

COLTER HOFFMAN

CONTACT INFORMATION

University of California, Davis
Department of Economics
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EDUCATION

University of California, Davis

Ph.D. in Economics

Expected 2026

M.A. in Economics

2021

University of Otago

B.A. in Political Science

2020

B.S. in Economics

2019

WORKING PAPERS

Job Market Paper: “*Why Don’t Farmers Buy Insurance? Estimating Competing Models of Agricultural Insurance Decision-Making.*”

I structurally estimate competing behavioral models to explain why small-scale farmers in Kenya and China underutilize insurance products. I also incorporate machine learning to benchmark predictive performance and complement the theory-driven models.

“*Beyond Index Insurance: Blending Indexed Financial Instruments for Smallholder Farmers in Developing Countries,*” with Michael Carter.

“*Incentive and Framing Effects on Collaboration Norms: Experimental Evidence from Participatory Rangeland Management in Kenya,*” with Muthoni Nganga, Mdoe Idi Jackson, and Travis Lybbert.

“*Experimental Assessment of the Collective Action Impacts of Participatory Rangeland Management in Baringo, Kenya,*” with Muthoni Nganga, Mdoe Idi Jackson, Eric Kioko, and Travis Lybbert.

EXPERIENCE

Consultant

July – Sep 2024

International Livestock Research Institute

- Helped design and implement a study on participatory rangeland management in Baringo County, Kenya. Oversaw field operations, trained enumerators, and managed the data collection process.

Research Assistant

Sep 2023 – Present

University of California, Davis

- Conducted research on risk management instruments for rural households with Professor Michael Carter.

Teaching Assistant

Sep 2020 – Aug 2023

University of California, Davis

- Led discussion sections, graded assignments and exams, and handled logistics for undergraduate and graduate economics courses.

Intern, Forecasting Team
Reserve Bank of New Zealand

Nov 2018 – Feb 2019

- Analyzed housing market data, contributed to economic forecasts, and generated visualizations for Monetary Policy Statements.

Intern

Nov 2015 – Jan 2016

Office of Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham

- Compiled and formatted daily press clips, fielded phone calls, assisted with constituent correspondence, attended legislative briefings on behalf of staff members, and gave tours of the U.S. Capitol.

AWARDS & HONORS

UC Davis Economics Department Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award	2021
UC Davis Non-Resident Tuition Fellowship	2021
University of Otago Prestige Scholarship in Arts and Sciences	2019
Nominated for the Sir Frank Holmes Prize (which is awarded to the top economics undergraduate student in New Zealand)	2019
DF Symon Trust Award	2015
Eric W Herd Memorial Prize	2015
University of Otago Economics Honor Role	2015

SOFTWARE

Python, R, Stata, MATLAB, SQL, \LaTeX

LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (intermediate), German (intermediate)

CITIZENSHIP

United States, New Zealand

REFERENCES

Michael Carter, Distinguished Professor, Ag. & Resource Economics, UC Davis – mrcarter@ucdavis.edu
Travis Lybbert, Professor, Ag. & Resource Economics, UC Davis – tlybbert@ucdavis.edu
Arman Rezaee, Assistant Professor, Economics, UC Davis – abrezaee@ucdavis.edu