

## **PRATISTHA JOSHI RAJKARNIKAR**

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### **EDUCATION**

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Ph.D. in Economics, February 2017

M.A. in Economics, February 2013

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA

B.A. in Economics and Mathematics, May 2009

Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA

### **FIELDS**

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*Primary:* Economic Development, Gender and Development, Macroeconomic Theory

*Secondary:* Microeconomic Theory, Labor Migration and Globalization, Conflict and Peacebuilding

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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

- Co-author the ‘Macroeconomics in Context’ text and coordinate other research, administration and outreach by the Institute.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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

- Macroeconomic Theory, Spring 2017

Associate Lecturer, University of Massachusetts Boston, MA (Sept. 2015 – Dec. 2015)

- Introduction to Macroeconomics, Fall 2015

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 – Dec. 2015)

- 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).

## **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS**

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Female Headship, Well-Being and Empowerment in Nepal

Eastern Economic Association Panel on Gender and Economic Life, Feb. 23 – 25, 2017

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

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

## **DISSERTATION**

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*Title:* Impacts of Foreign Labor Migration of Men on Women's Empowerment in Nepal

*Committee:* James K. Boyce (Chair), James Heintz (Member), Priyanka Srivastava (History, Outside Member), Smita Ramnarain (Member)

*Key Objective:* Examine the changes in women's responsibilities (domestic work, subsistence agriculture, wage and self-employment), decision-making ability, and social participation to draw inferences about impacts of men's migration on women's empowerment.

*Methodology:* Mixed-method strategy including econometric analysis using national level datasets from Nepal Living Standard Survey (2010/11) and Nepal Demographic and Health Survey 2011 and qualitative research based on fieldwork interviewing 200 women in migrant households in Nepal.

*Key Findings:* Women gain opportunities for increased freedom and greater access to economic and social resources during men's absence. However, these opportunities are often constrained by women's position in the household, their education and employment background, their caste and class group, their financial dependence on men and patriarchal social norms.

## **PAPERS IN PROGRESS**

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Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar. *Men's Migration and Women's Decision-Making.*

Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar. *Nepalese Women in Public Spaces: Between Resistance and Compliance?*

Pratistha Joshi Rajkarnikar and Smita Ramnarain. *Female Headship, Well-Being and Empowerment in Nepal.*

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

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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

## **OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE**

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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 a hundred organizations over the phone and successfully recruited about fifteen organizations to advertise.
- Prepared a competitive market report by researching 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 Division, Greenwich, CT (Jun. – Aug. 2008)

- Researched demographics and statistics to prepare marketing and presentation materials for a financial advisory seminar on 'Women in Investing' aimed at expanding the bank's client base to female investors.

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

- Analyzed the economic status of seven towns in Southern Connecticut, through web-based search and phone interviews, and provided recommendations to assist a community bank open branch offices in this region.

## **SKILLS**

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*Software:* STATA, NVivo, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint

*Language:* Nepali (native), English (fluent), Hindi (conversant)

*Teaching Technologies:* Blackboard, Moodle