

# SAMYAM SHRESTHA

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## EDUCATION

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<b>University of Georgia</b> Ph.D., Agricultural and Applied Economics <i>Summer School, Economics of Migration, UC Davis Global Migration Center, 2023</i>	2020 – 2025 ( <i>Expected</i> )
<b>Montana State University</b> M.S., Applied Economics	2017 – 2019
<b>Kathmandu University</b> Bachelor of Business Information Systems	2009 – 2013

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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### **Trade Effects of Immigration Enforcement: Evidence from U.S. Labor-Intensive Agriculture [Draft]**

*Abstract:* U.S. fruit and vegetable (FV) production, which is highly labor-intensive, has declined in recent decades, while imports have significantly increased. During this time, the U.S. farm labor markets, heavily reliant on undocumented workers, have tightened, with producers reporting labor shortages and rising wages. This study examines if intensified immigration enforcement in the U.S. interior, a supply-side shock to farm labor availability, affects FV trade domestically and internationally. First, we demonstrate that a state's labor expenses and FV production decrease with the intensification of immigration enforcement. Using gravity models with state panel trade flow data, we show that immigration enforcement reduces FV exports to other U.S. states and foreign trading partners. To mitigate the reduction in local FV supply, states with higher enforcement increase their imports from lower-enforcement states. However, we do not find evidence that changing labor dynamics contribute to the rise in international FV imports. Trade agreements and lower production costs in origin countries may explain this pattern.

## WORKING PAPERS

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Labor Market Effects of the Venezuelan Refugee Crisis in Brazil (with Hugo Sant'Anna) [*R&R Journal of Economic Geography*]

Public Perceptions on Undocumented Agricultural Workers (with Benjamin Campbell, Vitalis Othuon, William Secor, and Daniel Tregaele) [Submitted]

## SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

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General Equilibrium Effects of Increasing Agricultural Wages

Immigration Enforcement and Business Dynamics (with Hugo Sant'Anna)

The Heterogeneous Effects of Minimum Wage Laws on SNAP Participation (with Haewon Oh and Travis A. Smith)

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

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2024 Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Conference, Washington, DC	Fall 2024
2024 AAEA Annual Meeting (selected presentation), New Orleans, LA	Summer 2024
2023 Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA	Fall 2023

UGA AAEC Departmental Seminar	Fall 2023
2023 AAEA Annual Meeting (selected presentation), Washington, DC	Summer 2023
UGA Development Workshop	Spring 2023
2022 AAEA Annual Meeting (selected presentation), Anaheim, CA	Summer 2022
UGA Development Workshop	Spring 2022

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant, University of Georgia	Jan 2021 – Present
Short-Term Consultant, The World Bank	Apr 2023 – May 2024
Research and Operations Consultant, Precision Development (PxD)	Jul 2019 – Jul 2020
Graduate Assistant, Montana State University	Aug 2017 – May 2019
Research Associate, Interdisciplinary Analysts	Aug 2015 – Jul 2017

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor for AAEC 2580: Applied Microeconomic Principles (UGA) [Rating: 4.42/5]	Summer 2024
TA for AAEC 3010: Farm Organization and Management (UGA)	Fall 2022
TA for AAEC 3040: Agribusiness Marketing (UGA)	Fall 2021
TA for ECNS 320: Public Finance (MSU)	Fall 2018

## AWARDS

UGA Graduate School Summer Research Grants (\$1,500)	2024
UGA Graduate School Domestic Travel Grant Award	2022, 2023, 2024

## SERVICE

Referee: 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Water Resources and Economics*

Treasurer (2021-23) and Social Chair (2024-25), UGA DAAE Graduate Student Association

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Economic Association (AEA)	2023 –
Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA)	2021 –
Mentee, Association of Mentorship and Inclusion in Economics (AMIE)	2022–23

## REFERENCES

<b>Nicholas Magnan</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Ag. and Resource Economics Colorado State University Email: nick.magnan@colostate.edu	<b>Diane Charlton</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Ag. Economics and Economics Montana State University Email: diane.charlton@montana.edu
<b>Genti Kostandini</b> Professor Dept. of Ag. and Applied Economics University of Georgia Email: gentik@uga.edu	<b>Mateusz Filipski</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Ag. and Applied Economics University of Georgia Email: mfilipski@uga.edu