

# STEPHEN PITTS

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Department of Applied Economics | 231 Ruttan Hall | 1994 Buford Avenue | St. Paul, MN 55108

## Education

**University of Minnesota—Twin Cities (St. Paul, MN)** **2020-present**

PhD in Applied Economics; Fields: Agricultural Development and Labor Economics

PhD minor: Geographic Information Science

**University of San Francisco (San Francisco, CA)** **2015-2018**

MS in International and Development Economics

**Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University (Berkeley, CA)** **2014-2018**

Master of Divinity; Master of Theology (Concentration: Ethics and Social Theory)

**Loyola University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)** **2008-2011**

MA in Philosophy

**University of Oklahoma (Norman, OK)** **2002-2006**

BA in Mathematics (Japanese minor) and BS in Computer Science (with honors)

Junior Year Abroad at Ritsumeikan University (Kyoto, Japan)

## Publications

S. Pitts, “The role of the farmer and their cooperative in supply chain governance: a Latin American small producer perspective,” *Handbook of Cooperatives*, eds. Michael Boland and Matthew Eliot, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2023, pp 172-184.

S. Pitts, “Value Chain Integration as an Alternative to Fair Trade for Chiapas Coffee Farmers,” *Entrepreneurship and Development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, eds. Sergio Bruno and Cole Scanlon, Emerald Publishing, 2019, pp 103-138.

## Work in Progress

Can honey production serve as a coping strategy for coffee producers? Evidence from Mexico (with Chris Boyd Leon and Grant Xavier Storer). Accepted for AAEA 2022-23 Invited Poster Session.

Side-Selling: Experimental Evidence from Mexico (with Chris Boyd Leon and Grant Xavier Storer). Accepted for AAEA 2022-23 Invited Poster Session.

“Where You Go Depends on Who you Know: The Effect of Social Networks on Mexican Internal Migration” (Second Year Paper)

## Teaching Experience

**University of Minnesota, Department of Applied Economics** **2021-present**

Teaching Assistant: Econometric Analysis I/II (PhD Level) – Fall 2021, Fall 2022

Econometric Analysis III/IV (PhD Level) – Spring 2023

Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate level) – Spring 2022

Department Teaching Assistant Award for 1000-level classes (2021-22)

<b>University of San Francisco, St Ignatius Institute</b>	<b>2015-2018</b>
Designed and taught three undergraduate seminar courses	
“Intimacy in a Virtual World”, “Science and Religion”, “Epic Stories”	

<b>Jesuit College Preparatory School (Dallas, TX)</b>	<b>2011-2014</b>
Instructor: Algebra 1, Honors Geometry, Algebra 2 (team leader), Honors Precalculus	

### **Grants**

Ralph K Morris Foundation	
Elroy Webster Cooperative Studies (\$2500)	2023-24

University of Minnesota	
Department of Applied Economics Travel Grant (\$1000)	Summer 2023
CIFAP Travel Grant (\$1000)	Summer 2023
Center for International Food and Agricultural Policy (\$25000)	2022-23
Office of Provost Summer Research Stipend (\$6300)	Summer 2021
Office of Provost Summer Research Stipend (\$6300)	Summer 2022

Santa Clara University	
Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education (\$1000)	Fall 2022
Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education (\$1500)	Summer 2022
Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education (\$500)	Summer 2017
Markula Center for Applied Ethics Travel Grant (\$750)	Spring 2015

US Central and Southern Province, Society of Jesus	
Social Ministries Grant (\$1100)	Summer 2017

University of San Francisco, Department of Economics	
Field Research Grant (\$1500)	Summer 2017

### **Fellowships**

University of Minnesota, Department of Applied Economics	
Dr. Dale C. Dahl and Jean Kinsey Graduate Fellowship	2020-21

University of San Francisco, Department of Economics	
Department Merit Scholarship (\$2500)	2017-18
Department Merit Scholarship (\$1000)	2016-17
McDermott Scholarship (full tuition)	2015-16; 2016-17

### **Department Service (UMN Applied Economics)**

2022-23: Graduate student member of Priorities Committee and Graduate Committee

### **Professional Service**

2023: Referee for *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*  
 2022: Referee for *Handbook of Cooperatives, American Journal of Agricultural Economics*

### **Invited Professional Presentations**

- 2023: Association for Economics Research of Indigenous Peoples (virtual)
- 2022: University of San Francisco Department of Economics (virtual),  
University of Minnesota Applied Economics Student Seminar
- 2021: AJCU Conference on International Education (virtual)

### **Invited Popular Presentations**

- 2023: Jesuits Friends and Alumni Network (St. Paul, MN)
- 2021: Encuentro Project (El Paso, TX)
- 2020: Pioneers 21 (El Paso, TX)
- 2019: Archdiocesan Peace & Justice Commission (St. Louis, MO),  
Encuentro Project (El Paso, TX)

### **Mentoring**

**2020:**

### **Relevant Professional Experience**

- Associate Pastor at Sacred Heart Church (El Paso, TX): Fall 2018-Spring 2020
- Associate Pastor at Jesuit Mission of Bachajón (Chiapas, Mexico): Summer 2018
- Research Associate at Jesuit Social Research Institute (New Orleans, LA): Summer 2015
- Volunteer at Adachi International Academy (Tokyo, Japan): Summer 2010, Summer 2013
- Volunteer at Casa de los Pobres (Tijuana, BC, Mexico): Spring 2008

### **Language and Technical Proficiency**

- Computer: R, SQL, GIS, Python, Stata, JavaScript
- Languages: English (native), Spanish (proficient), Portuguese (intermediate), Japanese (rusty)

### **Personal**

- Member of US Central and Southern Province of Society of Jesus
- Entrance: August 15, 2006
- First Vows: August 15, 2008
- Ordination as a Roman Catholic Priest: June 10, 2017