

Alexander J. Fertig

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| CONTACT INFORMATION | 611 Tappan Avenue Department of Economics University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI 48109 | <i>phone:</i> (716) 587-1812 <i>e-mail:</i> afertig@umich.edu <i>website:</i> alexanderfertig.com |
| RESEARCH INTERESTS | Development Economics, Political Economy, Labor Economics | |
| EDUCATION | University of Michigan , Ann Arbor, MI | |
| | Ph.D., Economics & Public Policy | 2026 |
| | M.A., Economics | 2021 |
| | Columbia University , New York, NY | |
| | M.P.A., International Development | 2016 |
| | Wesleyan University , Middletown, CT | |
| | B.A., Mathematics-Economics | 2010 |
| JOB MARKET PAPER | “ Technology of Liberation or Control?: The Asymmetric Effects of the Internet on Political Conflict ” (with Megan Ryan) | |
| PUBLICATIONS | “ A Field of Her Own: Property Rights and Women’s Agency in Myanmar ” (with Alexandra Hartman, Lakshmi Iyer, and Edmund Malesky), The Journal of Politics 2026 | |
| | “ Measuring Remittances ” (with Giuseppe De Arcangelis, Yuna Liang, Peter Srouji, and Dean Yang), Journal of Development Economics , 2023 | |
| WORKING PAPERS | “The Intergenerational Impacts of Reparations: Evidence from the Eastern Cherokees” (with Achyuta Adhvaryu, Randall Akee, Emilia Simeonova, and Huayu Xu) | |
| | “Goal Setting for Remittances” (with Marup Hossain and Dean Yang) | |
| WORKS IN PROGRESS | “Bias and Precision in Measurement of Livestock Weight” (with Andrew Dillon, Dylan Groves, and Dean Karlan) | |
| | “Mobile Money Agents’ Incentives to Adopt Digital Tools: A Randomized Controlled Pilot Study” (with Emma Riley) | |
| | “Innovations in School-Based Learning Programs to Mitigate Risks of Conflict for Youth in the Philippines’ BARMM Region” (with Jeroen Adam and Mahreen Khan) | |
| | “Unpacking Bias and Market Power in Bangladesh’s High International Migration Costs (with Mahreen Khan, Sakib Mahmood, and Emir Murathanoglu) | |

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| TEACHING | <p>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI</p> <p>Econ 461: Economic Development, Spring 2022</p> <p>Econ 251: Introduction to Econometrics and Statistics, Fall 2020 / Spring 2021 / Fall 2021</p> |
| | <p>Columbia University, New York, NY</p> <p>SIPA U6500: Quantitative Analysis for International and Public Affairs I, Fall 2015</p> <p>SIPA U6501: Quantitative Analysis for International and Public Affairs II, Spring 2016</p> |
| HONORS AND AWARDS | <p>University of Michigan: Population Studies Center (PSC) Fellowship <i>Economic Demography Training Program</i>, 2022–Present</p> |
| | <p>University of Michigan: Poverty Solutions Research Award <i>Strategies to Prevent and Alleviate Poverty</i>, 2022</p> |
| | <p>Columbia University: Global Leaders Scholarship, 2014</p> |
| | <p>Columbia University: SIPA Scholarship, 2014</p> |
| | <p>Wesleyan University: White Prize for Advanced Undergraduate Study in Economics, 2010</p> |
| GRANTS | <p>Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA): Peace & Recovery Program Exploratory Grant (9,541 USD) <i>Innovations in school-based learning programs to mitigate risks of conflict for youth in the Philippines’ BARMM region</i>, 2025</p> |
| | <p>University of Michigan: Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant (3,000 USD) <i>The Role of Social Media in Conflict Settings: Evidence from Myanmar</i>, 2024</p> |
| | <p>William T. Grant Foundation: Major Research Grant on Reducing Inequality (239,817 USD) <i>The Intergenerational Impacts of Reparations on Youth Outcomes: Evidence from the Eastern Cherokees</i>, 2023</p> |
| | <p>Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA): Peace & Recovery Program Exploratory Grant (11,399 USD) <i>The Role of Online Hate Speech in Myanmar’s Ethnic Conflict</i>, 2021</p> |
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| PRESENTATIONS | <p>Economic Development Seminar (EDS), University of Michigan <i>Technology of Liberation or Control?: The Asymmetric Effects of the Internet on Political Conflict</i>, October 2025</p> |
| | <p>Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC) Research and Policy Conference, National Taiwan University <i>The Asymmetric Effects of Internet Shutdowns on Protests and Armed Conflict: The Case of Myanmar</i>, June 2025</p> |

Development Day, Northwestern University
The Role of Social Media in Conflict Settings: Evidence from Myanmar, **December 2024**

Development Economics Workshop, University of Michigan
The Role of Social Media in Conflict Settings: Evidence from Myanmar, **October 2024**

IPA & GPRL Researcher Gathering, Northwestern University
Goal Setting for Remittances, **September 2024**

NBER Summer Institute – Children and Families, Cambridge, MA
The Intergenerational Impact of Financial Reparations: Evidence from the Cherokee Nation, **July 2024**

MDev Conference, University of Michigan
The Impact of Social Media on Political Conflict: Evidence from Myanmar, **May 2024**

68th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, United Nations, New York, NY
Women, Remittances and Digital Finance: Pioneering Gender-Responsive Policies and Practice (Panel Discussant), **March 2024**

Development Economics Workshop, University of Michigan
Goal Setting for Remittances, **October 2023**

IPA & GPRL Researcher Gathering, Northwestern University
Bias and Precision in Measurement of Livestock Weight: Evidence from a Benchmarking Exercise in Namibia, **October 2023**

The Ninth International Conference on Agricultural Statistics (ICAS IX), World Bank, Washington, D.C.
Bias and Precision in Measurement of Livestock Weight, **May 2023**

Development Economics Day, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Measuring Remittances, **December 2022**

Human Capital, History, Demography & Development (H2D2) Seminar, University of Michigan
The Intergenerational Impacts of Reparations: Evidence from the Eastern Cherokees, **May 2022**

Methods and Measurement Conference, Northwestern University (virtual)
Measuring Remittances, **October 2021**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Innovations for Poverty Action, Myanmar & Namibia

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|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Research Manager, Myanmar | 2017–2019 |
| Research Coordinator for Dean Karlan, Namibia | 2016–2017 |

U.S. Peace Corps, Madagascar

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| Community Economic Development Volunteer | 2011–2013 |
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| OTHER ACTIVITIES | University of Michigan: Human Capital, History, Demography, & Development (H2D2) Seminar <i>Student Coordinator, 2021–2022</i> | | | | |
| | University of Michigan: Public Policy & Economics Ph.D. Program <i>Admissions Committee Member, 2022</i> | | | | |
| CITIZENSHIP | U.S./Austrian Dual Citizen | | | | |
| REFERENCES | <hr/> <p>The Economics Ph.D. Placement Office handles all reference requests. Please direct inquiries to Econ-PhDplacements@umich.edu</p> <table> <tr> <td> Dean Yang (chair) Professor Department of Economics University of Michigan deanyang@umich.edu (734) 615-7475 </td> <td> Achyuta Adhvaryu Tata Chancellor’s Endowed Professor of Economics School of Global Policy and Strategy University of California, San Diego aadhvaryu@ucsd.edu </td> </tr> <tr> <td> Yusuf Neggers Assistant Professor Ford School of Public Policy University of Michigan yneggers@umich.edu (734) 615-6905 </td> <td> Kevin Carney Assistant Professor Department of Economics University of Michigan kecarney@umich.edu </td> </tr> </table> | Dean Yang (chair) Professor Department of Economics University of Michigan deanyang@umich.edu (734) 615-7475 | Achyuta Adhvaryu Tata Chancellor’s Endowed Professor of Economics School of Global Policy and Strategy University of California, San Diego aadhvaryu@ucsd.edu | Yusuf Neggers Assistant Professor Ford School of Public Policy University of Michigan yneggers@umich.edu (734) 615-6905 | Kevin Carney Assistant Professor Department of Economics University of Michigan kecarney@umich.edu |
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Last Updated: December 2025