

EDWARD M. WHITNEY is an economist specializing in systems-based approaches to livelihoods-centered policy design and evaluation. Global work experience includes providing consultancy services for a wide variety of international organizations while demonstrating proficiency in project management and quantitatively rigorous methods applicable to poverty reduction, climate resilience, and natural resource management.

EDUCATION

University of California-Davis (Davis, CA) <i>PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics</i>	2024
American University (Washington, DC) <i>MA in International Development</i>	2012
University of Utah (Salt Lake City, UT) <i>BS in Economics, Magna cum Laude</i>	2006

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL

Consultant	2024-Present
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- Advise on research project design, including developing data collection instruments and analytic strategies aligned with policy and modeling goals
- Design and refine survey tools to capture behavioral, economic, and environmental indicators for use in simulation models and evaluation frameworks
- Conduct statistical analysis to inform intervention design and guide stakeholder decision-making

Graduate Student Researcher --- University of California, Davis	2017-2023
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Project Focus: Recreational Charter Fisheries in Alaska (2022-2023)

- Analyzed the impact of policy changes on entry-exit decisions of Alaskan charter fishers, focusing on economic resilience in the face of evolving environmental conditions.
- Collaborated on research design and data analysis using advanced statistical techniques, including nested logit and survival analysis.

Project Focus: Economic impact of nature-based tourism (2019-2020)

- Co-designed data collection instruments and training curricula for multi-country project (Zambia, Nepal, and Fiji). Managed fieldwork, supervising data collection and ensuring data integrity.
- Assessed economic impacts of nature-based tourism in Zambia, Nepal, and Fiji, offering insights applicable to climate-adaptive resource management strategies. Co-authored analytical reports and peer-reviewed journal article.

Project Focus: School feeding programs and local-economy outcomes across Kenya (2018)

- Led survey design and data collection operations across multiple regions. Conducted enumerator training and managed data using tablet-based survey tools.

- Conducted data-driven evaluations of school feeding programs and their effects on local economies, with potential applications to climate-sensitive policy adjustments, while contributing to high-quality research outputs and policy recommendations.

Project Focus: Economic impact of promoting cash-crop production in Uganda (2017-2018)

- Supervised enumerator training and comprehensive survey operations.
- Directed data collection and processing, ensuring accuracy and relevance of research data. Co-authored analytical reports and peer-reviewed journal article.

Research Analyst --- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) 2012-2015

- Assisted in designing and implementing large-scale surveys on rural household dynamics.
- Analyzed complex datasets using a variety of statistical methods, including small area estimation.
- Managed and prepared survey data for publication and presented at international forums.

TEACHING

University of California, Davis 2016-2023

Teaching Assistant and Associate Instructor (Summer 2020)

- Developed syllabi and curricula with instruction focused on econometrics, policy evaluation, and economic development. Graded papers, held office hours, facilitated weekly discussion sessions.
- Courses included:

ESP 168P: Environmental Policy Evaluation	Winter 2023
ARE 106: Econometrics	Fall 2020, Fall 2021
ARE 150: Agricultural Labor	Spring 2021
ARE 115A: Economic Development	Fall 2017, Winter 2018, Summer 2020, Winter 2021
ARE 204A: Microeconomic Analysis I	Fall 2016

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Skills: Econometrics, Mathematical Modeling, Data Analysis, Project Management, Survey Design

Computer Languages: Stata, MATLAB, GAMS, Latex, R, Python

SELECT CO-AUTHORED PUBLICATIONS

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| “Rural Economy-wide Impacts of Kenya’s Home-Grown School Meals Program.” In: Food Policy. Article 102887. | 2025 |
| “Economic Impact of Nature-Based Tourism.” In: PLOS ONE 18.4, pp. 1–16. | 2023 |
| “Local-Economy Impacts of Cash Crop Promotion.” In: IFAD Research Series 40. | 2019 |
| “Decentralised Beneficiary Targeting in Large-Scale Development Programmes: Insights from the Malawi Farm Input Subsidy Programme.” In: Journal of African Economies 24.1. | 2015 |