

PRATISTHA JOSHI RAJKARNIKAR

[Economics in Context Initiative](#), Global Development Policy Center
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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, Economic Theory and Policy, Feminist Economics

Research and Teaching Experience

Associate Director, Economics in Context Initiative (ECI), Global Development Policy Center, Boston University, Boston, MA (Jan. 2020 – Present)

- Manage overall operation of the ECI, including planning personnel needs, overseeing outreach and communications work, and implementing fundraising efforts.
- Develop educational materials for introductory economics textbooks and teaching modules.

Lecturer, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University, Boston MA (Jan. 2019 – Present)

- Global Economic and Development Policy
- Economics for Global Policy

Adjunct Lecturer, The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA (Jan. 2019 – Present)

- Introduction to Economics for Development Practitioners

Postdoctoral Scholar, Global Development and Environment Institute, Tufts University, Somerville, MA (Mar. 2017 – Dec. 2019)

- Co-author introductory undergraduate textbooks '*Macroeconomics in Context*', '*Principles of Economics in Context*', and '*Essentials of Economics in Context*' 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, MA (Sept.-Dec. 2015; Sept.-Dec. 2018)

- Introduction to Macroeconomics, Fall 2015, Fall 2018

Visiting Professor of Economics, Trinity College, Hartford, CT (Jan. 2017 – May 2017)

- Macroeconomic Theory, Spring 2017

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

Publications

Joshi Rajkarnikar, Pratistha. 2020. “[Male Migration and Women’s Decision-Making in Nepal](#)”, *Review of Economics of the Household*, Springer, Vol. 18(4), December.

Joshi Rajkarnikar, Pratistha, and Smita Ramnarain. 2019. “[Female Headship, Women’s Work and Empowerment in Nepal](#)”, *Feminist Economics*, Vol. 26 (2), December.

Goodwin, Neva R., Jonathan Harris, Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar, Brian Roach, and Tim Thornton. 2020. [Essentials of Economics in Context](#), First Edition. Routledge.

Goodwin, Neva R., Jonathan Harris, Julie Nelson, Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar, Brian Roach, and Mariano Torras. 2019. [Principles of Economics in Context](#), Second Edition. Routledge.

Goodwin, Neva R., Jonathan Harris, Julie Nelson, Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar, Brian Roach, and Mariano Torras. 2018. [Microeconomics in Context](#), Fourth Edition. Routledge.

Goodwin, Neva R., Jonathan Harris, Julie Nelson, Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar, Brian Roach, and Mariano Torras. 2018. [Macroeconomics in Context](#), Third Edition. Routledge.

Manuscript in Submission

Joshi Rajkarnikar, Pratistha, "Approaches and Measures of Progress in Political Economy" in D. Primrose, F. Stilwell, and T. Thornton (Eds.), *Handbook on Alternative Theories on Political Economy*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham.

Work in Progress

Joshi Rajkarnikar, Pratistha, "Feminist approaches in the introductory microeconomics course"

Joshi Rajkarnikar, Pratistha, “Breaking Social Barriers: Nepalese Women in Public Spaces”

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 spaces 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 four districts (Chitwan, Syangja, Siraha, and Rolpa) 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

Innovative Approaches to Economics Teaching. Organized panel at Eastern Economic Conference, Boston, MA. (Feb. 27-Mar. 1, 2020)

Teaching the Economics of Gender and Inequality. Presented at Eastern Economic Conference, Boston, MA. (Feb. 27-Mar. 1, 2020)

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, LATTE