

# Robert Baluja

Department of Economics, University of Arizona

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Fields:** Environmental & Energy Economics, Empirical Microeconomics

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## EDUCATION

- **University of Arizona** Tucson, AZ  
*Ph.D. (M.A. en route) - Economics* Expected 2025
- **University of California, San Diego** La Jolla, CA  
*B.S. - Mathematics & Economics; Summa Cum Laude* 2020

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## WORKING PAPERS

- **Migration in a Warming World: A Dynamic Discrete Choice Model of Climate-Induced Mobility:** I study the interaction between climate and migration in a dynamic discrete choice setting. Preliminary results indicate that societal-level adaptation can be quite important, and that accounting for forward-looking behavior leads to dramatically different end-of-century predictions than those that abstract away from dynamic considerations.
- **The Impact of Maternal Exposure to PFAS on Infant Health Outcomes (with Wesley Howden, Bo Guo, Ashley Langer, and Derek Lemoine):** We estimate the causal impact of maternal exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) on infant birthweight, preterm births, and neonatal deaths in Upstate New York. We are currently expanding on these results with the use of geocoded microdata.

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## PRESENTATIONS

- 2023:** AERE@OSWEET, AERE@WEAI, AZ ENREE Workshop, Columbia University IO Colloquium, Sacramento Economics Roundtable, 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer School on the Economics of Migration
- 2022:** CU Environmental & Resource Economics Workshop
- 2019:** UCSD Faculty Mentor Program Symposium, UCSD Undergraduate Research Conference

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## VISITS

- 2023:** PER-IO Graduate Student Visitor, Columbia University

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## INVITED PARTICIPATION

- 2024:** NBER Longer-Term Health and Economic Effects of COVID-19
- 2023:** NBER Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Meeting

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## GRANTS AND AWARDS

- AEA Mentoring Program Travel Grant - Summer 2023
- Steve Manos Prize for Best Second-Year Paper - 2022
- GPSC Travel Grant - Fall 2022
- VF Boland Scholarship - Spring 2021, Spring 2022
- Michael B. Bidwell Scholarship - Spring 2021, Fall 2021
- Phi Beta Kappa - 2020

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Research Assistant** University of Arizona  
*Prof. Derek Lemoine* Spring 2022 - Present
- **Research Assistant** University of Arizona  
*Prof. Ashley Langer* Spring 2022 - Present
- **Research Assistant** University of California, San Diego  
*Prof. Philip Roeder* Spring 2019

## TEACHING

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### Instructor of Record

- Basic Economic Issues - Summer 2023 (100% positive feedback)

### Teaching Assistant

- Mathematical Economics (PhD) - Fall 2021, Fall 2022
- Math Camp (PhD) - Summer 2022
- Economics of Sports - Spring 2023
- Economics of Strategy - Fall 2020, Spring 2021
- Basic Economic Issues - Fall 2020
- Climate Science & Economics: How Should Policy Control Warming? - Fall 2021

## SKILLS SUMMARY

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- **Programming Languages:** Julia, Python, R
- **(Non-Programming) Languages:** English (Native), Spanish (Intermediate)