

Paola Jaimes

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🌐 My Personal Website
🐙 Github in LinkedIn

Specializing in development economics with expertise in econometrics, spatial data analysis, and program evaluation. Skilled in both qualitative and quantitative research, with experience in case studies and comparative analysis. Proficient in evaluating program effectiveness and providing actionable policy recommendations.

Education

- 2024 **Ph.D. in Economics**, *University of Ottawa*, Canada.
Thesis: *Essays on the Economics of Conflict and Crime*.
- 2017 **Master's in Economics (with Honors)**, *National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)*, Mexico.
Thesis: *Agribusiness and Land Policies in Colombia: A Case Study of the Altillanura Region*.
- 2014 **Bachelor's in Economics**, *Industrial University of Santander (UIS)*, Colombia.
Thesis: *Electrification of non-interconnected areas using solar energy: a comparative analysis for the Colombian case*.

Professional Experience

- April 2025 – **Research Fellow**, *Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR)*.
Present Conduct research on Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), IMF lending practices, and climate finance. Support the development of policy briefs and reports, including on Mexico's development and gender equity policies.
- December 2024 – **International Program Intern**, *Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR)*.
March 2025 Supported research on economic policy, external debt, and climate finance. Assisted in data collection, visualization, and drafting of reports focused on Latin America and global economic governance. Contributed to the coordination of international development projects.
- January – **Research Assistant, Department of Economics**, *University of Ottawa*.
April 2023 Project: *CARES Act and Violent Crimes in the U.S.*
Conducted data analysis and literature reviews to study the impact of the CARES Act on violent crime rates in the U.S. using Stata. Simulated a theoretical model of informal financial markets and asymmetric information using Python.
- January – **Research Assistant, Ottawa Applied Microeconomics Lab**.
June 2022 Project: Mapping Chinese and World Bank transportation infrastructure projects in African countries using ArcGIS Pro.
- September – **Research Assistant, Department of Economics**, *University of Ottawa*.
December 2021 Project: *COVID-19 and Crime in California*.
Performed weekly-county level data collection and econometric analysis to examine the impact of COVID-19 on crime rates in California using Stata. Retrieved mobility data by coding GraphQL queries in R.
- January – **Research Assistant, Mining and Energy Planning Unit (UPME) & Center for Research for Sustainable Development (CIDES)**.
December 2013 Project: *Survey on Non-Conventional Sources of Renewable Energy in Colombia*.
Conducted surveys and data analysis on the use of renewable energy sources in non-interconnected areas of Colombia.

Teaching Experience

- January 2024 **Instructor, Part-time Professor, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa.**
– April 2024 Course: [Introduction to Development Economics \(ECO 2117\)](#).
Developed course materials, including lectures, assignments, and exams.
Taught undergraduate students key concepts in development economics, explored theoretical models, and discussed empirical methods in applied economics.
- June 2024 **Instructor, Stata Workshop (Mini-Course) for second-year doctoral students in Economics, University of Ottawa.**
Developed materials and provided hands-on training in Stata, covering data exploration, data manipulation, graphical analysis, regression analysis, and post-estimation techniques.
- June 2022 & June 2023 **Instructor, L^AT_EX Workshop (Mini-Course) for second-year doctoral students in Economics, University of Ottawa.**
Created instructional materials and conducted practical training sessions to help students effectively use L^AT_EX for academic writing and presentations.
- September 2018 – June 2024 **Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa.**
Assisted in delivering various courses, including *Economics of Natural Resources (Graduate)*, *Advanced Microeconomic Theory IV (Graduate)*, *Probability and Statistics*, *Introduction to Environmental and Natural Resources Economics*, *Macroeconomic Theory I*, *Financial Econometrics*, *Introduction to Microeconomics and Macroeconomics*, and *Analysis of Economic and Social Data*.

Academic Research

Published Journal Articles

- 2017 **Paola Jaimes and Guillermo Matamoros**, [What Happened to the Empty Box of Latin American Development 30 Years Later?](#), *Problemas del Desarrollo*, volume 48, pages 9-26. Instituto de Investigaciones Económicas. Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

Working papers

- 2024 **Paola Jaimes**, [Land Conflicts in the Wake of Gold Mining Expansion in Colombia](#), Working Paper 2404E, University of Ottawa, Department of Economics.

Work in progress

Louis Hotte and Paola Jaimes, Explaining the 2020 Pandemic Homicide Puzzle: Theory and Evidence.

Presentations

- 2024 **58th Annual Meetings of the Canadian Economics Association**, Toronto, ON.
2023 **18th Defence and Security Economics Workshop**, Ottawa, ON.
2021 – 2023 **"Brown-bag" workshops**, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa.
2023 **XVIII CIREQ Ph.D. Students' Conference**, Montreal, QC.
2017 **ECLAC School of Latin American Development Studies**, Santiago de Chile.
2016 **Conference on the 40 years of the Institute of Latin American Studies**, LaTrobe University, Melbourne.

Academic Achievements & Recognitions

- 2018 **Jesus Silva-Herzog Annual Prize in Economic Research**, *National Autonomous University of Mexico*.
Awarded annually to the best article published in *Problemas del Desarrollo*, based on criteria such as analytical and methodological rigor, empirical and bibliographic support, and the importance and relevance of the study.

Skills

Statistics Stata (Advanced), R (Intermediate), Python (arcpy, pandas, numpy, matplotlib)
GIS Software ArcGIS Pro, QGIS
Languages Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), French (Beginner)

Volunteer and Civic Engagement

2021 – **Active Member**, Defendamos la Paz, Internacional (*Let's Defend Peace - International*)
Present

Scholarships and Bursaries

Scholarships

2018 – 2024 **University of Ottawa International Doctoral Scholarship**, University of Ottawa.
2018 – 2022 **University of Ottawa International Partial Admission Scholarship**, University of Ottawa.
2016 – 2017 **Graduate Scholarship**, CONACyT, Mexico.

Bursaries

2023 **Serge Nadeau Memorial Thesis Completion Grant**, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa.
2021 **Bursary Competition**, Department of Economics, University of Ottawa.