

Jheelum Sarkar

Ph.D. Student · Economics

American University, Washington, DC, USA

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Summary

Research interests in Environmental Economics, Labor and Development Economics. Skilled in interdisciplinary research and large-scale survey data analysis to inform policy decisions. Expertise in impact evaluations, inequality, and labor market. Committed to applied economics research to drive sustainable development.

Education

Ph.D. in Economics (ongoing)

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Washington, DC, USA

Aug. 2022 - Present

M.A. in Economics

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Washington, DC, USA

Aug. 2022 - Aug. 2024

M.Phil. in International Trade and Development

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY (JNU)

New Delhi, India

Aug. 2020 - Jun. 2022

- Thesis: *Welfare Effects of Extreme Climate Events on Mountain and Coastal Communities in India: A Case Study*
- Advisor: Prof. Meeta K. Mehra

M.A. in Economics with Specialization in World Economy

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY (JNU)

New Delhi, India

Aug. 2018 - Jul. 2020

- Project: *Short Run Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture in India*

B.Sc. (Hons.) in Economics

LADY BRABOURNE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

Kolkata, India

Jul. 2015 - Jun. 2018

- Thesis: *Structure of Employment in India*

Working Papers

- Sarkar, J. (2025). *Do STEM graduates fare better at times of crises? Evidence from COVID 19 pandemic in India*. arxiv: [2508.12471](https://arxiv.org/abs/2508.12471)
- Sarkar, J. (2025). *Who gets hit first and who recovers last? Evidence from Indian Coastal Flood Shock*. arxiv: [2510.08856](https://arxiv.org/abs/2510.08856)
- Sarkar J. (2024). *Linking Climate Change with Economic Inequality: A Review Essay*. SSRN: [4814257](https://ssrn.com/abstract=4814257)
- Sarkar, J. (2024). *Climate Shocks and Women's Time Poverty in India*. Cambridge Open Engage: [10.33774](https://doi.org/10.33774/cambridgeopen/10.33774)
 - Featured as Guest Blog in [Revaluating Care Economy Working Paper Series](#)

Work in Progress

- Sarkar, J. (2025). *Can teleworkability reduce gender gap in emerging economies? Evidence from Indian Labor Market*
- Sarkar, J. (2025). *Impact of AI boom on job-to-job mobility in United States*.
- Sarkar, J. (2025). *Environmental Justice and Enforcement of Pollution Standards* (with Phuong Ho, Bianca Cecato and Almira Salimgarieva).

Publication

Sultana, N., Sarkar, J., & Meurs, M. (2024). *Climate Change-Induced Migration: A Gendered Conceptual Framework*. *Migration and Diversity*, 3(2), 215-233. <https://doi.org/10.33182/md.v3i2.3177>

Research Experience

Summer Research Assistant

Applied Economics Clinic, Remote

May 2025 — Aug 2025

ADVISOR: DR. ELIZABETH STATON

- Conduct Literature Reviews, Assist in Survey Preparations, Writing Policy Memos
- Collect Data, Manage Research Database, Run Data Analysis

Floods and Labor Market through Gender Lens: A Case from India

American University, DC, USA

Aug 2025 — May 2025

ADVISOR: DR. KELLY M. JONES

- Develop Flood Exposure Measure using information from Google Earth Engine and Census Data
- Utilize Difference-in-Difference Strategy to estimate causal relationship between flood and labor market outcomes by gender.

Government Housing and Entrepreneurship in Indian Slums

WITH DR. GARIMA SHARMA

American University, Washington, DC, USA

May 2024 — Aug 2024

- Analyzed qualitative data using ATLAS.ti from primary surveys of slum dwellers in Orissa, India.
- Demonstrated relationship between dignity of dwelling and social entrepreneurship.

Pew Research Center Dataset Analysis on Religion and Cultural Trends

WITH PROF. BORIS GERSHMAN

American University, Washington, DC, USA

June 2024 — July 2024

- Extracted and cleaned a multi-country, multi-wave dataset on religious pluralism in South and Southeast Asia.
- Studied inter-temporal trends in cultural beliefs, attitudes, and values, including variations by religion, educational attainment, socioeconomic background, and gender.

Transformations and Resilience of Pastoral Systems

Amidst Rapid Social-Environmental Changes in Mongolia

WITH PROF. MIEKE MEURS

American University, Washington, DC, USA

June 2023 — Aug 2023

- Developed a theoretical framework to study the intersection of climate change, migration and household decision-making through gender lens.
- Performed systematic literature reviews on climate change, migration, bargaining power and household dynamics with special focus on Mongolia.

Mapping Climate Risk Index: A Case Study of Ladakh, India

(Knowledge for Climate Project)

WITH PROF. MEETA K. MEHRA

(In collaboration with University of Zurich, University of Bern, and ETH Zurich, Switzerland)

JNU, New Delhi, India

June 2020 -July 2021

- Developed a quantitative Climate Risk Index for sub-districts in Ladakh, India, using Principal Component Analysis.
- Performed inter-temporal analyses and simulations using detailed demographic, socioeconomic, and physical data at the sub-district level.

COVID-19 and Green Recovery in South Asia: Opportunities for Recovering Better

WITH PROF. MEETA K. MEHRA

(Commissioned by Council for Strategic and Defense Research)

JNU, New Delhi, India

Dec 2020 -Feb 2021

- Developed policy menus for sustainable recovery from the pandemic.
- Focused on the enormous green potential within South Asian countries such as green transport systems, climate-friendly infrastructure, green manufacturing, decarbonizing transitions.

Professional Experience

Editor, Kogod Sustainability Review

American University, Washington, DC, USA

May 2024 — Present

WITH KOGOD BUSINESS SCHOOL

- Edited and reviewed articles, working closely with authors and the editorial board to ensure accuracy, clarity, and adherence to guidelines.
- Developed compelling content on sustainability and business practices.

Teaching Experience

ECON 623: Applied Econometrics I

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Spring 2025

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [DR. NATALIA RADCHENKO](#)

- Taught students one-on-one in office hours, conduct in-class lectures and graded exams

ECON 322: Applied Econometrics I

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Spring 2025

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [DR. PAUL SULLIVAN](#)

- Taught students one-on-one in office hours, graded assignments and exams

ECON 373: Labor Economics

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Spring 2025

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [DR. PAUL SULLIVAN](#)

- Taught students one-on-one in office hours, graded assignments and exams

ECON 824: Advanced Econometrics

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Fall 2024

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [DR. AMOS GOLAN](#)

- Taught students one-on-one in office hours and graded exams

ECON 150: Economics for Business

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Spring 2024

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [DR. MARY E. HANSEN](#)

- Taught students one-on-one in office hours and graded exams

ECON 803: Microeconomic Analysis

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Fall 2023

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [DR. SUNH AH BAHK](#)

LAST UPDATED JANUARY 15, 2025

- Taught students one-on-one in office hours and graded exams

ECON 300: Intermediate Microeconomics

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [DR. SUNH AH BAHK](#)

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Fall 2023

- Taught students one-on-one in office hours and graded exams

ECON 200: Microeconomics

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [DR. DANIEL LIN](#)

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Spring 2022

- Graded exams and maintaining log files

ECON 100: Macroeconomics

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [DR. BERNHARD GUNTER](#)

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Fall 2022

- Taught students one-on-one in office hours and graded exams

Conferences & Workshops

Fourth Global Carework Summit

Durham, NC, USA

PRESENTED WORK ON IMPACT OF CLIMATE SHOCKS ON GENDER DIVISION OF LABOR

February 2025

Eastern Economic Association

New York City, NY, USA

PRESENTED WORK ON IMPACT OF CLIMATE SHOCKS ON GENDER DIVISION OF LABOR

February 2025

Revaluing Care in the Global Economy Workshop, Duke University

Duke University (virtually)

PRESENTED WORK ON CLIMATE SHOCKS AND WOMEN'S TIME POVERTY

September 2024

Levy Institute Gender Workshop

Levy Institute, NY, USA

PRESENTED WORK ON IMPACT OF CLIMATE SHOCK ON GENDER DIVISION OF LABOR

September 2024

Eastern Economic Association

Boston, MA, USA

PRESENTED WORK ON IMPACT OF CLIMATE SHOCK ON WOMEN'S UNPAID LABOR

March 2024

International Society for Ecological Economics, European Ecological Economics, and Degrowth

virtually

PRESENTED WORK ON IMPACT OF CLIMATE EXTREMES ON HOUSEHOLD WELFARE IN MOUNTAINS

July 2021

Water Security and Climate Change Conference

Hanoi, Vietnam (virtually)

PRESENTED WORK ON IMPACT OF CLIMATE EXTREMES ON EARLY CHILD MARRIAGES

July 2021

Awards & Scholarships

- **4th Barbara Bergmann Graduate Fellowship for Gender Research**

American University, Washington, DC, USA

May 2024 — Aug 2024

WITH DEPT. OF ECONOMICS

- **Graduate Merit Fellowship**

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Aug 2022 — Present

WITH DEPT. OF ECONOMICS

- **Third Prize for Best Performance in the B.Sc. Economics program**

Lady Brabourne College, Kolkata, India

Dec. 2018

WITH DEPT. OF ECONOMICS

Skills

Coding Skills R, Stata, ArcGIS, Google Earth Engine, TEX

Languages English (fluent), Bengali (native), Hindi (fluent)

References

- Prof. Kara Reynolds, Dept. of Economics, American University, Washington, DC 20016, USA. Email Address - reynolds@american.edu
- Prof. **Mieke Meurs**, Dept. of Economics, American University, Washington, DC 20016, USA. Email Address - mmeurs@american.edu
- Dr. **Kelly M. Jones**, Dept. of Economics, American University, Washington, DC 20016, USA. Email Address - kmjones@american.edu
- Prof. **Meeta K. Mehra**, Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi 110067, India. Email Address - meetakm@jnu.ac.in