

# MERCEDEZ CALLENES

E-mail: mercedez.callenes@utdallas.edu

Phone: 1-617-863-7291

<https://mercedezcallenes.com>

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## Education

- **University of Texas at Dallas.** School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences. PhD in Public Policy and Political Economy. May 2021 (expected).
- **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.** Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics. MS in Applied Economics. December 2013.
- **Pontifical Catholic University of Peru.** School of Social Science. Department of Economics. BS in Economics. December, 2006.

## Research Interests

Gender-sensitive policies, peace and conflict studies, and poverty reduction policies in Latin America.

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## Select Awards and Fellowships

- Doctoral Dissertation Research Award. The Office of Graduate Education at the University of Texas at Dallas (2019)
  - Fulbright Fellowship. Scholarship for Graduate Studies in the United States of America (2011)
  - Graduate Fellowship. College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) - University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2011-2013)
  - Membership in the Gamma Sigma Delta, International Agricultural Honor Society. Chapter: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2013)
  - AYRE International Research and Learning Fellowship, Njala University in Sierra Leone (2011)
  - Finalist at the National Competition Research Consortium for Economic and Social Research (CIES) and the International Development Research Center (IDRC) (2009)
  - Scholarship awarded by LACEA Studies and Global Development Network (GDN) (2008)
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## Professional Experience

- **University of Texas at Dallas. School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences** (Richardson, TX) (8/2016 – to present)
  - Research Assistant. NSF Grant Critical Resilient Interdependent Infrastructure Systems and Processes (CRISP). Type 1/Collaborative Research (ID:1541199). Lessons Learned from Decades of Attacks against Critical Interdependent Infrastructures.
  - Course Instructor, Political Economy of Development in Latin America. Summer 2019
  - Course Instructor, Regional Topics in International Political Economy - Latin America. Fall 2019
- **Environmental Resources Management (ERM)** (Lima, Peru) Social Area, Socio-economic researcher - (4/2014 – 12/2015)
- **University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign** (Urbana, Illinois) Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics – Research Assistant. (8/2011 –7/2013)

- **Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE)** (Lima, Peru) Agricultural Economics and Rural Development Area, Assistant researcher (4/2009 – 2/2011)
- **University of Wisconsin - Madison** (Madison, Wisconsin) Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Assistant researcher - Internship program - (8/2008 - 3/2009)
- **Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE)** (Lima, Peru) Agricultural Economics and Rural Development Area (3/2007 – 7/2008)

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## Professional Training

- **University of Texas at Dallas** (Richardson, TX) (12/2020)  
Graduate Teaching Certificate by the Center for Teaching & Learning.
- **University of Essex** (Essex, UK) (8/2018)  
Course: Dynamic Models for Social Scientists. Professor Harold D. Clarke. Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis.
- **University of Njala** (Njala, Sierra Leone) (12/2011)  
Workshop: Sustainable Agriculture, Environment, and the Community Development.
- **University of Los Andes** (Bogotá, Colombia) (6/2008)  
Course: Econometric Techniques Applied to the Management of Micro and Panel Data. Professor Sebastian Galiani. Department of Economics. University of Maryland

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## Publications

Agustin Palao Mendizabal, Jennifer S. Holmes, Neil Ortiz, Mercedes Callenes & Álvaro Cárdenas (2020) A hotspot analysis of critical hydrocarbons infrastructure in Colombia: ELN (Ejército de Liberación Nacional) and FARC (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia) attacks on Colombian pipelines. *Applied Geography*. 126, 102376. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2020.102376>

Agustin Palao Mendizabal, Jennifer S. Holmes, Mercedes Callenes & Álvaro Cárdenas (2019) Crossing thresholds: The use of spatial analysis to identify intensification of the Colombian conflict. *Conflict Resolution Quarterly*. 2019; 37: 177– 187. <https://doi.org/10.1002/crq.21265>

Jennifer S. Holmes, Agustin Palao Mendizabal, David Saucedo De La Fuente, Mercedes Callenes & Álvaro Cárdenas (2019) Paramilitary Violence in Colombia: A Multilevel Negative Binomial Analysis. *Defense and Peace Economics*, DOI: 10.1080/10242694.2019.1624067

Seth R. Gitter, Jeremy G. Weber, Bradford L. Barham, Mercedes Callenes & Jessa Lewis Valentine (2012) Fair Trade-Organic Coffee Cooperatives, Migration, and Secondary Schooling in Southern Mexico, *The Journal of Development Studies*, 48:3, 445-463, DOI: 10.1080/00220388.2011.598511

Barham, B. L., Callenes, M., Gitter, S., Lewis, J., & Weber, J. (2011). Fair Trade/Organic Coffee, Rural Livelihoods, and the “Agrarian Question”: Southern Mexican Coffee Families in Transition. *World Development*, 39(1), 134–145. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2010.08.005>

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## Conference Presentations

“Using hot spot analysis to prioritize security efforts in Colombian critical infrastructure, a focus on the power grid.” The 23rd Latin America Social and Public Policy Conference (LASPP). Organized by The Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at the University of Pittsburgh. March 2019.

“The Pacification Process and the Dynamics of Colombian Violence”, New Security Challenges: Organized Crime & Urban Conflict in the Americas. Universidad del Pacífico, Lima – Perú. October 2018.

“Paramilitary Violence in Colombia: A Multilevel Negative Binomial Analysis.” The 22nd Latin America Social and Public Policy Conference (LASPP). Organized by The Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at the University of Pittsburgh. March 2018.

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## Relevant Skills

- Computer and Statistical: STATA, ArcGIS, LaTeX
  - Languages: Spanish (Native) and English (Fluent)
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## References

- Dr. Jennifer S. Holmes  
Dean at the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences  
University of Texas at Dallas  
jholmes@utdallas.edu  
Phone: 972-883-6852
- Dr. Brian Berry  
Lloyd Viel Berkner Regental Professor  
Member of National Academy of Sciences  
School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences  
University of Texas at Dallas  
brian.berry@utdallas.edu  
Phone: 972-569-7173
- Dr. Banks Miller  
Associate Dean for Graduate Education  
Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Policy  
School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences  
University of Texas at Dallas  
millerbp@utdallas.edu  
Phone: 614-440-0159
- Dr. Jeremy Weber  
Public Administration Program Director; Associate Professor  
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs  
University of Pittsburgh  
j.weber@pitt.edu  
Phone: 412-648-2650