DALIT CONTINI

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**Current Position**

Full Professor of Social Statistics, 2020-

**Previous Positions and Education**

2006-2020 Associate Professor of Social Statistics

1993-2006 Assistant Professor of Statistics, University of Torino

1993 PhD in Statistics, University of Padova

1987-1990 Secondary school teacher of Mathematics and Statistics

1987 Laurea (M. Sc.) in Statistical, Demographic and Actuarial Sciences, University of Padova

**Other activities (recent)**

*Director* of the master’s level degree course in Metodi Statistici ed Economici per le Decisioni - SEED (Statistical and Economic Methods for Decisions)

*Faculty member* of the [Ph.D. in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research (SOMET)](http://www.graduateschool.unimi.it/sociology/),   
NASP Graduate School in Social and Political Sciences, 2014-.

*Faculty member* of the [Ph.D. in Economics](http://www.graduateschool.unimi.it/sociology/) Vilfredo Pareto, 2023-.

*Associate Editor* of the journal Statistical Methods and Applications, 2013-2019.

*Scientific Council of* AISP*-*Associazione Italiana Studi di Popolazione

*Scientific Committee* of Master’s program *Big Data Analytics for Policy Evaluation*

*Scientific Committee* of CIRDA Centro Interdipartimentale per la Ricerca Didattica e l’Aggiornamento degli Insegnamenti, University of Torino

*Scientific Committee* of Osservatorio su Università e Professioni, University of Torino

*Referee* for international journals: Economics of Education Review, Education Economics, Science of Learning (Nature portfolio), Higher Education, Sociological Methods and Research, Social Science Research, European Sociological Review, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Rationality and Society, Journal of Applied Statistics, Statistical Methods and Applications, Social Forces, Social Stratification and Research, Quality and Quantity, International Journal of Comparative Sociology, Genus, Italian Journal of Sociology of Education, Italian Statistical Society.

**Research interests**

Educational inequalities, educational choices and role of schooling systems

Impact evaluation of social policies

Higher education

Poverty and social exclusion

Longitudinal data modeling  
Categorical data modeling

**Current teaching**

Social statistics (MS in Sociology)

Econometrics (MS in Statistics)  
Longitudinal data modeling (MS in Statistics)  
Data Analysis and Probability (BA in Economics and Statistics)

**Research projects (recent)**

PRIN 2022, Tackling Inequalities in Educational Outcomes: Experimental Evidence from Italian Primary Schools, PI Pietro Biroli, University of Bologna 2023-2025 (to be started)

NoVAGraphS: Non-Visual Access to Graphical Structures. Funded by Fondazione CRT 2022-23. Collaboration

Teacher training in Piedmont on innovative teaching methods for overcoming the mathematics gender gap. Funded by Fondazione CRT. 2020-2021

FISR COVID 2020, School closures and inequalities in mathematics learning, Funded by MUR

ROOM FOR ACTION - Improving University Dropout and Student Careers. What Room for Institutional Action? Funded by the National Agency for the Evaluation of University and Research (ANVUR) - Principal Investigator.

VAL-ORIENTA - School Guidance After Middle School. Impact Evaluation of a Program Addressed to Schools with Disadvantaged Student Composition (Orientamento alla scelta dopo la terza media. Valutazione dell’impatto causale di un intervento mirato rivolto a scuole medie ad alta criticità). Funded by Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Torino CRT – Principal investigator

The Effect of Grade Retention on High-school Students’ Schooling Careers (Gli effetti della bocciatura sulle carriere degli studenti). Project in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Education (MIUR) and the Italian Institute for the Evaluation of the Schooling system (INVALSI) - Principal Investigator.

Tackling the Gender Gap in Mathematics in Piedmont. 2017-2020. Funded by Compagnia di San Paolo.

TEAM – International mobility of university students in Italy. The North-South gap. (Mobilità degli studenti universitari in Italia. Il divario Nord-Sud). Project in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Education (MIUR) and the Universities of Palermo, Cagliari and Siena.

Strategic Research Grants - University of Torino 2013-2016, Equal Educ to Employ - Inequalities in higher education careers and labor market outcomes. Study completion, labor market entry and job skill mismatch using multiple data sources in a longitudinal perspective (Equal Educ to Employ), University of Torino, <http://www.equaleductoemploy.unito.it/>.

Education as a Lifelong Process Comparing Educational Trajectories in Modern Societies (eduLIFE), external collaborator of the third phase: “**Secondary education:** school differentiation and social inequalities in educational attainment”. PI Hans-Peter Blossfeld, European University Institute, <http://edulife.eui.eu/Home.aspx>

**Publications**

***Peer reviewed Journals***

Borgna C., Contini D., Pinna Pintor S., Ricucci R., Vigna N. (2022)Old habits die hard? School guidance interventions and the persistence of inequalities, *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, 81,22

Contini Dalit, Di Tommaso Maria Laura, Muratori Caterina, Piazzalunga Daniela, Schiavon Lucia (2022), Who lost the most? Mathematics achievement during the COVID-19 pandemic *The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy*, 22(2): 399–408

Contini Dalit, Cugnata Federica (2020) How do institutions affect learning inequalities? Revisiting difference-in-difference models with international assessments, *Large Scale Assessments in Education*, 8:14

Contini Dalit, Salza Guido (2020) Too few university graduates. Inclusiveness and effectiveness of the Italian higher education system, *Socio-Economic Planning Sciences,* 71

Romito Marco, Pilutti Silvia, Contini Dalit (2020) Why do students leave university? Qualitative research at an Italian higher education institution, European Journal of Education, 55, 3

Contini Dalit, Marianna Filandri, Lia Pacelli (2019) Persistency in the NEET state. A longitudinal analysis, *Journal of Youth Studies,* 22, 7

Contini Dalit, Federica Cugnata, Andrea Scagni (2018) Social selection in tertiary education. Enrolment, dropout and timely degree attainment in Italy, *Higher Education*, 75, 5

Contini Dalit, Maria Laura Di Tommaso, Silvia Mendolia (2017) The gender gap in mathematics achievement: Evidence from Italian data, *Economics of Education Review*, 58

Contini Dalit, Elisa Grand (2017). On estimating achievement dynamic models from repeated cross-sections, *Sociological Methods and Research*, 46, 4

Contini Dalit, Davide Azzolini (2015). Performance and decisions. Immigrant-native gaps in educational transitions in Italy, *Journal of Applied Statistics*

Borgna Camilla, Contini Dalit (2014) Migrant achievement penalties in Western Europe. Do educational systems matter? *European Sociological Review*

Contini Dalit (2013) Immigrant background peer effects in Italian schools, *Social Science Research*

Contini Dalit, Richiardi Matteo (2012) Reconsidering the effect of welfare stigma on unemployment, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*

Contini Dalit, Scagni Andrea (2011) Inequality of Opportunity in Secondary School Enrolment in Italy, Germany and the Netherlands, *Quality and Quantity*, vol. 45, n.2

Contini Dalit (2011) Evaluating schooling systems. The role of international assessments of children's learning, *POLENA*, n.2

Richiardi Matteo, Contini Dalit (2008): Active and Passive Policies Against Poverty with Decreasing Employability, *Rivista Italiana degli Economisti*, n.2

Contini Dalit, Negri Nicola (2007): Would declining exit rates from welfare provide evidence of welfare dependence in homogeneous environments? *European Sociological Review*, vol 23, 1

Contini Dalit, Negri Nicola (2004) Assistenza uguale dipendenza? Dipende, *RIV - Rassegna Italiana di Valutazione*, III quad.

Contini Dalit, Melis Nicoletta (2002) I sussidi assistenziali inducono dipendenza? Evidenze dall’archivio sui residenti in edilizia pubblica, *Statistica Applicata*, vol 14, n.3

Bosco Nicoletta, Contini Dalit, Negri Nicola (1999) Out of welfare: Functioning of income support in Torino, *Quality and Quantity*, 33

Contini Dalit (1997) Modelli di transizione tra stati discreti in studi di natura esplorativa, *Statistica*, 1

Contini Dalit (1997) L’analisi statistica delle storie individuali di utenti dei servizi per il recupero della tossicodipendenza: considerazioni metodologiche, *Mecosan - Management ed economia sanitaria*, 22

Contini Dalit, Lovison Gianfranco (1993) The effect of marginal disuniformity on the chi-square approximation to the distribution of Pearson’s X2 in sparse contingency tables, *Computational Statistics Data Analysis*

***Chapters in books***

Contini Dalit, Roberto Zotti (2022) Do financial conditions play a role in university dropout? New evidence from administrative data, in in D. Checchi, T. Jappelli, A. Uricchio (eds.) *Teaching, Research and Academic Careers-An analysis of the Interrelations and Impacts*, Springer, forthcoming

Contini Dalit, Federica Cugnata, Andrea Scagni (2020) “From South to North: student internal migration in Italy” in V. Cuzzocrea, B. G. Bello, Y. Kazepov (eds) *Italian Youth in International Context: Belongings, constraints and options*, Youth and Young Adulthood series, Routledge, London

Contini Dalit, Marianna Filandri, Lia Pacelli (2107) I giovani NEET in Italia: un’analisi longitudinale” in Sara Alfieri and Emiliano Sironi (eds) *Una generazione in panchina. Da Neet a risorsa per il paese? Ricerche ed esperienze a confronto*, Vita e Pensiero

Contini, Dalit, Triventi, Moris (2016). Between formal openness and stratification in secondary education: Implications for social inequalities in Italy. In Blossfeld, H.-P., Buchholz, S., Skopek, J., and Triventi, M. (Eds.), *Models of Secondary Education and Social Inequality – An International Comparison* (pp. 305–322). Cheltenham, UK and Northampton, MA, USA: Edward Elgar Publishing.

Contini Dalit, Scagni Andrea (2013) Social Origin Inequalities in Educational Careers in Italy. Performance or Decision Effects? in Jackson Michelle (eds), *Determined to Fail? Performance, Choice and Education*, Stanford University Press

Contini Dalit, Scagni Andrea (2011) Secondary school choices in Italy. Ability or social backgroud? in Attanasio Massimo, Capursi Vincenza (eds), *Statistical Methods for the Evaluation of University Systems*, Springer, Physica Verlag

Contini Dalit (2007) Is the length of the first job-search spell a valid measure of external effectiveness of study programs? in Fabbris Luigi (eds), *Effectiveness of University Education in Italy: Employability, Competences, Human Capital*, Springer, Physica-Verlag

Contini Dalit (2005) La durata della ricerca del primo impiego è un buon indicatore di efficacia della formazione universitaria? in Crocetta Carlo (eds) *Modelli statistici per l’analisi della transizione Università-lavoro*, CLEUP, Padova

Contini Dalit, Pronzato Chiara (2003) Il lavoro di una vita, una vita di lavori. Tra cambiamenti nel mercato, famiglia e politiche sociali, in in Bosco Nicoletta, Negri Nicola (eds) *Corsi di vita, povertà e vulnerabilità sociale*, Guerini Scientifica, Milano

Contini Dalit (2003) Modelli per dati event history. Appendice A., in Bosco Nicoletta, Negri Nicola (eds) *Corsi di vita, povertà e vulnerabilità sociale*, Guerini Scientifica, Milano

Contini Dalit, Melis Nicoletta, Pronzato Chiara (2002) Politiche abitative e storie di lavoro, in *Percorsi a ostacoli. Lo spazio della vulnerabilità sociale*, Negri Nicola (eds), Trauben Edizioni, Torino

Bosco Nicoletta, Contini Dalit (1999) Percorsi nell’assistenza dei poveri abili a Torino, in Mingione Enzo (eds) *Le sfide dell’esclusione: metodi, luoghi, soggetti*, Il Mulino

***Submitted work***

[Contini](http://www.didattica-est.unito.it/do/docenti.pl/Show?_id=dcontini) D., Di Tommaso M.L., Muratori C., [Piazzalunga](https://www.iza.org/person/9416) D., Schiavon L. (2023) A lost generation? Impact of COVID-19 on high school students’ achievements

Contini D., Salza G. (2022) Children left behind. New evidence on the (adverse) impact of grade retention on educational careers, SocArXiv. April 27. doi:10.31235/osf.io/kv9bw

## [Di Tommaso](http://www.carloalberto.org/people/faculty/affiliates/ditommaso/) M.L., [Contini](http://www.didattica-est.unito.it/do/docenti.pl/Show?_id=dcontini) D., De Rosa D., [Ferrara](https://unito.academia.edu/FrancescaFerrara) F., [Piazzalunga](https://www.iza.org/person/9416) D., [Robutti](https://dipmath.campusnet.unito.it/do/docenti.pl/Alias?ornella.robutti#tab-profilo) D. (2020) Tackling the Gender Gap in Mathematics with Active Learning Methodologies*, IZA DP No. 14572*

***Other recent publications***

ContiniD., Della GiustaM., Di TommasoML., PiazzalungaD. The pandemic, socioeconomic disadvantage, and learning outcomes in Italy, in S.V. Schnepf, L. Volante, D. Klinger, O Giancola, L. Salmieri (eds) ‘The Pandemic, Socioeconomic Disadvantage and Learning Outcomes: Cross-National Impact Analyses of Education Policy Reform’, European Commission’s Publication Office (forthcoming)

## [Contini](http://www.didattica-est.unito.it/do/docenti.pl/Show?_id=dcontini) D., [Di Tommaso](http://www.carloalberto.org/people/faculty/affiliates/ditommaso/) M.L., [Piazzalunga](https://www.iza.org/person/9416) D. (2022) Pandemia di COVID-19 e apprendimenti scolastici: che cosa abbiamo imparato? *Epidemiologia e Prevenzione*, 46(4).

## [Contini](http://www.didattica-est.unito.it/do/docenti.pl/Show?_id=dcontini) D., [Di Tommaso](http://www.carloalberto.org/people/faculty/affiliates/ditommaso/) M.L., Muratori C., [Piazzalunga](https://www.iza.org/person/9416) D., Schiavon L. (2021) The COVID-19 Pandemic and School Closure: Learning Loss in Mathematics in Primary Education, *IZA DP No. 14785*

Contini Dalit, Romito Marco, Zotti Roberto, Salza Guido, Ricciardi Riccardo (2019) *Improving university dropout and student careers. What room for institutional action?* Rapporto conclusivo bando pubblico III concorso per “Idee di ricerca” 2017

Contini, Salza Guido and Scagni Andrea (2017) [Dropout and Time to Degree in Italian Universities Around the Economic Crisis](http://www.est.unito.it/do/home.pl/Download?doc=/allegati/wp2017dip/wp_16_2017.pdf), WP 16/17 Department of Economics and Statistics, University of Turin

Contini Dalit, Salza Guido, Scagni Andrea (2017). Abbandono universitario e tempi alla laurea: una criticità in evoluzione positiva? *UniTo per lo sviluppo del Territorio. Focus* 1*.* Università degli Studi di Torino.

***Conference Proceedings (recent)***

F. Ferrara, G. Ferrari, O. Robutti, D. Contini, M. Di Tommaso (2021) When gender matters: a study of gender differences in mathematics. The 44th Conference of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education (PME 44), Khon Kaen, Thailand, July 19-22, 2021. Proceedings of the 44th Conference of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education

Borgna C., Contini D. (2021) Despite the Best Intentions. Educational Inequalities in Highly Stratified but Choice-Driven Tracking Systems, Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference of the Journal Scuola Democratica, “Reinventing Education” Volume II   
Learning with New Technologies, Equality and Inclusion

Borgna C., Contini D. (2019) Divided we stand? Immigrants’ and natives’ decision making processes at first tracking in Italy, Proceeding of the First International Conference of the Journal Scuola Democratica, Vol 1, Politics, Citizenship, Diversity and Inclusion, 5-8 June 2019, Cagliari, Italy

Contini Dalit (2018) *Investigating the role of educational systems on learning inequalities with international assessments. The case of early tracking*. Proceedings of the Congress of the Italian Statistical Society, Palermo 20-22 June 2018

Contini Dalit, Federica Cugnata, Andrea Scagni (2015) *From South to North: student internal migration in Italy. Should it be an issue?* Proceedings of the Biennial Meeting of the Italian Association for Population Studies, Palermo 4-6 February 2015