

Amir Tayebi

CONTACT INFORMATION

St. Lawrence University
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EDUCATION

The University of Oklahoma (OU)

PhD, Economics, May 2022 (Expected)

- Dissertation Title: Essays on Applied Macroeconomics, Development Economics, and Financial Economics.
- Chair: Professor Firat Demir

Tarbiat Modares University, Iran

MSc, Economics, 2015

- Thesis Title: Economic Growth, Inflation, and Savings in Iran: A Simultaneous Equations Model.

Shiraz University, Iran

BSc, Economics, 2012

FIELDS

Applied Macroeconomics, Development Economics, Financial Economics

APPOINTMENTS

Visiting Instructor, Department of Economics, St. Lawrence University, 2021 - Present.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

St. Lawrence University

Financial Economics: Fall 2021.
Economic Development: Fall 2021.
Corporate Finance: Spring 2022 (scheduled).

The University of Oklahoma (OU)

Intermediate Microeconomics: Summer 2019.
Principle of Economics - Macro: Summer 2018, Fall 2020.
Principle of Economics - Micro: Summer 2020, 2021.

RESEARCH PAPERS

“How Does Democratization Affect the Production of Knowledge?” Job Market Paper.

Winner of the Chong Liew Research Award for Best Research Paper, 1st Place.

Presented at: Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, 2020, The University of Oklahoma, 2020.

This paper investigates the relationship between democratization and knowledge formation. Using bibliographic and patents data, I show that there is a positive and strong impact of democratization on the formation of knowledge in social sciences and business but not in other fields and patenting activity. I confirm these findings using an instrumental variable approach to correct for the endogeneity problems, originating from the unobservables that affect both innovation and democratization and from measurement errors in quantifying democracy indices. The instrumental variable results are in line with the baseline results. In fact, they indicate that there is a downward bias in the baseline result, which is likely to stem from measurement errors in quantifying democracy indices and unobservables. Finally, my results are robust to a number estimation methods, outliers, alternative construction of the IV, and different measures of human capital.

“The Electoral Outcomes of Contractions in Mortgage Credits”

Presented at: *Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, 2021, St. Lawrence University, 2021.*

This paper investigates the effects of the conditions of the mortgage credit market on elections in U.S. From 2004 to 2008, the U.S economy experienced an unexpected shift from the most generous underwriting standards for mortgages to a strict shrinkage of mortgage credit during the financial crisis of 2007-2008. According to the previous research, voters responded to the financial crisis of 2007-2008 by punishing the incumbent party in the presidential election, meaning that the vote share of the incumbent party decreased. To further investigate the effects of the financial crisis on elections, I employ an individual-level dataset of loan application outcomes to examine the effects of the contraction in the mortgage credit market on the House and Gubernatorial elections of 2008. I estimate the effects of credit market conditions on political outcomes in two stages. The first-stage regression isolates a bank-specific measure of mortgage credit supply growth by controlling for the demand for credit. In the second stage, I estimate the effects of changes in the mortgage credit supply extracted from the first-stage regression on the change in votes for the candidate of the democratic party as well as the candidate from the challenger party. I find no significant impact of the shrinkage in mortgage credits on House and Gubernatorial elections' outcomes. This finding suggests that voters only punish the president for the change in mortgage credits as they may believe lower-level officials are not responsible for this shift.

“Elections, Political Races, and Mortgage Market”

This paper investigates the effects of elections on the changes in the supply of mortgage credits around elections. Governments can control the supply of banks via regulations and licensing. They also consider banks as a political survival tool. Therefore, it creates an incentive for politicians to interfere in banking sector. In this paper, I consider a particular type of credit that is offered through financial institutions, and a specific kind of election: mortgage credits supply and Gubernatorial elections. The timing of the elections in the US is determined exogenously by law and essential variations are present in the timing of gubernatorial elections. I make use of this exogenous variation to study whether changes in the mortgage credits can be explained by electoral issues. Employing the individual-level mortgage credit application files and making use of the fact that different states hold gubernatorial elections in different years, I conduct a regression discontinuity design by including only the census tracts immediately adjacent to state borders. The main outcome variable is the mortgage approval rates. According to the preliminary results, mortgage credits increase during the year leading to an election.

“Private Equity and Uncertainty: A Cross-country Analysis” (With Sina Davoodi, University of Oregon)

In this paper, we make use of a news-based index of policy uncertainty to empirically investigate the relationship between policy uncertainty and private equity firms' investment. According to our preliminary results, in the presence of policy uncertainty, both number of deals and amount of investment decrease in buyout deals. In addition, policy uncertainty has a significant effect on private equity firms' exit pattern.

WORK IN PROGRESS “International Bank Lending, Democracy, and Political Uncertainty” (With Saleh Tabrizy, University of Oklahoma)

“Firms' Board of Directors and Lobbying: Evidence from U.S.”

CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, 2021 (scheduled).
St. Lawrence University, 2021.
The University of Oklahoma, Brownbag Seminars, 2020.
Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, 2020.

AWARDS Chong Liew Research Award for Best Research Paper, 1st Place, OU Department of Economics, 2020.
OU International Programs and Center of Development Award, 2017-2021.

REFERENCES

Firat Demir Professor of Economics OU Department of Economics 308 Cate Center Drive, CCD1, No. 436 Norman, OK, 73072 fdemir@ou.edu	Brian Chezum Associate Professor of Economics Department of Economics St. Lawrence University Hepburn Hall, No. 202 Canton, NY 13617 chezum@stlawu.edu
Saleh S. Tabrizy Associate Professor of Economics OU Michael F. Price College of Business Price Hall No. 3005D Norman, OK, 73072 tabrizy@ou.edu	Pallab Ghosh Associate Professor of Economics OU Department of Economics 308 Cate Center Drive, CCD1, No. 436 Norman, OK, 73072 pallab.ghosh@ou.edu
Kevin Kuruc Assistant Professor of Economics OU Department of Economics 308 Cate Center Drive, CCD1, No. 332 Norman, OK, 73072 kkuruc@ou.edu	