

CATALINA HERRERA-ALMANZA

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321 Mumford Hall
University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign, MA 02115.

cataher@illinois.edu
catalinaherrera.weebly.com

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2020- Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics,
University of Illinois, at Urbana- Champaign (UIUC)
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Economics and Sustainability
Faculty Affiliate, Center for African Studies
Faculty Affiliate, Latin American Studies
Faculty Affiliate, Center for African Studies
Faculty Affiliate, Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program
- 2015-20 Assistant Professor, Department of Economics & International Affairs Program,
Northeastern University
- 2014-15 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Economics & International Affairs Program,
Northeastern University

EDUCATION

- 2014 Ph.D., Cornell University, Applied Economics and Management
2006 M.A., Economics, Universidad de Los Andes
2004 B.S., Economics (with Honors)

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

- 2011-14 Research Assistant, Cornell University
- 2011 Field Coordinator, Impact Evaluation, University of San Francisco, Guatemala
- 2008-09 Research Fellow, Inter-American Development Bank, Washington D.C.
- 2006-08 Junior Professional Associate, The World Bank, Washington D.C.
- 2005-06 Advisor, Ministry of National Planning Bogotá, Colombia
- 2004-05 Research Assistant, Fedesarrollo, Bogotá, Colombia
- 2003-04 Economist, International Reserves Department, Central Bank of Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development Economics, Demographic Economics, Gender, Health, and Education Economics

PUBLICATIONS

1. “Early Childbearing, School Attainment, and Cognitive Skills: Evidence from Madagascar” (with D. Sahn). *Demography*, 2018, 55 (2), 643-668.
2. “Teen Fertility and Female Labor Outcomes: Evidence from Madagascar” (with D. Sahn & K. Villa), *Journal of African Economies*, 2019, 28(3), 277-303.
 - *Highly cited article in 2019 and 2020 at the Journal African Economies*
3. “Curse of the Mummy-ji: The Influence of Mothers-in-law on Women's in India” (with S. Anukriti, M. Karra, & P. Pathak). *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 2020, 102:1328-1351.
4. “Reducing the Cost of Remoteness: Community-Based Health Interventions and Fertility Choices” (with M. Rosales). *Journal of Health Economics*, 2020, 73, 102365.
5. “Childhood Determinants of Youth Internal Migration in Senegal.” (with D. Sahn). *Demographic Research*, 2020, Vol 43, article 45.
6. “Mitigation of Long-term Human Capital Losses from Natural Disasters: Evidence from the Philippines” (with A. Cas). *The World Bank Economic Review*, 2021, 35(2), 436-460.
7. “Do Human Capital Investments Mediate the Intergenerational Transmission of Domestic Violence” (with J. Agüero, J. and K. Villa). *Social Science and Medicine-Population Health*, 2021 17,1000985.

8. “Convincing the Mummy-ji: Improving Mother-in-Law's Approval of Family Planning in India” (with S. Anukriti, M. Karra & R. Valdebenito). *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*, Vol 112, May 2022.
9. “COVID-19 School Closures and Mental Health of Adolescent Students: Evidence from Rural Mozambique” (with N. Karachiwalla, J. Leight, C. Lauchande, F. Salvador) *Social Science at Medicine-Mental Health*, Vol 3 Dec 2023, 1000203.
10. “Community-Based Health Programs and Child Vaccinations: Evidence from Madagascar” (with M. Rosales) *World Development*, Vol 170 Oct 2023.106322.
11. “C-Sections, Obesity, and Health-Care Specialization: Evidence from Mexico” (with F. Marquez, S. Prina). *The World Bank Economic Review*, Vol 38, issue 1, February 2024.
12. “The Influence of Pandemics on Women’s Labor Market Expectations and Job Search Behavior (with S. Anukriti, S. Ochmann) *forthcoming* at *American Economic Review Papers & Proceedings*.

UNDER REVIEW AND WORKING PAPERS

13. “Bring-a-friend: Leveraging Financial and Peer Support to Improve Women’s Reproductive Agency in India” (with S. Anukriti, M. Karra). IZA Discussion Papers. (No. 15381). Policy Research working paper; no. WPS 10107; Impact Evaluation series Washington, D.C. World Bank Group. *Under review*.
14. “Disparities in Spousal Desired Fertility and Land tenure Expectations: Experimental Evidence from Rural Tanzania” (with Aine Seitz McCarthy). AgEcon Working Paper <https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/record/339077>

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

15. “How can we protect children’s schooling? Evidence from Educating Children Together in Mozambique” (with N. Karachiwalla, J. Leight, C. Lauchande, F. Salvador) (*Endline data collected, July 2023*)
16. “Informational Barriers to Female Employment in India: Experimental Evidence from Vocational Training” (with S. Anukriti, S. Ochmann) (*Endline survey finalized January 2024*)
17. “Revisiting the Curse of the Mummy-ji: Mothers-in-Law and Women’s Welfare” (with S. Anukriti, M. Karra) (*Household listing in process- Baseline survey to be completed in May 2024*)
18. “The influence of mothers-in-law on women’s welfare: a global perspective” (with S. Hossain, M. Karra, and S. Anukriti)
19. “Pathways into single motherhood and their implications for children's wellbeing in Nicaragua" (with M. Saenz and M. Arends-Kuenning)

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Murrugarra, E. and Herrera, C., 2011. Migration choices, inequality of opportunities, and poverty reduction in Nicaragua. *In* “Migration and Poverty: Toward Better Opportunities for the Poor” Washington, DC: World Bank, pp.101-24.
- Cardenas, M. and Herrera, C., 2006. Labor Markets in Colombia. *In* “Introduction to the Colombian Economy”. Alfaomega Editor.

POLICY BRIEFS AND REPORTS

- “Educating Children Together Phase 3 (ECT3).” Endline Evaluation Report. (with N. Karachiwalla, J. Leight, C. Lauchande, F. Salvador) submitted by International Food Policy Research Institute to World Vision December, 1st 2023.
- “Educating Children Together Phase 3 (ECT3).” Baseline Evaluation Report. (with N. Karachiwalla, J. Leight, C. Lauchande, F. Salvador) submitted by International Food Policy Research Institute to World Vision. January 14, 2022.
- “Educating Children Together Phase 2 (ECT2). *Final Evaluation Report*. (with N. Karachiwalla, J. Leight, C. Lauchande, F. Salvador) submitted by International Food Policy Research Institute to World Vision. September 30, 2021.

- “Demographic Effects of Girls' Education in Developing Countries: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief.” Washington, DC: *The National Academies Press. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*. 2017. <https://doi.org/10.17226/24895>.
- “Madagascar Young Adult Transitions Survey - Preliminary Descriptive Results” (with F. Aubery, F. Marchetta, A. Pelissier, and H. Rajemison,). *Série Etudes et Documents du Cerdi n° 23*. 2015. <https://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/halshs-01160814>.
- “Migration, Opportunities and Poverty in Nicaragua: Recent Migration Flows and Poverty Reduction” (with E. Murrugarra), *The World Bank Nicaragua Poverty Assessment*, 2007.
- “Informality and Relative Wages in Colombia, 1992-2004: Supply and Demand Factors”. *Archivos de Macroeconomía* No. 303-Departamento Nacional de Planeación, Colombia, 2006.
- “The Agricultural Sector and International Insertion in Latin America” (with R. Junguito, R). *Archivos de Macroeconomía* No. 309- Departamento Nacional de Planeación, Colombia, 2006.

RESEARCH GRANTS

External

- 2015 The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and Population Reference Bureau Research Grant, PI (\$45,000)
Project: Intergenerational Effects of Family Planning in Madagascar (with M. Rosales)
- 2018 BU Global Development Policy Center, Human Capital Initiative, Co-PI (\$15,000)
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Research Grant, Co-PI (\$10,000)
Project: Networks and Global Health: Experimental Evidence of Women’s Social Networks, Reproductive Health, and Well-Being in Developing Countries (S. Anukriti, M. Karra, P. Pathak)
- 2020 BU Global Programs and Boston University Foundation India (BUFI), Co-PI (\$30,000)
Project: Experimental Evidence of Women’s Social Networks, Reproductive Health, and Well-Being in Rural India (S. Anukriti, M. Karra, P. Pathak)
- 2020 National Research Foundation-Rapid COVID-19 Africa Rapid Grant Fund, Co-PI (\$97,850)
Project: “Pandemics and mental health among adolescents and adults: The effect of Covid-19 school closures in Mozambique” (F. Chimbutane, N.Karachiwalla, C. Lauchande, J. Leight)
- 2021 World Bank Research Support Budget Grant, co-PI (USD \$99,999)
Project: “Revisiting the Curse of the Mummy- ji: Mothers-in-Law and Women’s Welfare-Phase 1” (S.Anukriti and M. Karra)
- 2022 World Bank Research Support Budget Grant, co-PI (USD \$99,999)
Project: “Revisiting the Curse of the Mummy- ji: Mothers-in-Law and Women’s Welfare-Phase 2” (S.Anukriti and M. Karra)
- 2023 Children’s Investment Fund-CIFF and Maxmind, co-PI (USD \$3.9 million)
Project: Randomized Control Trials of (i) MSI’s Public Service Strengthening (PSS) and Outreach Northern Nigeria and (ii) Outreach Model in DRC. (P. Anglewicz and M. Karra)

Internal

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

- 2023 ACES OIP Seed grant Award, PI (\$ 5000)
Project “Revisiting the Curse of the Mummy- ji: Mothers-in-Law and Women’s Welfare”
- 2021 ACES OIP Seed grant Award, PI (\$ 4000)
Project “Obesity, Maternal and Infant Health in Mexico”

Northeastern University

- 2018 Northeastern Tier I-Grant, PI (\$47,280)
Project: Networks and Global Health: Experimental Evidence of Women’s Social Networks, Reproductive Health, and Well-Being in Developing Countries (with D. Lazar, S. Anukriti, M. Karra, P. Pathak)
- 2016 Northeastern Tier I-Grant (\$45,000), co-PI

Project: Development, Democratization, and Women's Empowerment: What are the Connections? (with V. Moghadam and B. Erten)

2015 Northeastern Humanities Center (\$5000) (with V. Moghadam and B. Erten and B. Dickens)

2014 Northeastern ADVANCE Mentor Program (\$3000) (with B. Erten)

AWARDS, HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2023 UIUC List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by their Students

2022 UIUC List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by their Students

2019 Northeastern's Select College of Social Sciences and Humanities-CSSH Journal Article in 2018

2015-16 Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession, CeMENT Fellow

2012-14 Hewlett Foundation/IEE PhD Dissertation Fellowship (\$40,000)

2013-14 Cornell Population Center Conference Grant

2012-13 Cornell Graduate School Conference

2012 Einaudi Center- Cornell University International Travel Grant Awards.

2011 Latin America Tinker Summer Grant, Einaudi Center, Cornell University.

2009 Colombian Central Bank Scholarship "Lauchlin Currie" for Doctoral Studies in Economics.

2009 Harvard M.P.A. International Development leadership fellowship. Declined.

2009 Colfuturo Award, Colombia. Declined.

2007 World Bank Staff Spot Award, Washington, D.C.

2008 World Bank Youth Innovation Fund (YIF) grants (US\$18,000), Washington, D.C.

2006 Scholarship- Executive Training Social Program Evaluation-Poverty Action Lab/MIT

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024: ASSA-American Economic Association (AEA) Annual Meetings, PAA Economic Demographic Workshop

2023: ASSA-American Economic Association (AEA) Annual Meetings, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs (Invited), University of Pennsylvania- Population Studies Center's (PSC) Colloquium Seminar Series (invited)

2022: ASSA-American Economic Association (AEA) Annual Meetings, Population Association of America (PAA), Advances of Field Experiments (U. Chicago)

2021: Online Agricultural and Resource Economics Seminars, UIUC-CEOS Mini-talks, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meetings, Economics Department-Universidad del Rosario (Bogota, Colombia), UIUC IPAD-PerE seminar, Midwest Development Group Conference.

2020: ASSA-American Economic Association (AEA) Annual Meetings, Eastern Economics Association (EEA), Center for the Study of African Economies (Oxford-Cancelled), U Mass-Lowell (Economics), Population Association of America (PAA-Cancelled), REAL- UIUC seminar, IFPRI-PHDN seminar, PopPov conference.

2019: Northeastern's Gender and Development Seminar, U Mass- Boston (Economics); Eastern Economics Association (EEA) Annual Conference, Mid-West Development Conference.

2018: ASSA-American Economic Association (AEA) Annual Meetings; Eastern Economics Association (EEA) Conference, Ohio State University (Agricultural and Applied Economics Department), Bentley University (Economics).

2017: National Academy of Sciences-Committee of Population Expert Meetings Workshop "*The Demographic Effects of Girls' Education in Developing Countries*", Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meetings, Eastern Economics Association (EEA) Conference, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meetings, IUSPP International Population Conference (Cape Town, South Africa).

2016: UNU-WIDER Human Capital and Economic Growth (Helsinki, Finland), University of New Hampshire (Economics), Fordham Development Economics Conference; Population, Reproductive Health, and Economic Development (PopPOV) Conference, American Agricultural and Applied Economics (AAEA) Annual Meetings, Population Association of America (PAA) Conference, International Family Planning Conference -IFPC (Bali, Indonesia), Northeastern University Scholars Seminar Series on Leadership, Research and Innovation.

2015: United Nations Commission of the Status of Women, Harvard Population Seminar, 3rd DIAL conference "Barriers to Development" (Paris, France), Population Association of America (PAA), International Association for Feminist Economics Association-IAFFE (Berlin, Germany).

2014: Population Association of America (PAA), Population, Reproductive Health and Economic Development-PopPOV (Nairobi, Kenya), Northeastern Economics Department.

2013: Population Association of America (PAA), NEUDC (Harvard), Cornell University (Development Economics Seminar; Health and Economic Behavior Policy Analysis and Management, Seminar).

2012: Cornell Population Center, North American Regional Social Science Council Meetings (Ottawa, Canada), Einaudi Center, Cornell University.

TEACHING

2021- **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**, Professor
Behavioral Economics and Financial Decision Making (ACE 476)
Economic Systems of Africa (ACE 254)

2015-20 **Northeastern University**, Professor
Principles of Microeconomics
Topics in Gender and Development
Development Economics

2011-13 **Cornell University**, Teaching Assistant
Economics of Consumer Law, Introduction to Statistics, Intermediate
Microeconomics

2004-06 **Universidad de Los Andes**, Teaching Assistant
Intermediate Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Fiscal Policy

SERVICE

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics

Co-advisor

Rocio Valdebenito (PhD)

Farzana Shirin (PhD)

Nicolas Pazos Navarro (PhD)

Committee Member

Jhorland Ayala (PhD)

Yuying Xing's (PhD)

Lila Cardell (PhD)

Gustavo Nino (MS)

Alejandro Montoya (PhD)

Mayra Saenz (PhD)

Mrignyani Sehgal (PhD)

Northeastern University, Economics Department

2014- Speaker Seminar Series Committee Member and Chair (since 2019)

2014- Gender and Development Initiative Founding Member (with International Affairs)

2015- Undergraduate Academic Advisor-Sophomores

2014-16 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Member

2015-16 PhD Thesis Committee Member: Abdullah Tirgil, Monica Ortiz

Refereeing

Journals: Population Research and Policy Review, Feminist Economics, Labour Economics, IZA Journal of Development and Migration, Economics and Human Biology, Social Science and Medicine-Population Health, BMC Public Health, Review of Economics of the Household, Economics of Education Review, World Development, International Migration Review, Education Economics, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Review of Development Economics, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Agricultural Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Economic Letters, China Economic Review, Journal of Public Economics, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, World Bank Economic

Review, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Studies of Family Planning, Economic Modelling.

Grant Reviewer: Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation. Wee-Define, National Science Foundation-Economics (x2), IFPRI

Conference Abstract Reviewing: 2015 International Conference Family Planning, 2017 American Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Annual Meetings, 2021-22 American Agricultural and Economics Association-Topic Leader for the Household and Labor Economics section.

Conference Organization: “*Improving Child and Adolescent Health: Global Maternal and Child Health Interventions*”, 2017 Population Association of America Conference. “*Health Issues and Policies in Developing Countries*”, 2020 Eastern Economics Association.

External Reader, PhD Dissertation

“Essays on nutrition and cognitive production in developing countries: evidence from Ethiopia and Nepal,”

Mohammad Ali (University of New Mexico, Department of Economics)

“Essays on human capital, labor and gender” Kritika Sen Chakraborty (University of New Mexico, Department of Economics)

Participant: Expert Group Meeting (EGM) to discuss “*The cost of child marriage over the life cycle: Evidence from Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and Tunisia,*” organized by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Regional Office of the United International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), The Regional Office of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the Regional Office for the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (UN Women).

Professional Affiliations

American Economic Association, Population Association of America, Population and Poverty Research Network-PopPOV, American Agricultural and Applied Economics Association.

Media Citations

“C-sections in Mexico increase with obesity level and health care specialization” ACES News, November 20th, 2023

“Bring a friend: Leveraging financial and peer support to improve women's reproductive agency” August 21st, 2023

“Convincing the Mummy-ji: Improving mother-in-law approval of family planning in India” Ideas for India, August 18th 2023

“Community health program boosts child vaccinations in remote areas of Madagascar” ACES News, August 9th, 2023

“In Rural India, it's not just the parents who decide how many children to have” News @Northeastern, Jan.8, 2020.

“Saas, Bahu and Social Networks: How a Mother-in-law Influences a Rural Indian Woman's Personal and Family Well-being.” CNN-News 18, December 5, 2019.

“The ‘curse’ of the Mother-in-Law?” BBC- News, January 1, 2020.

“Indian women can't go out and socialize because of their mothers-in-law: Study” The Print, December 7, 2019

“How mothers-in-law hurt women's well-being” Live Mint, December 3, 2019.