

Education

PhD Candidate, UCSD Economics, Sept 2020-Present

Advisors: Sam Bazzi, Sara Lowes

B.S. Economics/Mathematics (*summa cum laude*), University of Southern California, 2017

Publications

Samek, Anya, Arie Kapteyn, and Andre Gray. "Using vignettes to improve understanding of Social Security and annuities." *Journal of Pension Economics & Finance* (2019): 1-18.

Samek, Anya, Andre Gray, Ashlesha Datar, and Nancy Nicosia. "Adolescent time and risk preferences: Measurement, determinants and field consequences." *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* 184 (2021): 460-488.

Working Papers

Diversity, Conflict and Agglomeration in African Cities

Migration Shocks and the Composition of African Internal Migrants

Integrating Traditional and Conventional Medicine for Efficient Public Service Delivery (with Sara Lowes and Fulvia Budillon)

Historical Immigration and the Market for Schooling in American Cities

Tiebout Sorting and Labor Misallocation (with Jacob Brown and Kurtis Gilliat)

Honors and Awards

Ben Horne Memorial Prize, UCSD Economics 2023

USC Mork Scholar, Full Tuition Academic Scholarship, 2013-2017

Grants

Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics, 2025

Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA) Grant, 2025

International Growth Center (IGC) Full Research Grant, 2024

Institute for Humane Studies (IHS) Expense Support, George Mason University 2024

Travel and Research Grant, UCSD Economics, Winter 2023; Spring 2024; Summer 2024

International Travel Grant, UCSD International Institute 2023

Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics 2023

School of Social Science Research Grant 2023

Conference Presentations

Institute for Humane Studies Winter Graduate Conference, GMU, Jan 2025

2024 Historical Political Economy Conference, USC, Oct 2024

2024 Development and Political Economics Conference (DevPEC), April 2024

2024 Pacific Conference for Development Economics, Stanford University, March 2024

8th Urbanization and Poverty Reduction Research Conference, World Bank, March 2024

Graduate Workshop on Field Research, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, August 2022

North American Economic Science Association (ESA) Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, Oct 2019.

Roybal Center for Health Decision Making and Financial Independence in Old Age Meeting, Washington DC, Feb 2019

Academic Work Experience

Research Assistant

March 2022-June 2022

UCSD Economics

- Worked on data analysis for Dr. Katherine Meckel and Jessie Handbury:
 - (1) Use NORC data to study the effect of SNAP adoption on consumer welfare

Research Assistant

May 2021-Jan 2022

UCSD Economics

- Worked on data analysis for Dr. Sara Lowes on two projects:
 - (1) a lab-in-the-field study measuring the effect of conflict on prosociality in the Democratic Republic of Congo
 - (2) a large-scale RD-design combining DHS and experimental data on the role of cultural factors on the economic decision making of women across Sub-Saharan Africa.

Research Specialist

May 2017-June 2020

University of Southern California (USC) Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR)

- Data analysis and management for field and lab-in-the-field experiments in behavioral, health and education economics, including a longitudinal study of children randomized to preschool at the University of Chicago and a series of behavioral public health interventions in Los Angeles.
- Collaborated on grants, papers and experiment design with Dr. Anya Samek and coauthors.
- Managed a lab of 10-15 undergraduate and graduate researchers carrying out data collection at both USC CESR and UChicago's Becker Friedman Institute.

Skills

Stata, R, Python, ODK, LaTeX, QGIS, Spanish (fluent)