

Vinish Shrestha

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Education

Ph.D. Economics, Emory University, GA, May 2015
B.A. Economics, McKendree University, IL, May 2009
B.A. Mathematics, McKendree University, IL, May 2009

Employment

Towson University, Department of Economics
Associate Professor, Fall 2022–Present
Assistant Professor, 2015–Spring 2022

Research Interests

Primary: Health Economics, Development Economics
Secondary: Application of Causal Methods, Applied Economics

Publications

Historical Racial Oppression and Healthcare Access: Unveiling Disparities Post-ACA in the American South. *Health Economics*, forthcoming.

Medicaid Work Requirements, Labor Market Effects and Welfare (with Juergen Jung), *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, Vol 178, September 2025, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jedc.2025.105147>

Revisiting the effects of cigarette taxation on smoking outcomes. *Empirical Econ* 68, 1429-1475, 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00181-024-02674-0>

The Combined Role of Subsidy and Discussion Intervention in the Demand for a Stigmatized Product (with Rashesh Shrestha), *The World Bank Economic Review*, published online August 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1093/wber/1had023>

Healthcare Reform and Gender Specific Infant Mortality in Rural Nepal (with Juergen Jung), *World Development*, Vol 161, January 2023, published online <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2022.106018>

The Effect of False ID Laws with a Scanner Provision on Underage Alcohol-Related Traffic Fatalities (with Erik Nesson), *Health Economics*, (30)9: 2264-2283, September 2021, published online <https://doi.org/10.1002/hec.4376>

Coronavirus Infections and Deaths by Poverty Status: The Effects of Social Distancing (with Juergen Jung and James Manley), *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, Vol 182, February 2021, published online <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2020.12.019>

Maternal Education and Infant Health Gradient: New Answers to Old Questions, *Economics and Human Biology*, Vol 39, December 2020, published online <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ehb.2020.100894>

Multigenerational Effect of Education Reform: Mother's Education and Children's Human Capital in Nepal (with Rashesh Shrestha), *World Bank Economic Review*, November 2019, published online <https://doi.org/10.1093/wber/lhy036>

Can Basic Maternal Literacy Skills Improve Infant Health Outcomes? Evidence from the Education Act in Nepal, *Journal of Human Capital*, Vol 13, Number 3, Fall 2019, published online <https://doi.org/10.1086/704320>

Cigarette Prices and Driving Fatalities Among Youths, *Economics Letters*, Vol 184, November 2019, published online <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econlet.2019.108589>

The Affordable Care Act and College Enrollment Decisions (with Juergen Jung), *Economic Inquiry*, Vol 56, Issue 4, (October 2018): 1980-2009, published online <https://doi.org/10.1111/ecin.12578>

Schooling Infrastructure and Educational Outcomes in Nepal (with Animesh Giri), *Development Journal of the South*, Vol 2, Issue 1, 2017

The Effect of Health Insurance Mandate on Labor Market Activity and Time Allocation: Evidence from the Federal Dependent Coverage Provision (with Otto Lenhart), *Forum for Health Economics & Policy*, Vol 20, No. 1, (June 2017), published online <https://doi.org/10.1515/fhep-2016-0006>

Do Young Adults Substitute Alcohol for Cigarettes? Learning from the Master Settlement Agreement, *Review of Economics of the Household*, Vol 16, Issue 2, 297-321, (2018), published online <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11150-016-9337-x>

The Pass Through of Beer Taxes to Prices: Evidence from State-Level and Federal Tax Changes (with Sara Markowitz), *Economic Inquiry*, Vol 54, No. 4, (October 2016): 1946-1962, published online <https://doi.org/10.1111/ecin.12343>

Estimating the Price Elasticity of Demand for Different Levels of Alcohol Consumption Among Young Adults, *American Journal of Health Economics*, Vol 1, No. 2, (May 2015): 224-254, published online https://doi.org/10.1162/AJHE_a_00013

Working Papers

The Effects of ACA-Medicaid Expansion on Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes in the American South (with Jurgen Jung)

The Former Oppressive Racial Regime and the Efficacy of the Affordable Care Act in the American South

The Lifecycle Effects of Health and Local Unemployment on Job Promotions (with Juergen Jung)

Mass Education and Political Mobilization: Evidence from Nepal (with Rashesh Shrestha, Apoorva Lal, Avidit Acharya)

Air Pollution and Child Health: Evidence from Peru (with Chris M. Boyd and William Ensminger)

Policy Writings

IIDS Policy Advisory Group on Covid-19 Recommendations for Public Action. Institute for Integrated Development Studies, Publications, May 2021.

Teaching

Health Economics (2016Sp, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21Sp)

Principles of Microeconomics (2015F, 17F, 18, 19, 20, 21Sp)

Principles of Macroeconomics (2016Sp)

Statistics (2015F, 16F, 17Sp)

R programming language, independent study (2019Sp)

Applied Econometrics Lab

Intermediate Macroeconomics

Sp and F denotes Spring and Fall semesters, respectively

Awards and Fellowships

NSF Grant, 2021, with Juergen Jung, *not funded*

Summer Support Grant Program (CBE), 2021, Towson University

Summer Support Grant Program (CBE), 2020, Towson University

NSF Grant, 2019, with Juergen Jung, *not funded*

Summer Support Grant Program (CBE), 2019, Towson University

Summer Support Grant Program (CBE), 2017, Towson University

Summer Support Grant Program (CBE), 2015, Towson University

Graduate Student Research Award of Excellence, 2014, Emory University, Department of Economics

LGS Summer Grant: \$4000 (USD), Summer 2013

Woodruff Fellowship, August 2010-2015, Laney Graduate School, Emory University

Dean's List, 2005-2009, McKendree University

Presentations

Towson Seminar Series, September 2023

Towson Seminar Series, November 2023

Tobacco Online Policy Seminar, March 2023

WEAI 17th International Conference, April 2023, Melbourne, Australia *scheduled*

European Economic Association (EEA-ESEM 2022), August 2022, Milan, Italy

NACA Nepali Academics in America, April 2022, *(invited)*

IIDS Webinar Series on Politics, Economy, and Public Policy, August 2021, *(invited)*

DIAL Development Conference, July 2019, Paris, France

American Society of Health Economists (ASHE), June 2019, D.C.

Midwest International Economic Development Conference, April 2019, Madison, Wisconsin

Eastern Economic Association, February 2019, New York, NY

Southern Economic Association, November 2017, Tampa, Florida

ADBGI-ADI, November 2017, Kitakyushu, Japan *(invited)*

Eastern Economic Association, Feb 2017, New York

American Society of Health Economists (ASHE), June 2016, Philadelphia (poster session)

Southern Economic Association Annual Meetings, November 2015, New Orleans

Tenth Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference, October 2015, Madison Wisconsin

Southern Economic Association Annual Meetings, November 2014, Atlanta, Georgia

Western Economic Association International Annual Meetings, June 2014, Denver, Colorado

Martin Chautari Discussion Series, June 2014, Kathmandu, Nepal

Micro Lunch, 2013 and 2014, Department of Economics, Emory University

Advising

Apoorva Phadnis, Economic Analytics (M.S.), graduated 2025

Bernard Gaffa, Economic Analytics (M.S.), ongoing

Professional Activities

Referee: Applied Economic Perspectives & Policy, American Journal of Health Economics*, Contemporary Economic Policy, Empirical Economics*, Economics and Human Biology*, Economic Inquiry, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Journal of Health Economics*, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Population Economics, Oxford Economic Papers, Public Finance Review, Southern Economic Journal, Social Science and Medicine, UMBC Review, The World Bank Economic Review*

* denotes repeat reviews

Statistical Software: R, STATA, Python, Julia

References

Available upon request

Last updated: September 7, 2025
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