

AMATUS SALEHA JAFRI, PhD Candidate

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Economics, McMaster University
1280 Main Street West
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PROFILE HIGHLIGHTS

- Leverage theoretical and empirical research in areas of macroeconomics, labor economics, entrepreneurship, heterogenous agent model, and apply data-driven economic reasoning to complex business and policy challenges.
- Apply Fortran, R, Stata, and MATLAB to conduct advanced econometric estimation, simulation, and forecasting, translating complex quantitative results into actionable policy analysis.
- Work in collaborative and team-oriented environment with strong communication and presentation skills.

EDUCATION

PhD Economics, McMaster University	2020 – 2025
MA Economics, McMaster University	2019 – 2020
BSc. (Honors) Economics and Mathematics, Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)	2006 – 2010

JOB MARKET PAPER

"Who Gains from Credit Expansion? The Role of Heterogeneous Preferences for Leisure in Entrepreneurship"

This paper combines survey data with a quantitative model featuring heterogeneity in leisure preferences to explain the wide dispersion in entrepreneurial hours, firm size, and asset accumulation. The analysis shows that behavioral heterogeneity, rather than financial frictions alone, drives these outcomes. When collateral constraints are relaxed, welfare gains are concentrated among moderately working, credit-constrained entrepreneurs, while ignoring preference heterogeneity overstates overall welfare improvements.

Working Papers

- "How durable are durables?", with Zachary L. Mahone, 2025
"Gender disparities in entrepreneurial Time allocation", 2025

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

International Monetary Economics	McMaster University	2024
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Research Assistant

Professor Gajendran Raveendranathan	McMaster University	Spring 2022 – Winter 2024
Professor Michael Veall	McMaster University	Fall 2021 – Winter 2022
Professor Zachary Mahone	McMaster University	Summer 2021

Teaching Assistant

2020, 2024

ACADEMIC HONOURS AND AWARDS

Graduate Scholarship, McMaster University	2025 – 2026
Graduate Scholarship, McMaster University	2024 – 2025

Tri Agency Award, Ontario Graduate Scholarship	2023 – 2024
Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Ontario	2022 – 2023
Graduate Scholarship, McMaster University	2022 – 2023
David S. Daly Academic Grant, McMaster University	2021 – 2022
Graduate Scholarship, McMaster University	2021 – 2022

CONFERENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

59th CEA meeting, Montreal, Canada	2025
58th CEA meeting, Toronto, Canada	2024
57th CEA meeting, Winnipeg, Canada	2023

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Economic Analyst, Indonesian Consulate in Karachi, Pakistan	Mar 2012–Nov 2013
Prepared reports on economic and trade developments, including Pakistan–Indonesia bilateral trade, and liaised between traders by providing research on products, markets, and demand	

Financial Analyst, GEO Networks	Apr 2011 – Mar 2012
Prepared comprehensive monthly review and cost-benefit analysis of all companies and network channels, along with an economic environment assessment, programming cost analysis, and a financial dashboard for the CEO	

SKILLS AND PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Programming: Fortran, MATLAB, R, Stata, Latex

REFERENCES

Gajendran Raveendranathan (Advisor)	Bettina Brüggemann
Associate Professor of Economics	Associate Professor of Economics
McMaster University	McMaster University
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Zachary L. Mahone
Assistant Professor of Economics
McMaster University
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