# PRATISTHA JOSHI RAJKARNIKAR

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#### Education

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, February 2017 M.A. in Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, February 2013 B.A. in Economics and Mathematics, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, May 2009

#### **Key Interests**

Economic Development, Macroeconomic Theory and Policy, Feminist Economics

# **Teaching and Research Experience**

Postdoctoral Scholar, Global Development and Environment Institute, Tufts University, Somerville, MA (Mar. 2017 – Present)

• Co-author introductory undergraduate textbooks 'Macroeconomics in Context' and 'Principles of Economics' drawing on mainstream theory and new research to provide an updated approach to understand economic processes in the environmental and social contexts.

Associate Lecturer, University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, MA (Fall 2015, Fall 2018)

• Introduction to Macroeconomics

Visiting Professor of Economics, Trinity College, Hartford, CT (Spring 2017)

• Macroeconomic Theory

Online Course Instructor, University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA (May 2014 – Jan. 2016)

- Introduction to Macroeconomics Summer 2014, Fall 2014
- Intermediate Macroeconomics Winter 2016

Teaching Assistant, University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA (Sept. 2010 – Jan. 2016)

- Introduction to Microeconomics Fall 2010
- Introduction to Macroeconomics Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2015
- Writing in Economics Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Fall 2012
- Game Theory Fall 2015

Tutor, Kaplan Premier Tutoring Services, Waltham, MA (Jul. 2009 – Jul. 2010)

• Tutored Math to middle and high-school students to help them prepare for standardized tests like SAT & ISEE.

Tutor, Mathematics Department, Mount Holyoke College, MA (Sept. 2007 – May 2009)

• Provided individual assistance to students to help develop their problem-solving skills in Linear Algebra and Topics in Applied Mathematics (Financial Statistics).

## **Manuscripts in Submission**

Joshi Rajkarnikar, Pratistha, and Smita Ramnarain, "Female Headship, Women's Work and Empowerment in Nepal", Revise and resubmit, *Feminist Economics*.

Joshi Rajkarnikar, Pratistha, "Women in Public Spaces and Men's Migration in Nepal", Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society.

# **Work in Progress**

Joshi Rajkarnikar, Pratistha, "Gender and Intra-Household Decision Making: The Case of Nepal".

#### **Doctoral Dissertation**

- Title: Impacts of Foreign Labor Migration of Men on Women's Empowerment in Nepal
- Committee: James Boyce (Chair), James Heintz, Priyanka Srivastava, Smita Ramnarain
- Key Objectives: Examine the changes in women's work responsibilities, decision-making ability, and participation in social activities due to men's migration.
- Methodology: Mixed-method strategy including econometric analysis using national level datasets and qualitative research based on fieldwork interviewing 200 women in Nepal.
- Key Findings: Women gain opportunities for empowerment through increased decision-making and higher social participation. These gains are limited by their lower participation in wage-employment and their financial dependence on men.

#### **Conference and Workshop Presentations**

*Nepalese Women in Public Spaces.* Presented at Eastern Economic Conference, Boston, MA. (Mar. 1-4, 2018)

Female Headship, Well-Being and Empowerment in Nepal with Smita Ramnarain. Presented at Eastern Economic Conference, New York, NY. (Feb. 23-26, 2017)

Dissertation Workshop: Power, Inequality, and Citizenship in the Global South, Institute for Public Knowledge (Jun. 3-4, 2016)

Sponsored by: University of Copenhagen, University of Amsterdam, New York University

# **Other Work Experience**

Marketing Intern, The Nonprofit Quarterly, Boston, MA (Jun. – Nov. 2009)

- Conducted a market research to find potential leads for advertising in the magazine by surveying over a hundred organizations and successfully recruited fifteen of them.
- Prepared a market report on readership and advertising information of six major competitors to enhance the organization's understanding of its market position.

Intern, UBS Financial Services, Wealth Management, Greenwich, CT (Jun. – Aug. 2008)

• Researched demographics and statistics to prepare marketing and presentation materials for a financial advisory seminar on 'Women in Investing'.

Financial Analyst, Grammer & Company, New York, NY (Jun. – Aug. 2007)

• Conducted market research on seven towns in Connecticut, through web-based search and phone interviews, to assist a community bank open branch offices in this region.

## **Fellowships and Awards**

- Political Economy Research Institute Dissertation Fellowship, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Fall 2016
- Economics Travel Grant, Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Spring 2014
- Magna cum laude in Economics, Mount Holyoke College, May 2009
- Sarah Williston Scholar, Mount Holyoke College, October 2007

## **Skills**

Software: STATA, NVivo, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint Language: Nepali (native), English (fluent), Hindi (basic)

Teaching Technologies: Blackboard, Moodle