

Roberto Ponce Lopez

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EDUCATION

August 2012 - Current	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Department of Urban Studies and Planning. Ph.D. in Urban Information Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fields of specialization: 1) Urban Information Systems; 2) Economic GeographyDissertation in progress. Topic: Social Segmentation of Urban Space. Committee: Prof. Joseph Ferreira (chair), Prof. Amy Glasmeier, and Assistant Prof. Jinhua Zhao	Cambridge, MA, USA
August 2010 – May 2012	Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) H. J. Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management MSc. in Public Policy and Management. Graduated with highest distinction <ul style="list-style-type: none">Concentration in Geographic Information Systems	Pittsburgh, PA USA
August 1999 – May 2004	Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM) B.A. in Political Science. Graduated with honors <ul style="list-style-type: none">Thesis on the geography of vote in Mexico in the elections of 1997, 2000 and 2003. Applied spatial econometrics' methods to study voting patterns. Thesis submitted in 2009	Mexico City, Mexico

RELEVANT WORK AND RESEARCH

January 2015 - Current	Research Assistant, Singapore – MIT Alliance. Future Mobility Project <ul style="list-style-type: none">Calibrate a bidding model to estimate willingness to pay for housing, which is the core component of a Land Use and Transportation Integrated model (LUTI)Build a hedonic model from housing transactions to forecast prices of housingEstimate screening probabilities for a household moving to new residential units using discrete choice modelsExtensive use of QGIS, PostreSQL, PostGIS, R, and D3.	Cambridge, MA, USA
May 2011 – Jul 2011	Team Leader – Needs Assessment and Evaluation Lead. TechBridgeWorld Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conduct focus groups and in depth interviews for 10 weeks in Montevideo to identify implementation challenges of the One Laptop-Per-Child platform, a program of free laptops targeting low income students of elementary school	Montevideo, Uruguay
January 2010 – July 2010	Associate Director of Research, Office of the President of Mexico <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lead a team of 12 analysts and researchers from different backgrounds; oversee directors and manage themConduct more than 120 focus groups and 50 polls to measure the impact of Federal Government's public policies on citizens' political attitudesEvaluate and assess effectiveness of public policies	Mexico City, Mexico
Sept. 2009 – January 2010	Director of GeoStatistics, Office of the President of Mexico	Mexico City, Mexico

- Combine Geographic Information Systems and Statistics to construct a cluster Mexico's municipalities according to their poverty level, infrastructure endowment, and degree of accessibility to markets

January 2007 – Sept. 2009 **Sub Director of GeoStatistics, Office of the President of Mexico** Mexico City, Mexico

- Map the spread and geographic contagion pattern of the flu virus, during the influenza emergency of 2009
- Draw maps for displaying social demographic indicators

Feb. 2003 – Aug. 2003 **Research Assistant, Instituto Nacional de Estudios Históricos de las Revoluciones de México (INEHRM)** Mexico City, Mexico

- Document through historical archives the epistolary correspondence between Mexican intellectual Alfonso Reyes and other public figures from the mid-twenty century. Work for Dr. Javier Garcíadiego

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2015 Professor, Theories of Urban Form. Graduate Level. 1-Week course. Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás (UMSNH)
School of Architecture and Design.

Summer 2015 Laboratory Assistant, Demand Modelling. Prof. Moshe Ben-Akiva. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Executive Education Program. 1-week course. Department of Civil Engineering.

Spring 2015 Teaching Assistant, Accounting for Local and Regional Economic Change. Prof. Amy Glasmeier. Graduate level. Full term course. MIT
Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

Fall 2014 Teaching Assistant, Applied Spatial Data Analysis and Statistics. Visiting MIT
Profesor Luc Anselin. Graduate level. 1/2 semester course. Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

Spring 2012 Teaching Assistant, Geographic Information Systems. Prof. Kristen Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)
Kurland. Graduate level. Full term course. Heinz College of Public Policy and Management.

Fall 2011 Teaching Assistant, Geographic Information Systems. Prof. Kristen CMU
Kurland. Graduate level. Full term course. Heinz College of Public Policy and Management.

CERTIFICATIONS

June 2007 – Dec. 2007 Centro de Investigación en Geografía y Geomática (CentroGeo) Mexico City, Mexico
Diploma in Geomatics

April 2005 – October 2005 Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México Mexico City, Mexico
Instituto de Geografía.
Diploma in Election Maps and Cartography

August 2010 – May 2012 Institut D'Études Politiques de Paris (SciencesPo) Mexico City, Mexico
Diploma in International Studies

INVITED TALKS

October 27th, 2015 Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). Morelia, Mexico
National School of Advanced Studies (ENES).
Title of the presentation: *Urban Poverty, Economic Segregation, and Inequality*

October 23rd, 2015 Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo (UMSNH). Morelia, Mexico
School of Architecture and Design.
Title of the presentation: *Development across Mexican Regions and Cities*

March 28th, 2015 Harvard Kennedy School Cambridge, MA
21st International Development Conference
Title of the presentation: *The Challenges of Urbanization in Latin America*

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

May 2015	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Graduate Tuition Fellowship and Full Stipend	Cambridge, MA
August 2012	Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT). Graduate Scholarship to pursue doctoral studies in the United States	Mexico City, Mexico
July 2012	Club-Mex of MIT Alumni. Awarded with a loan to continue studies in MIT	
August 2010	Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT). Graduate Scholarship to pursue master studies in the United States	Mexico City, Mexico

PUBLICATIONS

Ponce-Lopez, R. (2015). What the lagoon left us. Changes of urban space in Mexico and Venice. In T. Candiano, L.F. Ortega, K. Jasso (Eds.) *Possessing Nature*. 56. *Esposizione Internazionale di Arte della Biennale di Venezia* (80-89). Mexico City: Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes y Literatura.

Ponce-Lopez, R. (2010). Ciudad Juarez: A city caught between Mexico, the United States, and the global economy. *The Heinz Journal*. Volume 9, Issue 1:2.

SKILLS

- Econometrics. Software: R, Biogeme
- Spatial Econometrics. Software: GeoDA, GeodaSpace
- Database Management. Software: SQL Plus, PostgreSQL, Access
- Geographic Information Systems. Software: ArcGIS, QGIS, ENVI
- Programming. Language: Python, Java, JavaScript
- Optimization and Risk Analysis. Software: Solver, Crystal Ball