

CONTACT INFORMATION	University of Washington Department of Economics E-mail: tsherpa@uw.edu	Personal Page LinkedIn
OBJECTIVE	Economics PhD student specializing in applied econometrics, development economics, and environmental policy. Research interests include causal inference, program evaluation, and the use of machine learning for empirical analysis. Committed to producing data-driven insights to inform policy and improve economic opportunities in under-resourced settings.	
EDUCATION	University of Washington Ph.D. in Economics	Seattle, WA 2023 – Present
	University of Colorado B.A. in Economics and Mathematics	Boulder, CO May 2023
INTERESTS	Development, Gender Inequality, Environment, Housing, Applied Econometrics	
SKILLS	Programming: R (advanced), Stata (advanced), Python (intermediate), Matlab (intermediate) Tools: L ^A T _E X, Git, SQL (basic)	
	Econometrics: Maximum likelihood estimation (MLE), limited dependent variable models (probit, tobit), causal inference methods (regression discontinuity design, difference-in-differences), panel data analysis (fixed effects, random effects).	
	Machine Learning: Supervised learning (decision trees, random forests, gradient boosting), regularization methods (LASSO, Ridge), unsupervised learning (clustering, PCA), model tuning (cross-validation, hyperparameter search). Familiarity with neural networks (e.g., CNNs) and basic natural language processing (NLP).	
	Microeconomics: Advanced consumer and producer theory, general equilibrium analysis, game theory, and market structure.	
	Development Economics: Policy evaluation in education and labor markets, gender and household decision-making, NGO program design, and empirical work using microdata from low- and middle-income countries.	
WORK EXPERIENCE	University of Washington, Department of Economics <i>RTW Grader</i>	Seattle, WA Sep 2023 – Present
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluated application essays for the Real-Time Writing (RTW) assessment, contributing to the department's graduate admissions process by identifying candidates with strong analytical and writing skills. 	
	<i>Grader, ECON 423: Topics in Financial Economics</i>	Spring 2025
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessed problem sets and exams for an upper-level course on asset pricing and financial markets. 	
	University of Colorado, Department of Economics <i>Research Assistant to Prof. Miles Kimball</i>	Boulder, CO May 2022 – Dec 2022

Project: Well-Being Measurement Initiative

- Analyzed survey data to examine self-reported happiness and well-being under utility maximization frameworks.
- Identified usable observations and patterns in subjective response data using Excel-based tools and manual coding.

University of Colorado, Department of Mathematics

Mathematics Tutor and Learning Assistant

Boulder, CO

Jan 2022 – Aug 2023

- Provided one-on-one and group tutoring in calculus and linear algebra, emphasizing problem-solving, proof strategies, and mathematical reasoning.

HONORS AND AWARDS

James K. & Viola M. Hall Fellowship, University of Washington
Magna Cum Laude in Economics, University of Colorado Boulder

Autumn 2023

Spring 2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Independent Instructor

University of Washington

- ENGL 299: Intermediate Writing in the Natural Sciences Spring 2026
- ECON 201: Introduction to Macroeconomics Winter 2026

Teaching Assistant

University of Washington

- QSCI 381: Introduction to Probability and Statistics 2025
- ECON 201: Introduction to Macroeconomics Spring 2024
- ECON 200: Introduction to Microeconomics Winter 2024

LEADERSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

University of Washington, Department of Economics

- Economics Graduate Student Committee Autumn 2023 – Present
Elected PhD student representative; contribute to departmental governance and organize student-faculty events.
- Women in Economics Autumn 2023 – Present
Active member supporting initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion within the economics department.
- PhD Mentor for Incoming PhD Students Autumn 2024 – Present
Mentor incoming PhD students by providing academic guidance and professional development support.

University of Colorado Boulder

- Finance Board Voting Member Autumn 2020 – Autumn 2022
Allocated student fee budgets across university programs; evaluated and approved financial proposals for campus initiatives.

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Fields: Microeconomics, Development Economics

Methods: Applied Microeconometrics, Econometric Theory, Machine Learning for Economists

Other: Contract Theory, Auction Theory

OTHER INFORMATION

Languages: English (native)

Citizenship: United States of America