

APOORVA LAL

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EDUCATION

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC 2017 -
M.A., Economics

Williams College, Williamstown, MA 2011 - 2015
B.A., Economics & Political Science (Highest Honours)
Senior Honours Thesis: "The Political Economy of Electoral Outcomes in a developing-country context: Nepal (1999-2010)"

University of London London, UK 2013
Study-Abroad / Erasmus Programme , Term 1 - Economics and Politics

Rato Bangala School, Kathmandu, Nepal 2011
GCE A Levels

GRE Scores - 169/170 Verbal (99th Percentile), 167/170 Quantitative (95th Percentile) 4.5/6.0 Writing (82nd Percentile)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Seto Lab, Yale University, (Remote) September 2017-
Research Assistant for Prof Joshua Gottlieb, VSE, (Vancouver, BC) October 2017-
Research Assistant for Prof Anand Swamy, Williams College, (Williamstown, MA) 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Acumen, LLC / The Sphere Institute July 2015 - July 2017
Data and Policy Analyst I / II (Statistical Programmer) *Burlingame, CA*

- Leveraged massive administrative datasets for analysis and predictive modeling of medical costs and related measures across a number of projects commissioned by the Centre for Medicare and Medicaid, the state of California, and Department of Health and Human Services.
- Statistical programming and data analysis for a project commissioned by the Centre for Medicare and Medicaid and Department of Health and Human Services to build a resource-use-measure-indexed payment system of compensation for post-acute care medical providers and facilities as mandated by the IMPACT and MACRA Acts.
- Econometric modelling for a risk-adjustment model used to design chronic-condition-specific target prices for the proposed payment system for the Bundled Payments for Care - Advanced Improvement Initiative project commissioned by the Centre for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation.
- Created deliverables and visualizations used in Technical Experts Panels to present the research underlying Acumen's resource use measures to policymakers and stakeholders.

Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI) June - August 2014
Research Intern *Cape Town, South Africa*

- Extensive data management and quantitative analysis (PSM, DiD), impact evaluation, simulation on a foundation led cash transfer programme.
- Micro-simulation, CGE modelling, qualitative research, and writing for FAO social protection and labour linkages paper, extensive market research on retail and banking for the SASSA payment systems project.
- Taught classes on foundational quantitative research and micro-simulation in Excel and STATA to policymakers from 10 countries from sub-Saharan Africa as part of impact-evaluation in development policy course.

Centre for the Study of Labour and Mobility

December 2013 - February 2014

*Research Intern**Kathmandu, Nepal*

- Fieldwork and data analysis at the Centre for the Study of Labour and Mobility on the effects of migration on livelihoods in the Himalayan region of Nepal as part of The Rural Livelihoods and Climate Change Adaptation in the Himalayas Programme (Himlica) project done in collaboration with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD).

Williams College

May 2013 - August 2013

*Wilmers Fellow**Dubai, UAE, Patna, India, & Kathmandu, Nepal*

- Research under Professor James Mahon on the long-run economic impact of remittances on human capital and investment and the effects of remittances on educational incentives and the policy and long term human capital implications.

International Crisis Group

May 2012 - August 2012

*South Asia Research Intern**Kathmandu, Nepal*

- Field, media, and literature research and writing for *ICG Asia report N.234 - Nepal's constitution: The expanding political matrix* and *ICG Asia report N233 - Nepal's Constitution (I) : Evolution Not Revolution*.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development Economics • Public Economics • Labour economics • Political Economy

SKILLS

Programming Languages	R, Python, Julia, Fortran, Java, C/C++/CUDA
Statistical / Scientific Packages	Stata, SAS, Matlab, GAMS/MPSGE, ArcGIS/QGIS
Markup / Visualisation Packages	LaTeX, Markdown, D3
OS / System Languages	CMD, Powershell (Windows), Bash/Zsh, Awk (Unix)
Languages	English, Nepali, Maithili, Hindi, Bhojpuri, French

PAPERS / POLICY WRITING

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- Nagavarapu S., Panikashvili N., Lal A., Luo B. Cozen M., “*Access to Durable Medical Equipment for Medicare and Medicaid Dual Enrollees*”, prepared for Medicare and Medicaid Coordination Office, Center for Medicare and Medicaid, Department of Health & Human Services
 - Samson, M., Kurasha, E., Ndoro, R., Huijbregts, N., Yang M., Meintjes C, Lal A. “*A study to explore the options and make recommendations for the Vertical Expansion of the Child Support Grant*” Commissioned by Department of Social Development of South Africa (DSD), EPRI Working Paper, June 2014.
 - Samson M., Ndoro R. Lal A., “*A Feasibility Assessment of Options to Strengthen the Developmental Impact of the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) Social Grants Payment System*” - Submitted to the South African Social Security Agency, EPRI Working Paper, July 2014
 - Samson M., Ndoro R., Lal A., Yang M., Jones B., Karim S., Uwera A., “*Social Protection and Agricultural Development: Transformational approaches to strengthening the decent work agenda*”, Commissioned by the Food & Agriculture Organisation (FAO), EPRI working paper, August 2014
 - Lal A, “*The Impact of Remittances on Education Attainment preferences and Human Capital in Rural Nepal*” , January 2014 , Research Seminar Series, Martin Chautari, Kathmandu, Nepal

AWARDS AND HONOURS

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- Resident Fellow, St. John's College, University of British Columbia (2017)
 - Highest Departmental Honours, Williams College (2015)

- Class of 1960 Scholars Programme, Economics Department, Williams College (2013-2015)
- Student Advisory Committee on Hiring, Economics Department (2014-2015)
- Kershaw Fellowship in Public Policy, Economics, Williams College (2014)
- Wilmers Internship Grant (2014)
- Williams College Dean's List : Fall 2012 - Spring 2015
- Robert G. Wilmers Memorial Research Fellowship (2013)
- James R. & Harriet W. Dunbar Scholarship at Williams College (2011-2015)
- Outstanding Learners Award, Cambridge International Examinations (2011)

TEACHING

ECON 101 (Introductory Microeconomics), UBC

Fall 2017

TA for Prof Nisha Malhotra

ECON 516 (International Trade), Williams College

Spring 2015

TA for Prof Will Olney