

Mercedes Callenes

School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

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Education

- **University of Texas at Dallas.** School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences. Ph.D. Candidate in Public Policy and Political Economy. May 2021 (expected).
- **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.** Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics (ACE). 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

Rural development, gender-sensitive poverty reduction strategies, and impact evaluation of social programs in Latin America.

Awards and Fellowships

- 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)

Professional Experience

- **The 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 Studies Area, Socio-economic researcher - (4/2014 – 12/2015)

- **University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign** (Urbana, Illinois) Department of Consumer Economics – Graduate 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, WI) 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, Assistant researcher (3/2007 – 7/2008)

Professional Training

- **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.

Publications

- Palao-Mendizabal, A, Holmes, JS, Callenes, M, Cardenas, Á. 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>

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.

Relevant Skills

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

References

- Dr. Jennifer S. Holmes
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- Dr. Brian Berry
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