Claire Duquennois

Contact
Information

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Academic	University o
Positions	University o

University of Pittsburgh	Assistant Professor of Economics	2020-Ongoing
University of Colorado, Denver	Economics Instructor	2009-2015

Education University of California, Berkeley University of California, Berkeley London School of Economics

University of Colorado Boulder

Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics	2020
M.Sc. Agricultural and Resource Economics	2017
M.Sc. Urbanization and Development	2009
B.A. Economics and International Relations	2007

Publications

"Fictional Money, Real Costs: Impacts of Financial Salience on Disadvantaged Students"

American Economic Review, 2022, 112(3):798-826. Available here

Disadvantaged students perform differentially worse when randomly given a financially salient mathematics exam. For students with socio-economic indicators below the national median, a 10 percentage point increase in the share of monetary themed questions depresses exam performance by 0.026 standard deviations, about 6% of their performance gap. Using question-level data, I confirm the role of financial salience by comparing performance on monetary and highly similar non-monetary questions. Leveraging the randomized ordering of questions, I identify an effect on subsequent questions, providing evidence that the attention capture effects of poverty affect policy relevant outcomes outside of experimental settings.

"Labor Calendars and Rural Poverty: A case study for Malawi." (with Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet). *Food Policy*, 2022, 109. Available here

The persistence of rural poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa is a major challenge for meeting the Sustainable Development Goal on poverty eradication. Using detailed data for Malawi, we investigate the association between seasonality in labor calendars and low consumption. We find that (1) seasonality in rural labor calendars runs deep, accounting for 2/3 of total rural underemployment, (2) we do not observe activities with labor requirements that run clearly counter-cyclical to the main agricultural season, (3) gaps in rural-urban annual consumption are strongly associated with differences in time worked due to seasonality differentials. The implication is that reducing rural seasonality in labor calendars should be a major objective in seeking to increase rural consumption levels. Methodologically, we show that labor calendars can be constructed from standard annual rural household survey data with information on labor use by crop and task.

"Climate Change, Agricultural Production and Civil Conflict: Evidence from the Philippines." (with Benjamin Crost, Joseph H. Felter and Daniel I. Rees) *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 2018, 88, pp 379-395. Available here.

Using unique data on conflict-related incidents in the Philippines, we exploit seasonal variation in the relationship between rainfall and agricultural production to learn about the mechanism through which rainfall affects civil conflict. We find that an increase in dry-season rainfall leads to an increase in agricultural production and dampens conflict intensity. By contrast, an increase in wet-season rainfall is harmful to crops and produces more conflict. Consistent with the hypothesis that rebel groups gain strength after a bad harvest, we find that negative rainfall shocks lead to an increase in conflict incidents initiated by insurgents but not by government forces. These results suggest that the predicted shift towards wetter wet seasons and drier dry seasons will lead to more civil conflict even if annual rainfall totals remain stable. We conclude that policies aimed at mitigating the effect of climate change on agriculture could have the added benefit of reducing civil conflict.

Working Papers

"Financial Concerns and Sleeplessness." (with Maulik Jagnani) Submitted. Available here.

Do people worried about their personal finances experience lower quality sleep? Using a regression discontinuity research design, we find that eligible household heads surveyed just after the disbursement of an unconditional cash transfer in Indonesia report a 0.3 standard deviation improvement in sleep quality as compared to those surveyed just before the cash disbursement. The cash transfer appears to have alleviated financial concerns amongst household heads, who are responsible for satisfying the daily necessities of the household. Immediately after disbursement, eligible households report an increase in savings, and eligible household heads report feeling less worried, frustrated, and tired. Consistent with evidence from sleep medicine, eligible household heads displayed improved performance on memory and attention tests but not on reasoning or problem-solving tests. These patterns of results are not observed for household heads ineligible for the cash transfer, which suggests that our results are not driven by seasonal confounders or aggregate shocks. These results are also not observed for other members of eligible households, who are not responsible for satisfying the household's financial needs. We also argue that nutrition, time in bed, and labor supply cannot explain our results.

Research in Progress

"From Sesame Street to the Polls: The Voting Impacts of Representation in Child Media." (with Jiangnan Zeng).

Teaching

At the University of Pittsburgh

Undergraduate Econometrics 2	Spring 2023		
Ph.D. Topics in Economics Development	Fall 2021, '22, '23		
Ph.D. Seminar in Labor and Economic Development	Fall 2020		
Masters in Quantitative Economics, Economic Inference from Data	Fall 2020, '21, '22, '23		
Undergraduate Economics and Diversity Seminar (Guest Lecturer)	Spring 2021 & 2022		
At the University of California Berkeley			
Professional Preparation: Teaching Economics	Fall 2017		
Intro. to Environmental Economics and Policy	Summer 2016 & '17		
Introductory Applied Econometrics (Graduate Student Instructor)	Spring and Fall 2019		
Intro. to Environmental Economics and Policy (Graduate Student Instructor)	Spring 2017, Fall '16 & '17		
At the University of Colorado Denyer- Denyer and Beijing Campuses			

At the University of Colorado Denver- Denver and Beijing Campuses		
Principles of Microeconomics	2009-2015	
Principles of Macroeconomics	2010-2015	
Intermediate Microeconomic Theory	2009-2013	
Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory	2010-2014	
Economic Development: Theory and Policy	2010-2015	
Economics of Race and Gender	2012-2013	

Undergraduate Independent Study Supervisor

Advising Ph.D. Committees Sierra Arnold; Jordan Bazak; Juan Campanario; Liyang Zhou; Jianqi Tan; Priy-

oma Mustafi; Jiangnan Zeng; Ying Liu; Pun Winichakul

Second Year Papers Jiawei Liu; Patrick Szurkowski; Priyoma Mustafi

Grants, 2018 Graduate Division Summer Research Grant

Fellowships, 2017 Teaching Effectiveness Award

and Awards 2017 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor

Decision pending: NSF Economics, Pitt Momentum Funds, Russell Sage

[&]quot;Sports and Racial Attitudes." (with Jiangnan Zeng).

[&]quot;Racial Bias Impacts on Mental Health: Can Child Media Representation Help?" (with Jiangnan Zeng).

[&]quot;Media representations of Race: Impacts on Residential Sorting" (with Jiangnan Zeng).

[&]quot;Changes in Labor Patterns and Labor Seasonality in Rural Malawi." (with Joachim De Weerdt and Adriana Oliveres Mallol).

[&]quot;Work, Gender Identity Norms and Psychological Well-being." (with Megan Lang and Jian Qi Tan).

[&]quot;Separation Failures: Market-Level Evidence for Labor Misallocation." (with Supreet Kaur, Jeremy Magruder, Aprajit Mahajan).

Refereeing	Journal of Development Economics, National Science Foundation, NPJ Science of Learning	
Talks	2023	Wageningen University: Department Seminar; Society of Economics of the Household Conference; Western Economics Association Conference; Early Career Behavioral Economics Conference; Aix-Marseilles School of Economics Applied Econometrics Conference
	2022	IFPRI Malawi; FAO Technical Network on Poverty Analysis; Psychology and Economics of Poverty Convening
	2021	NBER Children's Conference; MIT Applied Microeconomics: Department Seminar; Univ. of Colorado Denver: Department Seminar
	2020	Seattle Univ: Department Seminar; Univ. of Pittsburgh: Department Seminar; Pacific Development Conference; Psychology and Economics of Poverty Convening (canceled due to COVID-19); Discrimination and Disparities Virtual Seminar
	2019	Psychology and Economics of Poverty Convening; UC Berkeley: ARE Department Seminar & Development Lunch Series
	2018	UC Berkeley: WEB Conference, Development Lunch Series
Activities	2023-2024 2021-2023 2021 2020 2020 2019	Ph.D. Admissions committee, Univ. of Pittsburgh Undergraduate committee, Univ. of Pittsburgh Hiring committee, Univ. of Pittsburgh Labor and development seminar organizer, Univ. of Pittsburgh Labor and development brownbag organizer, Univ. of Pittsburgh Ph.D. Admissions committee, UC Berkeley Agricultural and Resource Economics

English (native), French (native), Mandarin (intermediate).

Languages