited setting,” Thirumurthy, H, Siripong N, Vreeman R, Pop-Eleches C, Habyarimana J, Sidle J, Siika A, Bangsberg D, *AIDS* 26(18), 2012
- “Behavioral Responses of Patients in AIDS Treatment Programs: Sexual Behavior in Kenya,” joint with Markus Goldstein, Josh Graff Zivin, James Habyarimana and Harsha Thirumurthy, *Forum for Health Economics & Policy*, 15(2), 2012
- “Targeted Government Spending and Political Preferences,” joint with Grigore Pop-Eleches, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, 7 (1–36), 2012
- “Home Computer Use and the Development of Human Capital”, joint with Ofer Malamud, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 126(2), 2011
- “School Tracking and Access to Higher Education Among Disadvantaged Groups,” joint with Ofer Malamud, *Journal of Public Economics*, 95(11-12), 2011
- “Mobile phone technologies improve adherence to antiretroviral treatment in resource-limited settings: a randomized controlled trial of text message reminders,” Pop-Eleches C, Thirumurthy H, Habyarimana J, Graff Zivin J, Goldstein M, DeWalque D, MacKeen L, Haberer J, Sidle J, Ngare D, Bangsberg D, *AIDS*, 25(6), 2011
- “The Impact of HIV/AIDS and ARV Treatment on Worker Absenteeism: Implications for African Firms,” joint with Bekezela Mbakile and James Habyarimana, *Journal of Human Resources* 45(5), 2010
- “Vocational Training versus General Education: Evidence from an Economy in Transition,” joint with Ofer Malamud, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 92(1), 2010
- “The Supply of Birth Control Methods, Education and Fertility: Evidence from Romania” *Journal of Human Resources* 45(4), 2010
- “Electronic Filing, Tax Preparers, and Participation in the Earned Income Tax Credit,” joint with Wojciech Kopczuk, *Journal of Public Economics* 91(7-8), 2007

- “The Impact of an Abortion Ban on Socio-Economic Outcomes of Children: Evidence from Romania”. *Journal of Political Economy* 114(4), 2006
- “Judicial Checks and Balances,” joint with Rafael La Porta, Florencio López-de-Silanes, and Andrei Shleifer, *Journal of Political Economy* 112(2), 2004

### **Working Papers:**

- “Education and Selection into Ethnic Identification: Evidence from Roma People in Romania,” joint with Andreea Mitrut, Gabriel Kreindler, Magda Matache, and Andrei Munteanu, *R&R at the American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*.
- “Malleable minds: The effects of STEM-vs. humanities-focused curricula,” joint with Robert Ainsworth, Rajeev Dehejia, Andrei Munteanu, and Miguel Urquiola, **NBER Working paper** (2025).
- “Male Circumcision, Peer Effects, and Risk Compensation,” joint with Hyuncheol Bryant Kim, Booyuel Kim, and Jaehyun Jung, **Working Paper** (May 2022)
- “Evaluating Ex Ante Counterfactual Predictions Using Ex Post Causal Inference”, joint with Michael Gechter, Rajeev Dehejia and Cyrus Samii, **arXiv:1806.07016** (June 2018)

### **Work in Progress:**

- “Teacher Effort in the Classroom,” joint with Ofer Malamud, Matias Martinez, Andreea Mitrut and Miguel Urquiola
- “The Impacts of Pre- and Post-natal Interventions on Children’s Health and Socio-Economic Outcomes,” joint with Hyuncheol Bryant Kim and Booyuel Kim

### **Honors, Scholarships, and Citations:**

2022	Keynote Speaker: 15th Nordic Summer Institute in Labor Economics, NHH, Bergen, Norway
2021	Organizing committee: ERMAS Conference, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
2021	Research on information and preferences in school choice featured on VoxEu policy portal
2018	Research on parental monitoring featured on VoxEu policy portal
2017	Research on fertility and mothers’ labor supply featured on VoxEu policy portal
2015	Research on external validity featured on IGC Blog
2015	Organizing committee: ERMAS Conference, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
2014	Keynote Speaker: ERMAS Conference, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
2010	Research on the impact of computers featured in the New York

2008 Times, Freakonomics Blog, NBER Digest and Romanian TV (TVR, ProTV)  
 Research on the impact of computers featured in Slate, the New York Times and Gandul

2007-2008 NBER Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Aging and Health, Cambridge, MA

2006 AGES Best Graduate Advisor Award (Runner-up Prize) – Department of Economics, Columbia University

2005 Abortion research featured in The Economist (December 1st issue)

2005 Outstanding Teacher of the Year – SIPA, Columbia University

2005 Abortion research featured in the book Freakonomics by Steven Levitt and Stephan Dubner

2002 Derek Bok Award for Excellence in Teaching

2001-2002 MacArthur Network on Inequality and Poverty in Broader Perspective – Graduate Student Fellowship

2001-2002 Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies – Saltonstall Graduate Associate

2000-2003 Center for International Development – Graduate Student Fellow

1998 Thomas T. Hoopes Prize and Allyn A. Young Prize for Undergraduate Thesis

### **Teaching:**

SIPA, Columbia University – Microeconomics and Policy Analysis  
 SIPA, Columbia University – Quantitative Methods II  
 SIPA, Columbia University – Quantitative Methods III- Economics of Education Policy  
 Department of Economics, Columbia University - Graduate Development  
 Steinhardt, New York University – Quantitative Methods  
 Steinhardt, New York University – International Development Education  
 New York University Abu Dhabi – Introduction to Statistics  
 New York University Abu Dhabi – Principles of Microeconomics  
 New York University Abu Dhabi – Quantitative Methods of Applied Economics

### **Academic Presentations and Seminars:**

Bocconi, Economics Department; Boston University, Economics Department; Brookings Institution; BU/Harvard/MIT Health Seminar; Case Western, Economics Department; Chicago, Harris School; Clemson, Economics Department; Columbia, Economics Department; Columbia, ISERP; Cornell, PAM and Economics Department; CUNY-NBER, Health Economics Seminar, Economics Seminar; BREAD Conference; Brown University, Population Studies and Training Center; Essex, Department of Economics; Georgetown, Economics Department; Harvard, Economics Department; Harvard, Center for Population Studies; Houston; IFPRI; IZA; KDI School, Korea; London School of Economics, Economics Department; Maryland, Economics Department; Michigan, Ford School; Minnesota, Population Center; Montreal; NBER, Summer Institute; Education Meeting, Health Meeting; NEUDC Conference; NYU – Steinhardt, NYU – Abu Dhabi; Ohio State; Paris School of Economics; Princeton, Economics Department; Rochester, Economics Department; Stanford, Economics Department; UC Berkeley, Economics Department; UCLA, Economics Department; UC San Diego, Economics Department; UIC, Economics Department; UIUC, Economics Department; University of Delaware, Economics

Department; Vanderbilt, Economics Department; Virginia, Economics Department; Yale, Economics Department; Yale, Health Policy; World Bank

**Referee for:**

American Economic Review, AEJ: Applied, AEJ: Economic Policy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Review of Economics Studies, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Law and Economics, Economics of Transition, Journal of Legal Studies, Economica, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of African Economies, National Science Foundation, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Comparative Economics, Economic Journal, Journal of Health Economics, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Labor Economics, Science

**Advising:**

<b>Student</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>First placement</b>
Juan Robalino (Reader)	2005	The Earth Institute, Post Doc
Camelia Minoiu (Reader)	2007	International Monetary Fund
Jesus Fernandez-Huertas (Reader)	2007	Institut d'Anàlisi Econòmica, Barcelona
Stephan Litschig (Reader)	2008	Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Daniel Choate (Reader)	2009	Lexis-Nexis
Shubha Chakravarty (Sponsor)	2009	World Bank
Matthew Wai-Poi (Sponsor)	2010	World Bank
Fang He (Reader)	2010	US Government Accountability Office
Evan Borkum (Reader)	2010	Mathematica
Gordon Mccord (Reader)	2011	UCSD IRPS
Beliyou Haile (Sponsor)	2011	IMPAQ International
Hitoshi Shigeoka (Reader)	2012	Simon Fraser
Jesse Anttila-Hughes (Reader)	2012	University of San Francisco
Mariesa Herrmann (Reader)	2012	Mathematica
Wilfredo Lim (Reader)	2012	Mathematica
Christine Pal	2012	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Steve Simpson	2013	SUNY - Buffalo
Hyuncheol Kim (Sponsor)	2013	Cornell PAM
S Anukriti (co-Sponsor)	2013	Boston College
Patrick Opoku Asuming (Sponsor)	2013	Mailman Columbia
Baafra Abeberese (Reader)	2013	Wellesley
Woo Ram Park (Reader)	2013	KDI, South Korea
David Blakeslee (Reader)	2013	NYUAD
Anna Tompsett (Reader)	2014	Stockholm
Giovanni Paci (Reader)	2014	Post Doc, Glimcher Lab, NYU
Corinne Low (co-Sponsor)	2014	Wharton
Hyelim Son (Reader)	2014	The University of Hong Kong
Ritam Chaurey (Reader)	2014	SUNY Binghamton
Amir Jina (Reader)	2014	Post Doc, Harris School

Todd Kumler (Reader)	2014	Cornerstone Research
Mark Orrs (Sponsor)	2015	Lehigh
Michael Mueller-Smith (co-Sponsor)	2015	Michigan
Prabhat Barnwal (Sponsor)	2015	Michigan State
Booyuel Kim (Sponsor)	2015	KDI School of Public Policy, South Korea
Jan von der Goltz (Reader)	2016	World Bank
Anthony D'Agostino (Reader)	2017	Mathematica
Nicolas de Roux (Reader)	2017	Universidad de los Andes, Colombia
Maria Micaela Sviatschi (Reader)	2017	Princeton
Jaehyun Jung (co-Sponsor)	2018	Korea Institute of Public Finance
Golvine de Rochambeau (Reader)	2018	Sciences Po
Francis Annan (Reader)	2018	Georgia State
Danyan Zha (Reader)	2019	Shanghai U. of Finance and Economics
Qiuying Qu (Reader)	2019	Capital One
Xavier Moncasi (Reader)	2020	Amazon
Robert Ainsworth (Reader)	2020	University of Florida
Naman Garg (Reader)	2023	Cornerstone
Amanda Awadey (co-Sponsor)	2023	Mount Holyoke College
Solomon Gofere (co-Sponsor)	2023	Analysis Group
Fabiola Alba Vivar (Reader)	2024	Wake Forest
Isabela Munevar (Reader)	2024	KSG post doc
Jalnidh Kaur (Reader)	2024	University of Glasgow
Florian Grosset (co-Sponsor)	2024	CREST, ENSAE, Institut Polytech. de Paris
Akanksha Vardani (co-Sponsor)	2025	Behavioural Insights Team
Palaash Bhargava (co-Sponsor)	2025	Max Planck Institute
Luigi Caloi (Reader)	2026	Insper
Tushar Kundu (co-Sponsor)	2026	Planet Reimagined

### **Grants:**

- UniCredit Foundation, “The Effects of Attending a Higher Value-added High School in Romania” 2023-2024, Euro 125,000, co-PI
- Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), “The Impact of Nutrition and Health Interventions on Children’s Health and Socio-economic Outcomes” and “Complementarities and Externalities of HIV/AIDS Prevention Strategies in Malawi: HIV/AIDS Education, Male Circumcision, and Cash Transfers”, 2010-2016, \$2,000,000, co-PI
- Spencer Foundation, “The Effects of Home Computers on Child Outcomes” 2009, \$40,000, co-PI
- National Science Foundation, “Family and School Influences in the Determination of Child Outcomes: Evidence from Two Sources of Variation”, 2008-2010, \$458,331, co-PI
- Doris Duke ORACTA Grant, “Transport Support to Improve ARV Treatment Outcomes”, 2007-2009, \$203,130, co-PI
- World Bank, “Adherence to ARV Treatment and its Effects on Medium Run Socio-Economic Outcomes: Evidence from Western Kenya”, 2007-2008, \$226,883, co-PI
- ISERP Seed Grant, Columbia University, “The Impact of Computer Use on Child Outcomes”, 2006, \$10,000, PI

- CIBER Grant - Columbia University, “The Impact of ARV Treatment on Socio-Economic Outcomes in Botswana and Kenya”, 2005, \$3,000, PI
- PER Seed Grant, Columbia University, “Understanding Brain Drain”, 2004, \$4000, PI
- PER Summer Grant, Columbia University, “Educational Reform in Romania”, 2005, \$5000, PI
- ISERP Seed Grant, Columbia University, “Educational Reform in Romania”, 2004, \$10,000, PI

**Outside Professional Activities:**

*The School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University requires its faculty members to disclose any professional activities that might present a real or apparent conflict of interest. My outside professional activities are as follows:*

New York University Abu Dhabi: July 2016- June 2017 – Visiting Associate Professor

New York University Abu Dhabi: June 2020- July 2021 – Visiting Professor

World Bank: 2021 – Short term consultant