

Jheelum Sarkar

Ph.D. Student · Economics

American University, Washington, DC, USA

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Education

Ph.D. in Economics

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

- Fields: Applied Microeconomics (Labor and Development)
- Advisor: Prof. Kara Reynolds, Prof. Mary Hansen & Dr. Austin Davis

Washington, DC, USA

Aug. 2022 - May 2027

M.A. in Economics

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

M.Phil. in International Trade and Development

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY (JNU)

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

Washington, DC, USA

Aug. 2022 - Aug. 2024

New Delhi, India

Aug. 2020 - Jun. 2022

M.A. in Economics with Specialization in World Economy

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY (JNU)

- Project: *Short Run Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture in India*
- Advisor: Prof. Sangeeta Bansal

New Delhi, India

Aug. 2018 - Jul. 2020

B.Sc. (Hons.) in Economics

LADY BRABOURNE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

- Thesis: *Structure of Employment in India*

Kolkata, India

Jul. 2015 - Jun. 2018

Working Papers

- Sarkar J. (2025). Can Telework be Anti-Dote to Declining U.S. Fertility Rates? *Manuscript in Preparation*.
- Sarkar J. (2025). Droughts and Deluges: Droughts and Deluges: Effects of Climate Extremes on the Gender Gap in Labor Supply. arxiv: [2602.07808](https://arxiv.org/abs/2602.07808)
- Sarkar, J. (2025). Who gets hit first and who recovers last? Evidence from Indian Coastal Flood Shock. SSRN: [5577351](https://ssrn.com/abstract=5577351)
- Sarkar J. (2024). Linking Climate Change with Economic Inequality: A Review Essay. SSRN: [4814257](https://ssrn.com/abstract=4814257)

Work in Progress

- Does Telework Exposure increase Female Labor Supply in Emerging Economies? Evidence from Indian Labor Market
- Cash Transfer Programs, Marital Age and Intimate Partner Violence: Evidence from India (with [Prof. Devika Hazra](#) and Dr. Nayantara Biswas).
- Can Affordable Internet Reduce Intimate Partner Violence?
- Environmental Justice and Enforcement of Pollution Standards in United States (with [Dr. Phuong Ho](#), [Dr. Bianca Cecato](#) and Dr. Almira Salimgareva).
- Environmental Degradation and Women's Time Poverty in Rural India.

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>

Guest Blogs & Commentaries

- [Beyond the Plough: How Technology is Powering a New Green Revolution](#) (with Rida Hameed)— Kogod Sustainability Review, January 20, 2025
- [Rethinking climate migration through a gender lens](#) (with Prof. Meurs)— Program for Gender Analysis in Economics Blog, July 19, 2025.
- [Time poverty and climate shocks: how married women bear the brunt](#) — Revaluing Care Economy, October 21, 2024

Research Experience

Summer Research Assistant

ADVISOR: DR. ELIZABETH STATON

Applied Economics Clinic, Remote

May 2025 — Aug 2025

- 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

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.

American University, DC, USA

Aug 2025 — May 2025

Government Housing and Entrepreneurship in Indian Slums

American University, Washington, DC, USA

WITH DR. GARIMA SHARMA

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

American University, Washington, DC, USA

WITH PROF. BORIS GERSHMAN

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

American University, Washington, DC, USA

WITH PROF. MIEKE MEURS

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)

JNU, New Delhi, India

WITH PROF. MEETA K. MEHRA

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

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

JNU, New Delhi, India

WITH PROF. MEETA K. MEHRA

(Commissioned by Council for Strategic and Defense Research)

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

Managing Editor, Kogod Sustainability Review

American University, Washington, DC, USA

WITH KOGOD BUSINESS SCHOOL

May 2025 — Present

- Develop strategies to elevate KSR's outreach and highlight contributions from professional experts in sustainability
- Collaborate with editors to ensure quality check of articles

Editor, Kogod Sustainability Review

American University, Washington, DC, USA

WITH KOGOD BUSINESS SCHOOL

May 2024 — May 2025

- 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 100: Macroeconomics

American University, Washington, DC, USA

TEACHING ASSISTANT OF [PROF. JON D WISMAN](#) and [DR. BERNHARD GUNTER](#)

Fall 2025, 2022

- Conduct lectures during discussion sessions, graded assignments and exams (class size above 100)

ECON 623: Applied Econometrics I

American University, Washington, DC, USA

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

Spring 2025

- 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

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

Spring 2025

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

ECON 373: Labor Economics

American University, Washington, DC, USA

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

Spring 2025

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

ECON 824: Advanced Econometrics

American University, Washington, DC, USA

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

Fall 2024

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

ECON 150: Economics for Business

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

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

ECON 803: Microeconomic Analysis

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

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

ECON 300: Intermediate Microeconomics

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

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

ECON 200: Microeconomics

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

- Graded exams and maintaining log files

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Spring 2024

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Fall 2023

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Fall 2023

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Spring 2022

Invited Talks

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur

Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India

January 2026

Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

January 2026

Azim Premji University

Bangalore, Andhra Pradesh, India

January 2026

National Institute of Advanced Studies

Bangalore, Andhra Pradesh, India

December 2025

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences

Kolkata, West Bengal, India

December 2025

Conferences, Talks & Workshops

Fourth Global Carework Summit

Duke University, Durham, NC, USA

June 2025

Eastern Economic Association 2025

New York City, NY, USA

February 2025

Revaluing Care in the Global Economy Workshop

Duke University (Online)

September 2024

Levy Institute Gender Workshop

Levy Institute, NY, USA

September 2024

Eastern Economic Association 2024

Boston, MA, USA

March 2024

International Society for Ecological Economics

Online

European Ecological Economics, and Degrowth

July 2021

Awards & Scholarships

Honorarium for Revaluing Care Working Paper Series

WITH REVALUING CARE NETWORK

Duke University, Durham, NC, USA

October/November 2024

4th Barbara Bergmann Graduate Fellowship for Gender Research

WITH DEPT. OF ECONOMICS

American University, Washington, DC, USA

May 2024 — Aug 2024

Graduate Merit Fellowship

WITH DEPT. OF ECONOMICS

American University, Washington, DC, USA

Aug 2022 — Present

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

WITH DEPT. OF ECONOMICS

Lady Brabourne College, Kolkata, India

Dec. 2018

Skills

Programming R, Stata, Python

Tools ArcGIS, QGIS, Google Earth Engine

Typesetting LaTeX

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

References

Prof. Kara Reynolds (Main Advisor)

Dept. of Economics

American University

4400 Massachusetts Ave NW

Washington, DC 20016, USA

Email Address - reynolds@american.edu

Prof. Mary E. Hansen

Dept. of Economics

American University

4400 Massachusetts Ave NW

Washington, DC 20016, USA

Email Address - mhansen@american.edu

Dr. Austin Davis

Department of Politics, Governance & Economics

American University,

4400 Massachusetts Ave NW

Washington, DC 20016, USA

Email Address - cadavis@american.edu