Félix Lenoël
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Research Interests

Public Economics; Labor Economics; Applied Microeconometrics

Current Position

Bocconi University — Milano, Italy
Predoctoral Researcher — *Sep. 2026 – Aug. 2027*

Applied research on labor markets, redistribution, and policy preferences under the supervision of Giulia Giupponi (Bocconi University, CEPR).

Education

École Normale Supérieure de Lyon — Lyon, France
M.Sc. in Advanced Economics, Civil Servant Student — *Sep. 2023 – Present*

Advanced training in mathematics, econometrics, microeconomics, macroeconomics, statistics, machine learning, and applied quantitative methods, with parallel coursework in sociology.

2023–2024: B.A. in Economics - Overall average 16/20

2024–2026: M.Sc. in Advanced Economics - Overall average 17/20

2026–2027: Predoctoral Researcher, Bocconi University

2027–2028: Research Specialization Year (ENS de Lyon)

Lycée du Parc — Lyon, France
B/L Preparatory Classes (Social Sciences) — *Sep. 2020 – Jul. 2023*

Intensive undergraduate interdisciplinary training in mathematics, economics, sociology, history, and philosophy. Admitted at ENS de Lyon through competitive entrance exam (Rank: 24/912).

Research experience

French Ministry of Labor – DARES — Paris, France
Research Intern, Employment and Training Policy Evaluation — *May 2025 – Aug. 2025*

Assessment of the impact of a reduction in employer subsidies on apprenticeship contracts using quasi-experimental methods. Authored a comprehensive policy report to be published.

Center for Economic Research on Governance, Inequality and Conflict — Lyon, France
Research Assistant — *Jan. 2025 – April 2025*

Working on the ongoing project *"Media Influence on Corporate Decision-Making: Does Television Coverage Impact Mass Layoff Strategies?"*. Supervised by Mathilde Godard (Université Paris-Dauphine–PSL, CNRS) and Sophie Hatte (ENS de Lyon, CERGIC).

Teaching

Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon — Lyon, France
Oral Examiner in Data Science — *Sep. 2025 – June 2026*

Oral examinations of bachelor's degree students in data usage and practices.

Lycée du Parc — Lyon, France
Oral Examiner in Economics and Sociology (CPGE B/L) — *Sep. 2024 – June 2026*

Preparation of students for oral examinations of the French Écoles Normales Supérieures.

Selected works

When Minimum Wage Increases Are Costless. Employment and Wage Effects Beyond the Labor Cost Channel Master's thesis (advisors Kenza Elass and Jonathan Goupille-Lebret), École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, 2026 (grade 18/20).

> This paper builds on recent methodological advances in the minimum wage literature to estimate the combined effects of real increases in the minimum wage and payroll tax exemptions implemented during the early 2010s. Exploiting regional variation in exposure to low-wage labor market policies, I identify the overall impact of these measures on employment and wages. The results indicate a small but significant positive effect on employment, alongside a compression of the wage distribution driven by both direct and spillover effects up to €1.5 above the new minimum wage level.

Reducing Employer Subsidies for Apprenticeships. Technical report (Forthcoming), Direction de l'Animation de la Recherche, des Études et des Statistiques (Dares), French Ministry of Labor.

> This report evaluates the effects of the 2023 reform reducing employer subsidies for apprenticeship contracts in the French private sector, exploiting the change in subsidy amounts per contract as a quasi-experimental setting. Using a matched apprentice-employer dataset combined with actual payment data, we estimate the elasticity of apprenticeship take-up with respect to subsidy levels and assess the resulting consequences for the total volume of contracts. The results show no significant effect of the 2023 subsidy decrease on apprenticeship employment.

The Effect of Minimum Wage: History, Theories and Debates. SES–ENS. Forthcoming, December 2026.

> This article reviews the main economic theories on the effects of the minimum wage, from the neoclassical approach to the empirical turn, focusing on their implications for employment, wage distribution, and income inequality. It synthesizes the methods and main findings of recent literature to provide an overview of the current state of knowledge on minimum wage effects, with particular attention to the French case.

Critical Book Review: "boyd, danah. Data Are Made, Not Found: A Story of Politics, Power, and the Civil Servants Who Saved the US Census.". Lectures (OpenEdition). Forthcoming, Winter 2027.

> With rare insider access to the Census Bureau, boyd observed and interviewed hundreds of government civil servants who made the 2020 census. By documenting the perspectives of government workers, *Data Are Made, Not Found* provides a rare glimpse into what it takes to make democracy's data.

The Efficiency of Subsidy Policies for Movie Theaters: An Assessment of the "Art et Essai" Classification in France. Bachelor's thesis, École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, 2024 (grade: 17/20).

> This paper studies the effects of the "Art et Essai" classification on French movie theaters using administrative data on theater exhibition combined with socio-economic data at the municipal level (2018-2019). I find that Art et Essai status is associated with an increase in the number of screenings by 23% and ticket sales for auteur films by 4%, but has no significant effect on average ticket prices.

Skills

Programming: R (`fixest`, `did`, `rdrobust`, `synthdid`), Stata (`reghdfe`, `rdrobust`), Python, Excel

Languages: French (native), English (C1 – Cambridge CAE), Spanish (B1)

Tools: LaTeX, Microsoft Office