

Margaret Samahita

UCD School of Economics
Newman Building
University College Dublin
Belfield, Dublin 4
Ireland

Office: Geary Institute (Room B114)
Phone: +353 1 716 4621
Email: m.samahita@gmail.com
Homepage: <https://www.margaretsamahita.com>

Academic Positions

2019 – present: Assistant Professor, School of Economics, University College Dublin.
2020 – present: Research Fellow, Geary Institute for Public Policy, University College Dublin.
2018 – 2019: Postdoctoral Fellow, International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE), Lund University.

Education

2012 – 2017: PhD in Economics, Lund University.
2010 – 2012: MSc in Economics, Lund University.
2005 – 2009: BCom in Economics & Finance, The University of Sydney.
2005 – 2009: BSc in Mathematics, The University of Sydney.

Research Visits

Summer 2021: Collegio Carlo Alberto.
Summer 2019: Department of Economics, Lund University.
2014 – 2015: Department of Economics, New York University.

Research Interests

Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics, Political Economy.

Publications

Journal Articles

Samahita, M. (2020). Pay-what-you-want in competition. *The B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics*, 20(1): 20180063.
Mundaca, L. and Samahita, M. (2020). What drives home solar PV uptake? Subsidies, peer effects and visibility in Sweden. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 60:101319.
Holm, H. J. and Samahita, M. (2018). Curating social image: Experimental evidence on the value of actions and selfies. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 148:83–104.
Samahita, M. (2017). Venting and gossiping in conflicts: Verbal expression in ultimatum games. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, 67:111–121.
Kahsay, G. A. and Samahita, M. (2015). Pay-What-You-Want pricing schemes: A self-image perspective. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance*, 7:17–28.

Samahita, M. (2013). Effect of effort on self-image: Monotonically increasing self-image functions. *Economics Bulletin*, 33(1):152–157.

Book Chapter

Mundaca, L., Samahita, M., Sonnenschein, J. and Seidl, R. (2020). Behavioural economics for energy and climate change policies and the transition to a sustainable energy use: A Scandinavian perspective. In M. Lopes, C. Henggeler Antunes & K. B. Janda (Eds.), *Energy and Behaviour: Towards a Low Carbon Future*, (pp. 45–87). London: Academic Press.

Working Papers

Pessimism and overcommitment: An online experiment with tempting YouTube content (with C. Ek).

Mining for mood effect in the field (with H. J. Holm).

The inelastic demand for affirmative action (with D. Getik and M. Islam).

Are economics conferences gender-neutral? Evidence from Ireland (with K. Devereux).

Can ♥s change minds? Social media endorsements and policy preferences (with P. Conzo, L. K. Taylor, J. S. Morales and A. Gallice).

The unintended side effects of regulating charities: Donors penalise administrative burden almost as much as overheads (with L. K. Lades).

Gender, productivity, and promotion in the Irish economics profession (with K. Devereux).

Grants and Scholarships

2022: Environmental Protection Agency, “Assessing administrative burdens as barriers to implementation of Ireland’s 2021 Climate Action Plan” (with L. K. Lades and C. Augustenborg).

2022: Laurier Centre for Economic Research & Policy Analysis, “Does online backlash stifle free speech?” (with J. S. Morales).

2022: UCD School of Economics Internal Research Scheme, “Disentangling climate belief from action”.

2021: Science Foundation Ireland, “Next Generation Energy Systems (NexSys)” (with UCD Energy Institute consortium).

2021: Irish Economic Association, “Research on Diversity in Economics”.

2021: UCD College of Social Sciences and Law Research Grant, “Partisanship and the wisdom of crowds” (with T. Yasseri).

2020: Collegio Carlo Alberto Mini Seed Grants Program, “Political interaction and influence through social media” (with J. S. Morales, P. Conzo, A. Gallice and L. K. Taylor).

2020: Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance Research Grant, “Political interaction and influence through social media” (with J. S. Morales, P. Conzo, A. Gallice and L. K. Taylor).

2020: Irish Research Council New Foundations Research Grant, “Charitable-giving and regulatory load: Does perception of inefficiency reduce donations?”.

2020: UCD College of Social Sciences and Law Research Grant, “Metrics, interaction and influence: The immigration debate on social media” (with J. S. Morales, P. Conzo, A. Gallice and L. K. Taylor).

2019: Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Foundation Research Grant, “Causes of heterogeneous beliefs and behavior” (with H. J. Holm, M. Islam, R. van Veldhuizen and E. Wengström).

2018: Torsten Söderberg Foundation Research Grant, “The benefits of temptation? Self-control, self-confidence and economic choice” (with C. Ek).

2016: The Arne Ryde Foundation Scholarship.

2016: The Pontus Roos Memorial Foundation Scholarship.

2016: Institute of Economic Research Scholarship.

2014: Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Foundation Research Grant, "Self-image and economic behavior" (with C. Ek, H. J. Holm, N. Montinari and E. Wengström).

2013: Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Foundation Hedelius Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies Abroad.

Conference and Seminar Presentations

*Last 5 years, * invited*

2022: University of Stirling*, Burgundy School of Business*, Lund University*, ESA European Meeting (Bologna), EEA Annual Congress (Milan), Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics Annual Congress (Fribourg), UCD Behavioural Science Workshop on "Online Social Influence" (Dublin), Irish Economic Association Annual Conference (Limerick), Central Bank of Ireland*, NUI Galway*, UCD School of Economics Seminar, London School of Economics*, ESA Special Meeting.

2021: UCD Behavioural Science & Policy Seminar, EERA JP Energy Systems Integration Webinar*, UCD School of Economics Seminar, ESA Global Meeting, ECPR Joint Session on Emotions and Political Attitudes in the Context of COVID-19, Irish Economic Association Annual Conference, London School of Economics Behavioural Science & Covid-19 Working Group Seminar*.

2020: IBSPN Annual Economics and Psychology Conference, UCD School of Economics Seminar, UCD Behavioural Science & Policy Seminar, UCD Behavioural Science Workshop on "The Economics of Self-Control", UCD School of Psychology Seminar*, ESA Global Meeting, ESA Junior Faculty Webinar.

2019: UCD School of Economics Seminar (Dublin), UCD Behavioural Science & Policy Seminar (Dublin), IAREP/SABE Conference (Dublin), SABE ECR Workshop (Dublin), CNEE Workshop (Copenhagen), Masaryk University Economics Seminar (Brno)*, University College Dublin*.

2018: Seminar on Behavioural Economics for Energy Use and Climate Change (Lund), National Conference in Economics Workshop for Junior Female Researchers (Växjö), CNEE Workshop (Copenhagen), Arne Ryde Host Seminar (Lund).

Teaching

Course Coordinator/Lecturer

Advanced Microeconomics (MSc), 2020 – present.

Behavioural Economics: Policy Applications (MSc), 2021 – present.

Decision Theory (MSc), 2020 – present.

Experiments in Economics (MSc), 2020 – present.

Fundamentals of Economics and Economic Valuation of Environmental Change (MSc), 2018.

Economic Valuation of Environmental Change (MSc), 2018.

Teaching/Lab Assistant

Advanced Microeconomic Analysis (MSc), 2015 – 2016.

Economic and Financial Decision Making (MSc), 2013 – 2016.

Mathematical Methods – Dynamic Optimization (MSc), 2013.

Intermediate Microeconomics (BSc), 2010.
Introductory Macroeconomics (BSc), 2009.
Introductory Microeconomics (BSc), 2009.
Business and Economic Statistics B (BSc), 2009.
Business and Economic Statistics A (BSc), 2009.

Other

Supervision: 4 PhD students, 3 MSc theses, 3 BSc theses, 4 Research Assistants.

PhD Committee: 3 PhD students.

Guest lecture:

MSc Behavioural Science, University of Stirling, 2022.

Qualification:

Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, 2016.

Recognition:

Teaching and Learning Award Nomination, UCD College of Social Sciences and Law, 2022.

Students as Partners Development Award, UCD College of Social Sciences and Law, 2019.

Academic Services

Refereeing

Academic journals: American Political Science Review, The Economic Journal, Energy Research and Social Science, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, New Ideas in Psychology.

Funder: Diligentia Foundation for Empirical Research.

Seminar/workshop organization

2023: UCD School of Economics Research Seminars

2022: UCD School of Economics Research Seminars, UCD Behavioural Science Workshop on “Online Social Influence”.

2021: UCD School of Economics Research Seminars, ECPR Joint Sessions Workshop on “Emotions and Political Attitudes in the Context of COVID-19”.

2020: UCD School of Economics Research Seminars, UCD PhD Conference in Behavioural Science and Policy, UCD Behavioural Science Workshop on “The Economics of Self-Control”.

2019: UCD School of Economics Research Seminars, UCD Panel Discussion on “Where are all the female economists?”.

2018: IIIIEE Public Seminar on “Behavioural Economics for Energy Use and Climate Change”.

2016: Arne Ryde Workshop on “Identity, Image and Economic Behavior”.

Committees

UCD School of Economics Ethics Committee, 2020 – present.

UCD School of Economics Behavioural Committee, 2020 – present.

UCD School of Economics PhD Viva (Internal Examiner), 2022.

UCD School of Economics PhD Viva (Chair), 2020.

UCD School of Economics PhD Transfer Seminar (Examiner), 2020, 2021.

UCD School of Psychology Ethics Committee, 2021.

UCD School of Politics and International Relations Quantitative and Computational Social Science PhD Programme Committee, 2022 – present.

UCD School of Politics and International Relations Postdoc Hiring Interview Panel, 2022.

UCD Geary Institute Postdoc Hiring Interview Panel, 2020.

UCD College of Social Sciences and Law Equality Diversity and Inclusion Committee, 2019 – 2020.

Additional Information

Citizenship: Australian.

Languages: English (fluent), Indonesian (native), Swedish (proficient), French (basic), Italian (basic).

Computer Skills: L^AT_EX, Microsoft Office, oTree, Python, Qualtrics, R, Stata, z-Tree.

Last updated: January 2023