

# Apoorva Jain

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Webpage <https://apoorvajain96.github.io/web/>  
E-mail [apoorvaj.unc@gmail.com](mailto:apoorvaj.unc@gmail.com)  
Phone (919)-260-2678  
Address Department of Economics, UNC Chapel Hill, 107 Gardner Hall CB 3305,  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599  
Work Permit United States Employment Authorization Document (EAD)

## EDUCATION

2017 **PhD Economics**, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*.  
(Expected)  
2010 **MSc Economics and Development Economics**, *University of Nottingham, UK*, Masters thesis with Distinction, Supervisor: Daniel Bernhofen.  
2009 **BA (honors) Economics**, *University of Delhi, India*, First division.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Migration, Labor Economics, Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics

## AWARDS

2016 **Williamson Family Excellence Fund**, *Department of Economics, UNC Chapel Hill*.  
2016 **Graduate and Student Professional Federation Travel Grant**, *UNC Chapel Hill*.  
2015 **Graduate Student Travel Grant**, *UNC Chapel Hill*.  
2014 **Future Faculty Fellowship Program**, *Center of Faculty Excellence, UNC Chapel Hill*.  
2013 **Fund for Acquiring Data**, *Department of Economics, UNC Chapel Hill*.  
2011–2015 **Doctoral Dissertation Assistantship**, *UNC Chapel Hill*.  
2009 **Universitas 21 Masters Merit Scholarship**, *University of Nottingham*.

## SKILLS

Programming Stata, Matlab  
Tools L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, MS Office  
Language English, Hindi

---

## RESEARCH

- Job Market Paper Timing of Migration, Immigrant Quality, and Labor Market Assimilation: Evidence from a Long Panel in Germany
- Working Paper (with Klara S. Peter) Wage Divergence: Why Does the Gap between Natives and Immigrants Get Bigger?
- In-Progress Old Questions, New Country: Labor Market Assimilation of Immigrants in Russia
- In-Progress Acculturation and its effect on immigrants' dietary behaviors

---

## EXPERIENCE

- Instructor **Introduction to Economics**, *UNC Chapel hill*, Summer 2013, 2014.
- Teaching Assistant **Introduction to Economics**, *UNC Chapel hill*, Fall 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, Spring 2013, 2015, 2016.
- Intermediate Microeconomics**, *UNC Chapel hill*, Spring 2014.
- Research Assistant **Cable TV Viewership Project**, *National Council of Applied Economic Research*, Delhi, India, Summer 2011.
- Intern **Pearl Beverages Ltd.**, *Pepsi Subsidiary, India*, Summer 2008.

---

## CONFERENCES

- SEA 2016 **Presenter**, "*Timing of Migration and Labor Market Assimilation: Evidence from the Long-Term Panel Data in Germany*", 86th Annual Conference of the Southern Economic Association, Washington, DC.
- APPAM 2016 **Invited Panel Discussant**, "*Mobility, Immigrants, and Labor Markets*", Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference.
- WEA 2016 **Presenter**, "*Estimating Distribution of Immigrant Wage Assimilation under Unobserved Heterogeneity*", 91st Annual Conference of the Western Economic Association International, Portland, Oregon.
- SOEP 2016 **Co-author**, "*The Economic Assimilation of Immigrants: Comparative Evidence from the Long-Term Panel Studies in Germany and Russia*", presented by Klara S Peter, 12th International German Socio-Economic Panel User Conference, Berlin, Germany.
- SEA 2015 **Presenter**, "*Immigrant Wage Assimilation: Comparing the Case for Russia and Germany*", 85th Annual Conference of the Southern Economic Association, New Orleans, LA.



---


## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES/AFFILIATION



- Referee LABOUR: Review of Labour Economics and Industrial Relations.
- Senator Graduate Professional Student Federation, *UNC-Chapel Hill*, 2014-2015.
- Member Southern Economic Association, Western International Economic Association, Association For Public Policy Analysis & Management, American Economic Association.

---


## REFERENCES

**Klara S. Peter (Chair)**   
Assoc. Professor of economics  
Department of Economics  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599  
kpeter@unc.edu  
 919-966-3669

**Helen Tauchen**  
Professor of economics  
Department of Economics  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599  
tauchen@unc.edu  
 919-843-9453

**Luca Flabbi**   
Assoc. Professor of economics  
Department of Economics  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599  
luca.flabbi@gmail.com  
 919-843-9842

**Daniel Bernhofen**   
Professor of Economics  
School of International Service  
American University  
Washington, DC 20016-8071  
dbernhof@american.edu  
 202-885-6721

**Rita Balaban**  
(Teaching Reference)  
Senior Lecturer  
Department of Economics  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599  
balabanr@email.unc.edu  
 919-843-8823

---

## PAPER ABSTRACTS

Job Market  
Paper

***Timing of Migration, Immigrant Quality, and Labor Market Assimilation: Evidence from a Long Panel in Germany.***

This paper shows that it is important to account for the timing of migration while estimating immigrants' rate of economic assimilation. The length of stay in the host country, which is commonly assumed to be exogenous in existing literature, depends on the timing of migration. As the optimum timing of migration is based on net expected lifetime earnings, the length of stay is also endogenously determined. In this paper, the timing of migration and wage assimilation equations have been modeled and estimated jointly, which is a first in literature. Using German Socio-Economic Panel data from 1984-2014, the paper estimates the individual-specific rate of assimilation while accounting for unobserved immigrant quality and unobserved propensity of early migration. Estimates from the joint model reveal four key findings. First, the average rate of assimilation estimated under the exogeneity assumption is biased upwards. Second, the average rate of assimilation hides significant variation in assimilation rates between immigrants of different quality. Third, immigrants of low quality have a faster rate of assimilation than their high quality counterparts. Fourth, immigrants with a high propensity of early migration have a higher individual-specific rate of assimilation. The joint model allows us to find the interdependence between the timing of migration and labor market assimilation of immigrants, mechanisms that up until now had been assumed to be independent in literature.

Working Paper    ***Wage Divergence: Why Does the Gap between Natives and Immigrants Get Bigger?***

(with Klara S. Peter)    The study finds strong empirical evidence of wage divergence between immigrants and natives over their life cycle in Germany using the country-wide household panel from 1984 to 2014. In order to analyze this empirical evidence, we incorporate the possibility of wage divergence into the standard two-period model of economic assimilation by modeling the differences in the technology of human capital production and prices per unit of human capital between immigrants and natives. The paper derives and estimates the empirical model of wage convergence using the average 5-year growth in absolute and relative wage as a dependent variable. The individual rates of wage convergence are found to be positively associated with the increase in per capita GDP in the country of origin, GDP growth in the host country, linguistic distance, and the share of immigrants' old networks, among other convergence factors. We differentiate between pre- and post-migration education and job training and use supply shifters in government-sponsored training programs to instrument for endogenous post-migration human capital. Immigrants' rates of wage convergence increase with higher pre-migration formal schooling and post-migration job training, but they appear not affected by formal schooling in the host country. Hence, the empirical analysis suggests that effective integration programs should emphasize on the practical job training programs apart from the usual language training courses. The paper also addresses the commonly ignored sample selection issue due to non-random survey attrition and employment participation.

In-Progress    ***Old Questions, New Country: Labor Market Assimilation of Immigrants in Russia.***

The paper revisits the questions of labor market assimilation of immigrants but for an unexplored country, Russia. I use immigrant data in Russian Longitudinal Monitored Survey from 1994-2011 and estimate the individual rates of economic assimilation using the joint model of timing of migration and wage assimilation. The Russian Federation has one of the largest stocks of immigrants in the world and has a unique composition of immigrant population. Russia experienced an influx of immigrants after the break-up of the Soviet Union and still receives a large number of immigrants from former Soviet states. These immigrants, for the most part, are linguistically, ethnically, and culturally similar to the natives. Interestingly, the results are similar to those estimated for Germany (in a supplementary paper) despite the different mix of migrants and different migration policies. Again, the individual rates of assimilation vary significantly and they are inversely correlated with the immigrant quality. These results provide external validity to the findings on immigrant assimilation in Germany.