

# Daniel Agness

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EDUCATION	<b>University of California - Berkeley</b>	Expected June 2024
	PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics	
	<b>University of California - Berkeley</b>	2020
	MSc in Agricultural and Resource Economics	
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	<b>Stanford University</b>	2010 - 2014
	B.A. in Economics	
	<b>Graduate Student Researcher</b>	2020 - 2023
	Professor Jeremy Magruder	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<b>Consultant</b>	2019 -
	World Bank - Development Impact Evaluation Group	
	<b>Pre-Doctoral Fellow</b>	2017 - 2018
	Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR)	
	<b>Research Manager</b>	2015 - 2017
	Stanford Center on Global Poverty and Development	
	<b>Research Associate</b>	2014 - 2015
	Innovations for Poverty Action - Kenya	
REFERENCES	<b>Masters of Development Practice - Calculus Bootcamp</b>	Summer 2022
	Instructor of Record	
	<b>Development Economics</b>	Fall 2020
	GSI for Professor Marco Gonzalez-Navarro	Avg. rating: 6.27/7.0
	<i>Winner: Outstanding GSI Award</i>	
	Workshop Leader - Public Service Provision in Ethiopia - with K. Casey	2016

Dr. Jeremy Magruder, UC Berkeley Agricultural & Resource Economics  
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Dr. Marco Gonzalez-Navarro, UC Berkeley Agricultural & Resource Economics  
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Dr. Christopher Walters, UC Berkeley Economics  
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Dr. Florence Kondylis, World Bank Development Impact Group  
[fkondylis@worldbank.org](mailto:fkondylis@worldbank.org) || 202-473-0965

## WORKING PAPERS

1. [Housing and Human Capital: Condominiums in Ethiopia](#) - with T. Getahun (**Job Market Paper**) [[3ie Registry](#)] *Presented at: ACLEC (2023); NEUDC (2023)*  
*Abstract:* Rapid urbanization has led to an urgent need for new housing in cities throughout the developing world. We use randomized evidence from the largest expansion of public housing in Africa to estimate the effects of housing on children's human capital. Winning random lotteries for the ownership of condominium houses in Ethiopia leads to significant gains in educational attainment: educational enrollment increases by 4.5-11%, secondary school completion rates by 10.5% and post-secondary attendance rates by 16% as well as significant increases in measures of children's cognitive and socioemotional development. Heads of winning households experience 8p.p. increases in formal sector employment rates in the medium-run, which increases household income. To unpack mechanisms, we use instruments derived from spatial variation in randomly assigned condominium locations and show that treatment effects are concentrated amongst households which own and occupy the unit that they win. A structural model allows us to characterize selection into condominium occupation, ruling out that our results can be explained through a wealth effect alone.
2. [Valuing the Time of the Self-Employed](#) - with T. Baseler, S. Chassang, P. Dupas, E. Snowberg [[NBER WP](#)] [[World Bank Blog](#)] [*R&R - Review of Economic Studies*]  
*Abstract:* People's value for their own time is a key input in public policy evaluations—these should account for time taken away from work or leisure as a result of policy. Using rich choice data collected from farming households in western Kenya, we show that households exhibit non-transitive preferences. As a result, neither market wages nor standard valuation techniques correctly measure participants' value of time. Using a structural model, we identify the behavioral wedges in participants' choices, and find that distortions appear when households exchange cash either for time or for goods. Our model estimates suggest that valuing the time of the self-employed at 60% of the market wage is a reasonable rule of thumb.
3. [New Technology and Network Change: Experimental Evidence from Kenya](#)  
 [Draft available upon request.]  
*Abstract:* How do village social networks respond to the introduction of a new technology? Using a new panel of social network data collected for a randomized controlled trial in Western Kenya, this paper shows that receiving a new technology significantly increases that individual's centrality within their network. This change is driven by individuals differentially maintaining existing network links and creating new network links with technology recipients, irrespective of their own treatment status. However, treatment does not induce detectable changes in overall village network structure. Applying these results to an extended model of peer-effects which accounts for endogenous network response to the intervention, I provide evidence that failing to consider endogenous network change overestimates the direct effect of treatment and underestimates peer effects. These results highlight the importance of policy-induced network change in treatment effect estimation.

## IN PROGRESS

1. [Land Market Frictions, Technology Adoption, and Farm Profits](#) - with F. Kondylis, J. Loeser, J. Magruder [[AEA RCT Registry - 0004697](#)] [Data collection complete.]
2. [Sustainable Agricultural Intensification and Food Security Project](#) - with F. Kondylis, J. Loeser, J. Magruder  
 [Data collection in progress.]
3. [Self-timed Credit Contracts: Evidence from Kenyan Farmers](#) - with S. Chassang, P. Dupas, E. Snowberg [[AEA RCT Registry - 0002949](#)] [Data collection complete.]
4. [The Role of Information, Accountability and Resource Gaps in Urban Service Provision](#) - with P. Dupas [[AEA RCT Registry - 0002114](#)] [Data collection complete.]
5. [Wages, Labor Poaching, and Foreign Competition: Evidence from Ethiopia](#) - with G. Abebe  
 [Pilot in progress.]

## OTHER WRITING

1. [African Urbanization and Development Research Initiative](#) - [[Addis Ababa First Round Report](#)], 2018
2. [IGC Policy Brief](#) - [[Covid-19 and School Re-openings - Evidence from Ethiopia](#)], 2021

AWARDS	2019-2023	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship	
	2023	ARE Data Grant	\$2,000
	2023	ARE Summer Grant	\$3,000
	2023	Andrew & Mary Thompson Rocca Fellowship	\$10,000
	2022	PEDL Exploratory Grant - with T. Getahun	\$38,000
	2022	ARE Travel Grant	\$3,000
	2022	Andrew & Mary Thompson Rocca Fellowship	\$6,000
	2022	CEGA Development Economics Challenge	\$18,000
	2022	CEPR STEG - with T. Tekleselassie, T. Getahun	\$20,000
	2021	CGIAR SPIA - with F. Kondylis, J. Loeser	\$65,000
	2021	Sacheti Family Fellowship	
	2021	ARE Summer Grant	\$1,500
	2021	Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics - with T. Tekleselassie	\$50,000
	2020	IGC COVID-19 Response - with P. Dupas, M. Fafchamps, T. Getahun	\$17,000
	2019	ARE Summer Grant	\$3,500
	2017	JPAL Urban Service Initiative - with P. Dupas, G. Abebe, and T. Getahun	\$60,000
REFEREING	<i>Economic Development &amp; Cultural Change, National Science Foundation</i>		
SERVICE	2023	CEGA Non-resident Fellow	PhD Partner
	2021-2023	Berkeley Undergraduate Research $\times$ 5	Mentor
	2021-2022	The Primary School (East Palo Alto)	Mentor
	2021-2022	Berkeley Economist for Equity - Undergrad Outreach	Member
	2021	ARE Admissions Committee	Member
	2020-2021	Development Working Group	Organizer
	2019-2020	ARE Brownbag Seminar	Organizer
SKILLS	Proficient: Stata, R, SurveyCTO/ODK, Git		
	Competent: Python, ArcGIS, Java		