Claire Duquennois

Contact
Information

4700 Wesley W. Posvar Hall, 230 South Bouquet Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15260

ced87@pitt.edu

https://sites.google.com/view/claireduquennois/

+1 (720) 206-9212

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). 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.

"Casting Roles, Casting Votes: Lessons from Sesame Street on Media Representation and Voting" (with Jiangnan Zeng). Available here.

Sesame Street's representation of minority characters, egalitarian minority-white interactions and portrayal of working women was distinctive in the mass media landscape of 1969, when it started airing. By exploiting both age variation and technological variation in broadcast reception, this paper contributes to the media and contact theory literatures by showing that positive representations of minorities via mass media can reduce long-run prejudice and impact voting, an important societal outcome. We find that for preschool-age children, a 20 percentage point (1 standard deviation) increase in Sesame Street coverage reduced adult measures of implicit racial biases for white respondents and increased reported voting for minority and women candidates by 13% and 9.7% respectively. Voter turnout also increased by 4.4% in all elections. Voting for democratic candidates increased because of the increase in voting for diverse candidates. When the sample is restricted to ballots featuring white men, turnout gains are split between parties.

Research in Progress

- "Racial Bias Impacts on Mental Health: Can Child Media Representation Help?" (with Jiangnan Zeng)
- "Media Representation of Race: Impacts on Social Sorting" (with Jiangnan Zeng)
- "Sports and Racial Attitudes." (with Jiangnan Zeng)
- "Changes in Labor Seasonality in Malawi." (with Joachim De Weerdt and Adriana Oliveres Mallol).
- "Work, Gender Identity Norms and Psychological Well-being." (with Megan Lang and Jian Qi Tan).
- **"Separation Failures: Market-Level Evidence for Labor Misallocation."** (with Supreet Kaur, Jeremy Magruder, Aprajit Mahajan).

Refereeing

Quarterly Journal of Economics, American Economic Review, Journal of Development Economics, National Science Foundation, NPJ Science of Learning

Grants,	2024	Russell Sage Foundation Pipeline Grant	\$50,000
Fellowships,	2024	Pitt Momentum Fund Grant	\$25,000
and Awards	2018	Graduate Division Summer Research Grant	\$3,000
	2017	Teaching Effectiveness Award	
	2017	Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor	

Talks	2024 2023	Duke University; University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign (4/1); NOVAfrica (6/27) Aix-Marseilles School of Economics Conference in Applied Econometrics; Wageningen University; Society of Economics of the Household Conference; Western Economics Association Conference; Early Career Behavioral Economics Conference				
	2022	IFPRI Malawi; FAO Technical Network on Poverty Analysis Poverty Convening	; Psychology and Economics of			
	2021	NBER Children's Conference; MIT Applied Microeconomics;	; Univ. of Colorado Denver			
	2020	Seattle Univ: Department Seminar; Univ. of Pittsburgh: Depart	attle Univ: Department Seminar; Univ. of Pittsburgh: Department Seminar; Pacific Develop- nt Conference; Psychology and Economics of Poverty Convening (canceled due to COVID-			
	2019	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	hology and Economics of Poverty Convening; UC Berkeley: ARE Department Seminar &			
	2018	UC Berkeley: WEB Conference, Development Lunch Series				
Teaching	University (of Pittsburgh				
reaching	Chiversity	Research Capstone Seminar (Undergraduate)	Spring 2023			
		Econometrics 2 (Undergraduate)	Spring 2023			
		Topics in Economics Development (Ph.D)	Fall 2021, '22, '23			
		Seminar in Labor and Economic Development (Ph.D)	Fall 2020			
		Economic Inference from Data (Masters)	Fall 2020, '21, '22, '23			
	As G	uest Lecturer				
		Economics and Diversity Seminar (Undergraduate)	Spring 2021 & 2022			
	University of	of California Berkeley				
		Professional Preparation: Teaching of Environmental Econom				
		Intro. to Environmental Economics and Policy	Summer 2016 & 2017			
	As G	raduate Student Instructor				
		Introductory Applied Econometrics	Spring and Fall 2019			
		Intro. to Environmental Economics and Policy	Spring 2017, Fall 2016 & 2017			
	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			
		Independent Study Supervisor				
Activities	2023-2024	Ph.D Admissions committee member, Univ. of Pittsburgh				
	2021-2023	Undergraduate committee member, Univ. of Pittsburgh				
	2021	Hiring committee member, Univ. of Pittsburgh				
	2020	Labor and development seminar organizer, Univ. of Pittsburgh	L			
	2020	Labor and development brownbag organizer, Univ. of Pittsburg				
	2019	Ph.D. Admissions committee member, UC Berkeley Agricultu	ral and Resource Economics			

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