

## Workshop on Historical Methods in Research

Sandeep Devanatha Pillai,  
BOCCONI

Date: 29.01.2020, Venue: N001 @ 2.30PM

### Abstract

Historical explanation, along with quantitative, ethnographic, and experimental, are one of the "four main methods of addressing causal questions in social science (Stinchcombe, 2005)." Recent special issues in leading management journals that focus on the use of historical methods are a testament to the renewed attention that history is receiving from the management research community. However, despite these promising developments, even though Strategy scholars admit that 'History Matters', there remains significant ambiguity about how scholars can engage with history to produce knowledge that is generally recognised as contributing to the broader field of Strategic Management. The purpose of this workshop is to have an open discussion about how history can be used effectively in Strategy studies.

To have a grounding for the discussion, participants are requested to read:

1. Braguinsky, Serguey, and David A. Hounshell. "History and nanoeconomics in strategy and industry evolution research: Lessons from the Meiji-Era Japanese cotton spinning industry." *Strategic Management Journal* 37, no. 1 (2016): 45-65.
2. Klepper, S. (2007). Disagreements, spinoffs, and the evolution of Detroit as the capital of the US automobile industry. *Management Science*, 53(4), 616-631.

### Speaker Profile

Sandeep is interested in studying the determinants of firm performance in early-stage industries. Sandeep explores the challenges that entrepreneurs face during the early stages of an industry, and the capabilities they need to overcome those challenges. Empirically, Sandeep focuses on the usage of Historical methods. Sandeep's dissertation focused on the early stages of the American automobile industry.

Sandeep is an assistant professor in the Department of Management and Technology at Bocconi. He holds a PhD in Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship from the University of Maryland.

Link: <http://didattica.unibocconi.eu/docenti/cv.php?rif=228127>