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Research interests

Economic history, regional economic development, education and human capital, gender inequality, historical demography, living standards, innovation

Current position

Associate Professor of Economic History, Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Siena.

Previous appointments

Dec. 2018 – Dec. 2021 Assistant Professor (Tenure Track), Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Siena.
Sept. 2018 – Dec. 2018 Post-Doc Researcher at the Department of Economic History, Institutions, Policy and the World Economy, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain.
Febr. 2016 – Aug. 2018 Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics and Economic History, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain.
June 2014 – Jan. 2016 Post-Doc Researcher and Visiting Professor at the Department of Economics, University of Tuebingen, Germany.

Education

2010 – 2014 PhD in Economic History, European University Institute, Italy
2008 – 2010 M.Sc. in Economics, University of Siena, Italy, summa cum laude
2005 – 2008 B.Sc. Economics, University of Siena, Italy, summa cum laude

Publications in peer-reviewed journals

1. M. Bozzano, G. Cappelli and M. Vasta (2023). "Whither education? The long shadow of pre-unification school systems into Italy's Liberal Age (1861 – 1911)." **The Journal of Economic History**, forthcoming.
2. G. Cappelli and J. Baten (2021). "Numeracy development in Africa: new evidence from a long-term perspective (1730-1970)." **Journal of Development Economics**, 150 (C).
3. G. Cappelli and G. Quiroga (2021). "Female teachers and the rise of primary education in Italy and Spain, 1861 – 1921: evidence from a new dataset." **The Economic History Review** 74 (3), 754-783.
4. G. Cappelli (2021). "The Primary Education System in Imperial Austria: Vice or Virtue? A Review of Schooling under Control by Tomáš Cvrček." **Central Europe** 18 (2), 122-130.
5. G. Cappelli and C. Ciccarelli (2020). "Italy's History of Education: Towards an Interdisciplinary Approach." **Rivista di storia economica** 36 (2), 127-137.
6. G. Cappelli and M. Vasta (2020). "A "Silent Revolution": school reforms and Italy's educational gender gap in the Liberal Age (1861-1921)." **Cliometrica** 15 (1), 203-229.

7. G. Cappelli and G. Quiroga (2020). "Literacy and schooling in Italy and Spain (1860-1921): a comparative analysis." **Rivista di storia economica** 36 (1), 87-123.
8. G. Cappelli (2020). "Quite a visible hand? State funding and primary education in 19th-century France and Italy." **Revue d'economie politique** 130 (1), 77-105.
9. G. Cappelli and M. Vasta (2020). "Can school centralization foster human capital accumulation? A quasi-experiment from early twentieth-century Italy." **The Economic History Review** 73 (1), 159-184.
10. G. Cappelli, E. Felice, D. Tirado, J. Martínez-Galarraga (2019). "Still a long way to go: decomposing GDP inequality across Italy's regions, 1871-2011." **Rivista di storia economica** 35 (1), 3-35.
11. J. Westberg and G. Cappelli (2019). "Divergent paths to mass schooling at Europe's poles? Regional differences in Italy and Sweden, 1840-1900." **Bildungsgeschichte** 9 (1), 11-28.
12. G. Cappelli (2018). "Was Putnam Wrong? The Determinants of Social Capital in Italy Around 1900." **Rivista di storia economica**, a. XXXIII, n. 3, dicembre 2017: 277-313.
13. G. Cappelli (2018). "When theory met data: economic history and the 'truth(s)' of quantitative research". **Bildungsgeschichte** 8 (2), 214-217.
14. G. Cappelli and J. Baten (2017). "European Trade, Colonialism and Human Capital Accumulation in Senegal, Gambia and Western Mali, 1770 – 1900." **The Journal of Economic History** 77 (3): 920-951.
15. G. Cappelli (2017). "The Missing Link? Trust, Cooperative Norms, and Industrial Growth in Italy." **The Journal of Interdisciplinary History**, Winter 2017, 47 (3): 333-358.
16. G. Cappelli (2016). "One size that didn't fit all? Electoral franchise, fiscal capacity and the rise of mass schooling across Italy's provinces, 1870–1911." **Cliometrica** 10 (3): 311-343.
17. G. Cappelli (2016). "Escaping from a human capital trap? Italy's regions and the move to centralized primary schooling, 1861 – 1936." **The European Review of Economic History** 20 (1): 46-65.

Books

1. D. Mitch and G. Cappelli (eds.) (2019). *Globalization and the Rise of Mass Education*. London, Palgrave Macmillan.
2. G. Cappelli (2018). *La formazione del capitale umano e del capitale sociale nello sviluppo economico italiano (1861-1913)*. Pisa: Pisa University Press.

Book chapters

1. G. Cappelli and M. Vasta (2021). "Il capitale umano: il fattore mancante dello sviluppo economico italiano." in F. Amatori and M. D'Alberti (eds.), *L'impresa italiana*, vol. II (Temi e problemi), Rome, Istituto dell'enciclopedia italiana, 673-690.
2. G. Cappelli and D. Mitch (2019). "Introduction", in D. Mitch and G. Cappelli (eds), *Globalization and the Rise of Mass Education*. London, Palgrave Macmillan, 1-21.

3. G. Cappelli (2019). "A Struggling Nation Since Its Founding? Liberal Italy and the Cost of Neglecting Primary Education," in J. Westberg, L. Boser, I. Brühwiler (eds.), *School Acts and the Rise of Mass Schooling: Education Policy in the Long Nineteenth Century*. London, Palgrave Macmillan, 223-251.
4. G. Cappelli (2017). "Capitale umano e crescita economica: l'evoluzione del sistema educativo italiano," in Paolo Di Martino and Michelangelo Vasta (eds.), *Ricchi per caso. La parabola dello sviluppo economico italiano*. Bologna, il Mulino, 75-128.
5. G. Cappelli, A. Colli, P. Di Martino, E. Felice, A. Nuvolari, A. Rinaldi, and M. Vasta (2017). "Conclusioni. Il futuro economico dell'Italia in prospettiva storica: le policy oggi," in Paolo Di Martino and Michelangelo Vasta (eds.), *Ricchi per caso. La parabola dello sviluppo economico italiano*. Bologna, il Mulino, 265-281.

Other professional experience

Co-editor of the *Revista de Historia Industrial – Industrial History Review*

Observatori Centre d'Estudis "Antoni de Capmany", Universitat de Barcelona (since July 2021)

Memberships and affiliations

Research Affiliate at the Centre for Economic Policy Research (Economic History)

Economic History Society

European Historical Economics Society

Economic History Association

Associazione per la Storia Economica

Società Italiana degli Storici Economici

Courses currently taught

Storia economica (BSc), in Italian (60 hours)

Economia dell'impresa innovativa (30 hours)

Economic history (advanced, MSc level), in English (20 hours)

Economic History (PhD), in English (10 hours)

Teaching experience

El análisis estadístico de datos históricos: oportunidades para las ciencias sociales, *University of Salamanca* (invited seminar) | Economic History, *Erasmus University College* (invited lecturer) | Historia económica universal: la Gran divergencia, *Universidad de la Republica*, Montevideo (invited lecturer) | Divario regionale e intervento pubblico in Italia, *LUISS School of Government*, Rome | Economic History of Latina America, *Universitat de Barcelona* | World Economic History, *Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona* | Financial and Monetary History, *Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona* | Institutional Change and Economic Development: *Máster Interuniversitario de Historia Económica* | Education and Development, *Master in Development Economics and International Cooperation @ Università di Roma "Tor Vergata"* | Italy's Regional Inequality and Regional Policy in the Long Run, *Master in Economics and Development Policy @ LUISS School of Governance* | Economic History of the World: New Research, *University of Tuebingen* | Lecture on Empirical Studies on Migration, Trade and Growth in the Long Run, *Master in Economics @ University of Tuebingen* | Research Internship in Economic History, *University of Tuebingen* | Teaching Assistant for The Internationalisation of Economic Growth, 1870 to the present day, *London School of Economics and Political Science*.

Grant and funding

1. Co-investigator and co-author for the project *How did education policy shape the race towards mass education? A comparative perspective based on France, Italy, Spain and Sweden, c. 1840–1940*, funded by the Swedish Research Council for the period 2017 – 2020 (c. 550,000 euros). PI: Johannes Westberg (ORU). Cappelli is director of the project (220,000 euros) at the University of Siena.
2. Co-investigator for the project *Pasado y presente en España de los niveles de vida: salud, alimentación y sostenibilidad, siglos XIX-XX*, funded by the Spanish Ministry of the Economy and Competitiveness for the period 2017 – 2020 (45,000 euros). PI: Josep Pujol (UAB).
3. PI for a grant (*contributi liberali*) received from the Bank of Italy to research the long-term development of countries in the Horn of Africa (12,000 euro).

Selected International Conferences and Seminars (since 2016)

World Economic History Congress, Paris, July 2022 | Economic History Seminar, Gothenburg, June 2022 (online) | Sex Ratios and Missing Girls in History, Trondheim, May 2022 | EHS Annual Conference, Cambridge, April 2022 | Economic History Seminar at Bocconi University, Milan, February 2022 | Economic History Seminar at "La Sapienza" Università di Roma, December 2021 | 1st "Lost Highway" Seminar, May 2021 (online) | EHS Conference 2021, April 2021 (online) | ESSHC 2021, March 2021 (online) | Seminar "The Rise of Education in a Historical Perspective", January 2021 (online) | Economic History Seminar, Montevideo, September 2020 (online) | Globalization and the Rise of Mass Education (book launch), Goettingen, December 2019 | African Economic History Network Conference, Barcelona, October 2019 | AISRe Conference, L'Aquila, September 2019 | 11th BETA Workshop, Strasbourg, May 2019 | EHS Conference, Belfast, April 2019 | EH Tune 2018, Siena, November 2018 | APHES Conference 2018, Lisbon, November 2018 | World Economic History Congress 2018, Boston, August 2018 | EHES Conference 2017, Tuebingen, September 2017 | 1st Catalan Economic Society Conference (CESC), Barcelona, May 2017 | EHS Annual Conference 2017, Royal Holloway, London, 2017 | *La Società italiana e le grandi crisi economiche (Istat)*, Rome, November 2016.

Languages

Italian (Mother Tongue). English (Proficiency, CEFR: C2). Spanish (Proficiency, CEFR: C2). Intermediate understanding of written and spoken French (CEFR: B2).