

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## Ralf Becker

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## PRESENT EMPLOYMENT

2020 – to date            Professor, University of Manchester  
2008 – 2020             Senior Lecturer, University of Manchester  
2005 – 2008             Lecturer, University of Manchester

## PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENTS

2002 – 2004             Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology  
1998 – 2002             Research Assistant and Tutor, Queensland University of Technology  
1997 (Aug – Nov)       Project Assistant, Deutsche Bank AG  
1993 – 1996             Survey Assistant, Hewitt Associates (part time)  
1991 – 1992             Social Service (in lieu of Military Service)

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Doctor of Philosophy, 2002, (QUT), principal supervisor Professor Stan Hurn
- Diplom-Volkswirt, 1998, (University of Mainz, Germany)

## PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- Deputy Head of Economics Department, responsible for the Department's Teaching & Learning  
This is a significant academic leadership role in which I coordinate the department's teaching and learning for undergraduate and postgraduate teaching (approx. annual student intake of 1,100 undergraduate and 150 postgraduate students). My main role is to guide and support my colleagues (app. 60 faculty) in delivering high quality teaching.
- Member of the Executive Board of the Economics Network  
The Economics Network is an organisation which supports economics departments and their faculty in offering the best possible education. My particular role has been the coordination for the Network's training offers, in particular the training to new Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTA). Annually more than 150 GTAs from departments across the UK are being trained.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. CORE – Doing Economics (2019)(with Eileen Tipoe). Available at: <http://www.core-econ.org/doing-economics/>. [Accessed on 17 Oct 2019]  
*Eileen Tipoe has been the lead author of this resource. I contributed and coordinated the R programming versions.*
2. Special issue on Flipping and Alternative Use of Classroom Time, in *International Review of Economic Education*, aim to publish in 2018 (co-edited with Alvin Birdi)
3. Flipping the Classroom: Old Ideas, New Technologies Article reference (2018) (with Alvin Birdi), *International Review of Economics Education*, 29, p. 1-5, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iree.2018.06.001>

4. Flipping Quantitative Tutorials. (2018) (with Steven Proud), International Review of Economics, 29, p 59-73, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iree.2018.01.004>
5. Student Success in Asynchronous STEM Education: measuring and identifying contributors to learner outcomes, (with Smith, David; Pasioka, Aron; Perdikoulis, Christina), EDUCON2022, IEEE Global Engineering Education Conference, 2022.
6. Evaluating non-compulsory educational interventions – the case of peer assisted study groups, (with Maggy Fostier), University of Manchester Discussion Paper Series, EDP-1509.

## CURRENT TEACHING DUTIES

### ECON10011 Studying Economics

A first year study skills course unit for a group of 150 1<sup>st</sup> year BSc Economics students.

### ECON10072 Advanced Statistics

A first or second year statistics unit which helps students to develop skills in descriptive and inferential statistics. In the course of learning these skills students also are supported in implementing any techniques taught in EXCEL as being able to navigate around a spreadsheet programme is a crucial skill for their further studies and live after University.

### ECON20222 Quantitative Methods (joint with Martyn Andrews)

A second year econometrics units (with about 50 students) which allows students to learn about the essential empirical techniques required for economists. In order to facilitate the learning of the R programming language, I have created the [Econometric Computing Learning Resource](#) (ECLR).

## OPEN ACCESS TEACHING RESOURCES

- Contribute **R-versions to the CORE Doing Economics** online resource (<https://www.core-econ.org/project/doing-economics/>)
- I have been developing an interactive textbook for the use in a large first year (900+ students) Mathematics and Statistics units for economists unit. This interactive textbook combines text, videos and importantly questions which test students' understanding. ([UoM Humanities Teaching Academy blog post](#), [Economics Network Case Study](#)).
- I have a YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@RalfBecker>) on which I publish many **online clips** I produce to support my student's learning. I have more than 9,000 followers and my clips have been viewed more than 2.1 million times.
- I have been instrumental in the creation and writing of the [Econometric Computing Learning Resource](#) (ECLR). This has been written to support our students' learning of statistical software (in particular R and MATLAB). It is heavily used by our own students but is also openly accessible.

## TEACHING AWARDS

University of Manchester: Teaching Excellence Award (2011), Best in Blackboard Award (2011 to 2015), Most Innovative Lecturer (2016), Faculty Students' Outstanding Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) Award (2019), Faculty Students' Outstanding Teaching Award (2021)  
 Economic Network: Best Economics Lecturer 2013, Runner-up