

## **2021 spring semester GSR position with Ellora Derenoncourt, Lorenzo Lagos, Francois Gérard and Claire Montialoux**

We are looking to hire a 50% GSR for the 2021 spring semester on a project seeking to understand how to reduce wage inequality – and in particular racial inequality – in Brazil. The GSR would interact on a daily basis with Claire Montialoux, and will also participate in whole team meetings.

**Project title:** Collective bargaining, the minimum wage, and the racial earnings gap (joint with Ellora Derenoncourt (UC Berkeley), Lorenzo Lagos (Princeton) and Francois Gérard (QMUL)).

**Project description:** How do wage floors affect wage and racial inequality? Is there any scope for the minimum wage to reduce inequality on top of negotiated wage floors? We study this question in the context of Brazil, where there is extensive sectoral bargaining, and rich data sources with information on race (labor force surveys, census, linked employer-employee data). We study the period 1995-2020, during which wage inequality and racial inequality fell dramatically. These declines coincide with the adoption of a series of minimum wage increases. We are aiming at quantifying the causal effect of the 1999-2009 minimum wage increases on wage and racial inequality, at different quantiles of the distribution, and its interaction with negotiated wage floors. We are shedding light on the channels through which wage floors can reduce wage and racial disparities (e.g. by reallocating low-productivity jobs to high-productivity jobs).

**Duration:** 2021 spring semester, with potential to continue in 2021-2022.

**Time commitment:** 20 hours per week during the spring semester.

**Payment:** compliant with your university's GSR recruitment policies (includes full fee remission).

### **Skills and experience**

- Background in labor economics, development economics, economic history or public policy analysis.
- Proficiency in STATA and Excel.
- Ability to take initiative and work independently.
- Knowledge of Brazil and proficiency in Portuguese is a plus.

**To apply:** Please send an email with subject line “GSR Application” to [claire.montialoux@berkeley.edu](mailto:claire.montialoux@berkeley.edu) with your C.V. attached, and a brief paragraph in the body of the email detailing 1) your current research interests, 2) why you would be interested in working on this research project.