

# TANYA RAJAN

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## Office Contact Information

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## Education

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<b>University of Chicago</b> , Ph.D. Economics	<i>2019–present</i>
<b>Rice University</b> , B.A. with Honors in Mathematical Economic Analysis <i>Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa</i>	<i>2012–2016</i>

## References

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Professor Thibaut Lamadon (Chair) University of Chicago Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics thibaut.lamadon@gmail.com (773) 702-2544	Professor Michael Dinerstein Duke University Department of Economics michael.dinerstein@duke.edu (650) 492-1004
Professor Christina Brown University of Chicago Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics christinalbrown@gmail.com (773) 702-8003	Professor Stephane Bonhomme University of Chicago Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics sbonhomme@uchicago.edu (773) 834-6831

## Research and Teaching Fields

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Primary:	Development Economics, Labor Economics
Secondary:	Health Economics

## Job Market Paper

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### Untangling Informality: Wages, Preferences, and Sectoral Sorting in Bangladesh's Garment Industry

*Abstract: Worker mobility between the formal and informal sectors of labor markets in low-income countries depends on both search frictions and worker preferences. Focusing on the garment industry in urban Bangladesh, this paper combines survey data on retrospective job histories and a choice experiment over job amenities to estimate a dual-sector labor supply model with on-the-job search and heterogeneous preferences for amenities. I find that search frictions differ by sector, with yearly job arrival rates of 71% from the formal sector and 93% from the informal sector when searching from unemployment. I also find that workers have strong and heterogeneous preferences for job amenities, with some workers willing to pay up to 37.4% of their wages for specific amenities. When comparing search frictions and preferences, I find that preferences are a larger determinant of worker sorting between sectors, with preferences for formal amenities pushing more workers into the formal sector.*

## Work in Progress

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**Health Financing and Healthcare Utilization in Malawi**

**Fertility Decline and Urbanization in India** (w/ Anup Malani)

**Long-term Follow-Up of the Malawi Family Planning Study** (w/ Mahesh Karra and Daniel Maggio)

**Rural Employment and Seasonal Migration: A Study of MNREGA in Odisha, India** (w/ Menna Bishop and Jack Glaser)

## Publications

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Cantor SB, Rajan T, Linder SK, Volk RJ. (2015). "A framework for evaluating the cost-effectiveness of patient decision aids: A case study using colorectal cancer screening." *Prev Med*, 77:168-73.

Cantor SB, Deshmukh AA, Luca NS, Nogueras-Gonzalez GM, Rajan T, Prokhorov AV. (2015) "Cost-effectiveness analysis of smoking-cessation counseling training for physicians and pharmacists." *Addict Behav*, 45:79-86.

## Awards, Scholarships, and Grants

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NIA T32 Predoctoral Fellowship Program	<i>2022-Present</i>
STEG PhD Student Small Research Grant (\$18,000)	<i>2023</i>
Development Economics Research Fund - Pilot Grant (\$7,000)	<i>2023</i>
Development Economics Research Fund - Exploratory Travel Grant (\$5,000)	<i>2022</i>
Gaston V. Rimlinger Thesis Prize in Economics	<i>2016</i>

## Teaching Experience

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Health Economics (MBA)	TA for Prof. Notowidigdo	<i>Winter 2023, Spring 2024</i>
Human Capital (PhD)	TA for Prof. Heckman	<i>Spring 2022</i>
Intro to Devt. Econ. (Undergraduate)	TA, Course Developer for Prof. Glennerster	<i>Winter 2022</i>
Empirical Analysis 1 (Masters)	TA for Joe Hardwick	<i>Fall 2021, 2022</i>
Econometrics (Undergraduate)	TA for Joe Hardwick	<i>Winter 2022</i>

## Research Experience and Other Employment

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Research Consultant for Goodweave ( <i>Pro Bono</i> )	<i>2023-24</i>
<i>Project on Child Labor in Bangladeshi Garments Industry</i>	
Predoctoral Fellow for James Heckman: Center for the Economics of Human Development	<i>2016-19</i>
Research Officer, International Rescue Committee	<i>2016</i>
Research Assistant, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center	<i>2014-16</i>

## Professional Experience

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Organizer, UChicago Development Reading Group/Seminar	<i>2020-21</i>
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**Presentations** *University of Chicago Demography Workshop (2024)*

**Refereeing Activity** *JPE Micro*

## Additional Information

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<b>Citizenship</b>	United States
<b>Programming Skills</b>	Julia, R, Stata, Python, Matlab
<b>Languages</b>	English ( <i>native</i> ), Spanish ( <i>intermediate</i> ), Hindi ( <i>conversational</i> )