

C. Austin Davis

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4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Phone: (703) 598-6986
Email: cadavis@american.edu
Website: caustindavis.com

Academic Positions

Assistant Professor, School of International Service, American University, 2017-present.
Academic Lead, Y-RISE & IPA Workforce Development Initiative, 2022-present.
Postdoctoral Associate, MacMillan Center, Yale University, 2017-2020.

Education

PhD Economics, University of Michigan, 2017.
MA Economics, University of Michigan, 2012.
BA Economics with high distinction, Spanish, University of Virginia, 2007.

Fields of Research Interest

Development Economics, Labor Economics, Environmental and Natural Resource Economics.

Journal Publications

Davis, C. A., López-Peña, P., Mobarak, A. M., Wen, J. (2024). Refugees are Hosted in Highly Vulnerable Communities. *AEA Papers & Proceedings*, 114.

Davis, C. A. & Poole, J. (2023). Foreign Influence: The International Transmission of Gender Equality. *The World Economy*. Note: associated chapter in an edited volume listed below.

Barker, N., Davis, C. A., López-Peña, P., Mitchell, H., Mobarak, A. M., Naquib, K., Reimão, M. E., Shenoy, A., Vernot, C (2023). Migration and the Labor Market Impacts of COVID-19. *European Economic Review*, 158.

(Author order randomized) Egger, D., Miguel, E., Warren, S., Shenoy, A., Collins, E., Karlan, D., Parkerson, D., Mobarak, A. M., Fink, G., Udry, C., Walker, M., Haushofer, J., Larrebourne, M., Athey, S. López-Peña, P, Benhachmi, S., Humphreys, M., Lowe, L., Meriggi, N., Wabwire, A., Davis, C. A., Pape, U. J., Graff, T., Voors, M. Nekesa, C., Vernot, C. (2021). Falling Living Standards during the COVID-19 Crisis: Quantitative Evidence from Nine Developing Countries. *Science Advances*, 7(6).

Davis, C. A. & Poole, J. (2020). Can Multinational Firms Promote Gender Equality? The Role of Labour Mobility. *Transnational Corporations*, 27(3).

Davis, C. A. & Mobarak, A. M. (2020). The challenges of scaling effective interventions: A path forward for research and policy. *World Development*, 127.

Under Review

Davis, C. A., López-Peña, P., Mobarak, A. M., Wen, J. (2024). Causes and Consequences of State Violence against Civilians: The Rohingya of Myanmar. Conditionally accepted by *The Economic Journal*.

Working Papers

López-Peña, P., Davis, C. A., Mobarak, A. M., & Raihan, S. Prevalence of COVID-19 Symptoms, Risk Factors, and Health Behaviors in Host and Refugee Communities in Cox’s Bazar: a Representative Panel Study. [Preprint]. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*. E-pub: 11 May 2020. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.20.265173>

López-Peña, Davis C. A., Mobarak, A. M. (2020). Prevalence and Correlates of Depression among Rohingya Refugees and Bangladeshis Living in Cox’s Bazar: a Representative, Cross-sectional Survey.

Davis, C. A. (2017). Why Did Brazilian Farmers Suddenly Adopt Existing Technology? (Job Paper. Featured on World Bank Impact Development Blog.)

Invited Papers, Columns, & Book Chapters

Davis, C. A., Hsu, E., & VanVuren, M. (2023). “Self Employment, Micro-Entrepreneurship, and Development.” *Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (STEG) Pathfinding Paper*.

Davis, C. A. & Poole, J. “Foreign Influence: The International Transmission of Gender Equality.” Chapter 7, in *Closing Gender Gaps in the Southern Cone: An Untapped Potential for Growth*, eds Verónica Frisancho & Virginia Queijo, Inter-American Development Bank, 2022.

Mobarak, A. M. & Davis, C. A. “A Research Agenda Built for Scale,” Chapter 12, in *The Scale-up Effect in Early Childhood and Public Policy: Why interventions lose impact at scale and what we can do about it*, eds John List & Dana Suskind, University of Chicago, 2021.

Mobarak, A. M. & Davis, C. A. “The Nobel Winners in Economics Are On the Right Track.” *Foreign Policy*. 9 December 2019.

Davis, C. A. “What Drives Technology Adoption in Agriculture? Disentangling Regulation and Rising Wages in Brazil.” *World Bank Development Impact Blog*. 30 November 2016.

Presentations

2024: MDev (University of Michigan).

2023: Loyola Marymount University, UC Irvine, Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale (Y-RISE) Workforce Development Initiative (WDI) Workshop, American University (Department of Economics Seminar).

2022: Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale (Y-RISE) Annual Meeting, Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) Entrepreneurship and Private Sector Development (EPSD) Annual Meeting, American University Global Economy & Development Conference

2021: Midwest Economic Development Conference.

2020: Inter-American Development Bank, UN Conference on Trade and Development, Forced Displacement Research & Data to Support COVID-19 Response (IPA / World Bank JDC / International Rescue Committee), American University (Global Economy & Development Seminar).

2019: CEAGA / World Bank Annual Conference on Measuring Development, Washington Area Labor Economics Symposium, WFP-World Bank Technical Advisory Group, Mount Holyoke College (Data Related Explorations in Applied Microeconomics), Yale Program on Refugees, Forced Displacement, and Humanitarian Responses, IPA / IGC / BIGD (Refugee Symposium).

2018: IGC Bangladesh, IFPRI (Financial Inclusion and Resilience Roundtable), AESS Annual Meeting, Yale Conservative Party (Sir Thomas Moore Lecture).

2017: American University, Yale University (Agriculture and Development Conference), WEAI Annual Conference, PacDev (UC Riverside), Yale University (Development Workshop), American Evaluation Association Annual Meeting.

2016: Michigan State (Development Day), Texas A&M (Applied Microeconomics Seminar), Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference (MIT, poster), University of Michigan (Labor Lunch), University of Michigan (Economic Development Seminar), University of Michigan (History, Health, Development, and Demography Seminar).

2015: University of Michigan (Development Day, poster), SEA Annual Meeting, University of Michigan (Economic Development Seminar), University of Michigan (Energy & Environmental Economics)

2014: Inter-American Development Bank, University of Michigan (History, Health, Development, and Demography Seminar).

Honors, Awards, & Fellowships

J-PAL Jobs and Opportunity Initiative, with Pursey Heugens, Mona Mensmann, SM Musa, & Katrin Smolka, 2023 (\$57,990).

IPA Competitive Fund for Peace & Recovery, with Paula López-Peña and A. Mushfiq Mobarak, 2021 (\$352,000).

Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale (Y-RISE) Research Fellowship, 2020 (\$108,000).

Inter-American Development Bank, with Jennifer Poole, 2020 (\$18,000).

MasterCard Center for Inclusive Growth, with A. Mushfiq Mobarak, 2018 (\$70,000).

IPA Competitive Fund for Peace & Recovery, with A. Mushfiq Mobarak, 2018 (\$147,000).

MITRE Haber Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2016.

MITRE Research Award, University of Michigan, 2015.

Rackham Graduate Student Research Award, University of Michigan, 2015.

Summer Dissertation Fellow, Inter-American Development Bank, 2014.

Finalist for Dow Sustainability Doctoral Fellowship, 2013.

Teaching Citation, University of Michigan, 2013.

Summer Research Apprenticeship, University of Michigan, 2011, 2012.

Distinguished Majors Program in Economics, University of Virginia, 2006–2007.

Echols Scholar, University of Virginia, 2003–2007.

Professional Service

Referee for *Econometrica*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *World Development*, *PLOS ONE*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Journal of Economic History*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Nature Communications*. Book reviewer for *Economic History Association*. Grant reviewer for the *Israel Science Foundation*.

University Service

Chair, Global Economy and Development Research Cluster, 2021–2023, 2024–2026.

Member, SIS Faculty Actions Committee, 2023–2024.

Chair, AU Core Quantitative Literacy Committee (Faculty Senate Subcommittee), 2021–2023.

Member, SIS ID Core Course Committee, 2021.

Member, AU Core Quantitative Literacy Committee (Faculty Senate Subcommittee), 2020–2021.

Teaching

Essentials of Economics and Data Analytics (SIS 601), American University, 2024–.

International Affairs Statistics & Methods (SIS 600), American University, 2019, 2021–.

Economic Development (SIS 731), American University, 2018, 2022.

Program Evaluation (SIS 306), American University, 2019.

Program Evaluation and the Complexities of Scale, Short Course for Inter-American Development Bank, 2021.

Program Evaluation, TA for IZA / DFID Short Course, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2019.

Economic Development in Latin America and Beyond, Yale University, 2018.

Program Evaluation, TA for IZA / DFID Short Course, Nairobi, Kenya, 2013.

Statistical Analysis of Survey Data, TA for African Social Research Initiative Short Course, University of Ghana, 2013.

Principles of Microeconomics, Head TA / TA, University of Michigan, 2012–2014.

Principles of Macroeconomics, TA, University of Michigan, 2011–2012.

SAS Basics, Technical Instructor, Analysis Group, 2009–2010.

Advising

PhD Committee Member, Ariana Schmidt (SIS), 2024–.

PhD Committee Member, Aroob Memon (econ), 2023–.

PhD Committee Member, Aya Hosn (econ), 2023–.

PhD Committee Member, Muhammad Malik (econ), 2019–2022.

PhD Committee Member, Ameesh Upadhyay (econ), 2019–2022.

Olson Scholars Mentor, Megan Joksimovic, 2021–2022.

IER Program Mentor, Devin Abbott, 2020–2021.

Employment

Research Assistant for Martha Bailey, University of Michigan, 2013.

Graduate Student Research Assistant for Veronica Berrocal, University of Michigan, 2012.

Senior Analyst, Analysis Group, 2007–2010.

Memberships, Languages, Proficiencies, & Citizenship

Member of the American Economics Association.

English (native), Spanish (conversational), Portuguese (basic).

Stata, R, Excel, LaTeX, GIS, MATLAB, SAS.

US citizen, Mexican citizen.