

AMATUS SALEHA JAFRI, PHD CANDIDATE

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Macroeconomics, Heterogenous agent model, Labor Economics, Entrepreneurship

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

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

Econ Health Policy McMaster University Spring 2025
Introductory Microeconomics McMaster University Winter 2025 & Fall 2024
Economics of Professional Sports McMaster University Winter 2024 & Spring 2024
Intermediate Macroeconomics 2 McMaster University Winter 2021
Econometrics 1 McMaster University Fall 2020
Introduction to Statistics McMaster University Fall 2020
Introduction to Game Theory McMaster University Summer 2020
Economics of Labour Market Issues McMaster University Winter 2020
Economics of Professional Sports McMaster University Fall 2019
International Trade Lahore University of Management Sciences 2009

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
Financial Analyst, GEO Networks	Apr 2011 – Mar 2012

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Programming: Fortran, MATLAB, R, Stata, Latex

REFERENCES

Gajendran Raveendranathan (Advisor)
 Assistant Professor of Economics
 McMaster University
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Bettina Brüggemann
 Assistant Professor of Economics
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