

### Long Biography



**Valerio Gatta** is Professor of Applied Economics and co-Director of Transport Research Lab ([www.trelab.it](http://www.trelab.it)) at Roma Tre University, where he teaches “Sustainability, Economic Development and Transport”, “Digitalization, Preference and Policy Intervention”, and “Economic Development”.

He is an economist with a strong background in statistics. He graduated from Sapienza University of Rome, where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Statistics and Economics (*magna cum Laude*) in 2002, with a thesis on statistical process control for quality management. His quantitative skills developed at Erasmus University of Rotterdam, where he has been the first graduate from the Master programme in Econometrics and Management Science with a thesis on quantitative marketing, whose excerpt has been published in a Dutch marketing journal. He completed his PhD in Economic Statistics at Sapienza University of Rome in 2006, focusing on methods and models for service quality evaluation with an application to local public transport.

After a postdoctoral fellowship from 2006 to 2008, reinforced by the position of lecturer in advanced marketing at Sapienza University of Rome for the period 2009-2012, he was a research fellow and lecturer in applied economics and transport economics at Roma Tre University from 2012 to 2015. This was an extremely relevant and flourishing period for his career characterised by various research and teaching experiences in different universities as well as by significant professional work as scientific consultant for several private research institutes. The co-existence of an applied and theoretical orientation towards transport research, together with interpersonal, practical, and teamwork skills, were very useful in shaping his growth path. Starting from 2015, in a few years, he went from assistant to associate professor in applied economics. The gained experience allowed establishing the Transport Research Lab in 2018, and obtaining a full professor position in 2025.

His main research interests include sustainable mobility, behaviour and demand modelling, participatory policy planning and making. He has an extensive research experience in urban freight transport linked to innovative solutions (e.g., crowdshipping, parcel lockers, off-hour deliveries, etc.) and their environmental-economic-social impacts, policy acceptability, stakeholder engagement, e-commerce and on-demand logistics, digital twins, gamification, and eco-labelling. Other relevant research areas concern passenger transport with particular reference to local public transport (e.g., service quality, automated buses, etc.), modal shift, airport/airline choice, active travel and tourism. From a methodological standpoint, stated preferences and discrete choice modelling are at the core of his academic path. In more detail, he investigated and applied both cutting hedge techniques in experimental design development (e.g., designing efficient choice experiments, acquiring stakeholder-specific data, etc.) and advanced econometric modelling to deal with preference heterogeneity, non-linear effects, best-worst choices, willingness to pay confidence intervals, and interactions/dynamic effects in combination with agent-based models.

His focused research interests produced significant results in terms of both papers published (around 150 publications), mostly in peer-reviewed journals with an international co-authorship (<https://scholar.google.it/citations?user=PYgxBT8AAAAJ&hl=it>), and research grants secured. He has gained valuable skills in preparing grant proposals and acquiring research funds. He has been involved in several international (e.g., European Commission H2020/7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme, European Parliament, etc.) national (e.g., Italian Ministry for University and Research, Norwegian Research Council, etc.) and local (e.g., Lazio Region, etc.) funded research projects.

He has acquired a substantial teaching experience at bachelor's, master's, and PhD level in various subjects (e.g., Sustainable Mobility, Economic Development, Stated Preference and Discrete Choice Models, etc.). Over the last decade, he has had multitude of opportunity to participate in the development of educational quality as responsible for master's degree courses and for monitoring and proposing measures to improve training offer, quality of teaching, and tutoring services.

Along with a strong focus on research and teaching, he has constantly made an effort to establish and develop an internationally relevant network of cooperation among the most prominent researchers active in the research field. This strategy substantiated in interacting with well-known international research groups and academic/research associations (e.g., CoESUFS - Center of Excellence for Sustainable Urban Freight Systems, SIET – Italian Society of Transport Economics and Logistics, NECTAR – Network of European Communications and Transport Activities Research, etc.) as well as *organising/participating to* highly regarded international conferences/workshops. His networking approach was also implemented by developing professional relationships with public/local administrations and private institutions (e.g., Rome Mobility Agency, Institute of Transport Training and Research, Rome City Council, etc.).

He is currently Editor in Chief of the “Research in Transportation Economics” journal (<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/research-in-transportation-economics>), and regularly takes on peer review assignments for journals and books to keep abreast with the development in relevant academic areas.