

# Mitali Roy Mathur

mrmathur@ucdavis.edu | <https://mitali-mathur.github.io/>

## EDUCATION

### University of California, Davis – Department of Economics

*2<sup>nd</sup> year Economics Ph.D. student; Fields: Labor, Development*

*Master of Arts: Economics*

*California, USA*

*2022 – Present*

*2023*

### Georgetown University, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service

*Bachelor of Science: International Economics (Honors); Major GPA: 3.83/4.00*

*Certificate: International Development; Minor: Mandarin Chinese*

*Washington D.C., USA*

*2019*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### University of California, Davis

*Graduate Student Researcher for Prof. Jenna Stearns and Prof. Keer Yang*

*California, USA*

*2023 – Present*

- Leading a web scraping exercise to build a database of finance conference attendees
- Working with PIs to analyze data to understand the role that virtual conferences during the COVID-19 pandemic played in altering women's conference attendance

### IDinsight

*Junior Economist*

*New Delhi, India*

*2021 – 2022*

- Co-led the design of a randomized controlled trial with 20,000+ moms to evaluate the effects of messaging on a mobile platform on maternal health outcomes in South Africa
  - Conducted power calculations, designed a randomization protocol, created measurement tools, defined outcomes, wrote the pre-analysis plan, submitted IRB documents
- Analyzed data for a study measuring the effects of nudges on honest symptom reporting
- Advocated for a sampling strategy for the Delhi Government's outcome budget surveys

*Senior Associate*

*2021*

- Constructed a weighted, composite index to measure overall data quality of enumerators
- Brainstormed and piloted a strategy for improving administrative data quality for NITI Aayog
- Supported the design of a web-application to automate data collection processes

*Associate*

*2019 – 2021*

- Managed a process evaluation of a newly piloted women's empowerment program for The National Rural Livelihoods Mission of India in four states to inform scale-up decisions
  - Cleaned and analyzed data, wrote a report, built an interactive dashboard in R with results
- Oversaw ten rounds of phone surveys to collect data for India's COVID-19 response
- Spearheaded research into the representativeness of data collected through phone surveys
  - Designed a pre-analysis plan, conducted analysis, published a practice paper
- Helped execute a household survey for NITI Aayog to monitor key indicators across 27,000 households in eight states in Northern and Eastern India

### Jan Sahas

*Summer Research Assistant*

*New Delhi, India*

*2023*

- Developed research about improving welfare targeting by creating a weighted index that prioritized different categories of government schemes based on migrant vulnerabilities
- Built an application to connect migrants' demographic profiles to prioritized schemes

### Georgetown University Initiative on Innovation, Development and Evaluation

*Summer Research Assistant*

*Nairobi, Kenya*

*2018*

- Ran high-frequency checks during primary data collection for a randomized controlled trial on the impacts of rainfall index insurance on future insurance take-up

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### University of California, Davis – Department of Economics

California, USA

Teaching Assistant

2022 – Present

- ECN 1A: Principles of Microeconomics – Professor: Gregory Clark
- ECN 1B: Principles of Macroeconomics – Professor: Nicolas Caramp
- ECN 101: Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory – Professor: Paul Bergin
- ECN 115B: Economic Development – Instructor: Soccoro Pardo Martinez
- ECN 145: Transportation Economics – Professor: Erich Muehlegger
- ECN 102C: Analysis of Economics Data – Professor: Jenna Stearns

### Georgetown University – Department of Economics

Washington D.C., USA

Principles of Economics Head Tutor

2018 – 2019

- Assisted students in the Principles of Microeconomics/Macroeconomics courses

Principles of Economics Tutor

2016 – 2018

Teaching Assistant

2018

- ECN 156: Poverty & Inequality – Professor: Martin Ravallion

## PUBLICATIONS

### Published Papers:

K. Nagpal, **M.R. Mathur**, A. Biswas, and A. Fraker, “Who do Phone Surveys Miss, and How to Reduce Exclusion: Recommendations from Phone Surveys in Nine Indian States.” *BMJ Global Health*, August 2021.

### Articles:

R. LuSava, C.H. Huang, B. Brockman, Y. Mkandawire, and **M.R. Mathur**, “How Behavioral “Nudges” can Improve COVID-19 Self-Reporting.” *IDinsight Blog*. October 2022.

**M.R. Mathur** and L. Biswal, “How is the Survey Gig going? Understanding the Gender Dynamics of Surveyor Work in India.” *IDinsight Blog*. August 2022.

**M.R. Mathur**, “Why IDinsight is Investing in Building Data Systems for Primary Data Collection Activities.” *IDinsight Blog*. February 2022.

**M.R. Mathur** and S. More, “5 Steps to Constructing a Composite Data Quality Index to Assess Overall Surveyor Performance.” *IDinsight Blog*. November 2021.

**M.R. Mathur**, “Reflections on Reaching Women Over the Phone in Rural India.” *IDinsight Blog*. August 2020.

**M.R. Mathur** and P. Kumar, “Daily Practices to Optimize Remote Survey Teams.” *IDinsight Blog*. June 2020.

**M.R. Mathur**, P. Kumar, S. McDonough, and L. Rametse, “How to Ensure Productivity and Data Quality for a Phone Survey at Scale.” *IDinsight Blog*. June 2020.

**M.R. Mathur**, P. Kumar, S. McDonough, and L. Rametse, “How to Hire and Train a Phone Survey Team.” *IDinsight Blog*. June 2020.

**M.R. Mathur**, “How to Identify the Best Length and Time for a Phone Survey.” *IDinsight Blog*. April 2020.

**M.R. Mathur**, “3 Steps to Designing an Effective Phone Survey that Reaches Respondents.” *IDinsight Blog*. April 2020.

## PRESENTATIONS

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*Tips and Tricks for Remotely Training Enumerators*

The World Bank Group's Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) Group. 2021 June.

*Learn from IDinsight how to Reduce Phone Survey Bias through Inclusion of Female Respondents*

SurveyCTO. 2021 April.

*Learn how to Boost Phone Survey Response Rates with Tips from IDinsight*

SurveyCTO. 2020 September.

## SERVICE

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**Graduate Students Association, University of California, Davis**

*Co-president (2023-Present)*

- Organize activities with faculty and students (across multiple cohorts)
- Coordinate with the Graduate Chair and Department Chair to improve department operations
- Built a website to consolidate information and resources pertinent to department students

**Economics of Migration, Junior Seminar Series**

*Co-organizer (2024-Present)*

- Read papers from junior researchers on topics related to the economics of migration to help select speakers
- Assist in operations for hosting events – publicize events, manage Zoom recordings, moderate questions

## PERSONAL

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**Languages:** English (Native), Mandarin Chinese (Proficient), Hindi (Proficient), Bengali (Basic)

**Technology:**

- Advanced skills in Stata, R, and SurveyCTO
- Intermediate skills in Python, Nvivo, and Apache Superset
- Experience with SQL, Big Query, Tableau, and React Javascript

**Activities:** Ultimate Frisbee, Odissi dance, Debate, Grilling, Scuba diving, Hiking, Traveling

**Work Authorizations:** USA (Citizen), India (Overseas Citizen of India)