

# Avik Sanyal — Curriculum Vitae

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I am an applied microeconomist and political economist whose research examines how institutions, social structure, and policy design shape health, welfare, and behavioral responses in the United States. My work uses causal inference and large administrative, policy, and media datasets to study questions at the intersection of public economics, political economy, and applied micro theory. I earned my Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, Irvine in 2023 and currently serve as a Continuing Lecturer in Economics at Purdue University Northwest, where I teach microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics, and public finance across diverse classrooms, including first-generation and international student populations. My research agenda and quantitative teaching experience position me to contribute to UT Austin's strengths in applied microeconomics, macroeconomics, industrial organization, and policy-relevant empirical analysis.

## EDUCATION

- **Ph.D in Economics** **Irvine, California**  
○ *University of California, Irvine* *2023*  
○ **Dissertation Title:** 'Essays on the Determinants of state-level policy in the US'
- **M.A in Economics** **Irvine, California**  
○ *University of California, Irvine* *2018*
- **M.A in Economics** **Kolkata, India**  
○ *Jadavpur University* *2017*
- **B.Sc in Economics** **Kolkata, India**  
○ *St. Xavier's College* *2015*

## EMPLOYMENT

- **Continuing Lecturer**, Purdue University Northwest. Hammond, Indiana. 2024 - Present
- **Instructional Assistant Professor**, Illinois State University. Normal, Illinois. 2023 - 2024

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Continuing Lecturer, Purdue University Northwest.** 2024 -
  - **Courses Taught:** Public Finance and Taxation (Spring 2025), Economics of Public Policy (Spring 2026), Environmental Economics (Fall 2025), Macroeconomics (Spring 2025), Microeconomics (Fall 2024, Spring 2025), Survey of Economics (Fall 2024, Summer 2025, Fall 2025), Principles of Economics (Fall 2024, Fall 2025)
- **Instructional Assistant Professor, Illinois State University.** 2023 - 2024
  - **Courses Taught:** Managerial Economics (Spring 2024), Principles of Macroeconomics (Fall 2023, Spring 2024), Principles of Microeconomics (Spring 2024), Individual and Social Choice (Fall 2023).
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine.** 2018 - 2023
  - **Courses Taught:** Econ Of Data Analyses (Spring 2022), Applied Econometrics I and II (Winter 2022, Winter 2021, Summer 2020, 2019), International Economics I, II and III (Winter 2019, Spring 2020, Summer 2021.), Basic Economics I and II (Winter 2020, Fall 2020, Fall 2021), Global Economy (Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2021), Intro To Econ (Fall 2018).

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health Economics, Health Policy, Mental Health Policy, Applied Microeconomics, Public Economics, Public Policy Analysis

## RESEARCH

- **Impact of Mass Shootings on Mental Health Policy**, 2022. **[JOB MARKET PAPER]** [Available at [SSRN](#)]  
Submitted to *Economics of Governance*  
Click [here](#) to access an interactive map of mass shootings in the US, based on the data I collected and compiled for this paper.
- **Impact of Residential Segregation on Generosity of Welfare Policies** , 2020.
- **Can Financial Incentives for Physicians Improve Access to Healthcare in Underserved areas ?: Evidence from Loan Forgiveness Programs for Mental Health Professionals.** 2022-. *(In Progress)*
- **Impact of Mass Shootings on Federal Legislators' support for mental health policy**, 2022-. *(In Progress)*

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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- **Faculty Mentor, Stacked Course Project, Honors College, Purdue University Northwest** Fall 2024
  - Served as Faculty Mentor for students at PNW for an Undergraduate Research Project on Climate Change Driven Gentrification
- **Reviewer, PNW Undergraduate Research Grant, Purdue University Northwest** Spring 2025 - present
  - Served as Reviewer and provided constructive feedback to Grant Proposals by students applying for the PNW Undergraduate Research Grant.
- **Faculty mentor, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP), UC Irvine** 2022 - present
  - Currently mentoring three undergraduate students at UCI, on a project on empirically analyzing the impact of globalization on the tech sector in India and the US.
- **Research mentor, Lumiere Education** 2022 - present
  - Mentoring high school students from Tajikistan on a research project related to the civil war in Tajikistan and the role played by the Taliban.
- **Tutor, Economics Learning Centre, UC Irvine** 2018 - present
  - As a Teaching Assistant, held weekly office hours answering course-related questions from undergraduate students.
- **Editor, Eco Echoes, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata** 2013 - 2015.
  - Served on the Editorial Board of Eco Echoes, the annual departmental magazine of the Department of Economics at St. Xavier's College. Responsibilities included editing, compiling, and proofreading articles from students for the magazine.
- **Rapporteur, Bengal Global Business Summit, Kolkata** 2016
  - Reported on the proceedings of the Bengal Global Business Summit on behalf of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, India (FICCI).

## AWARDS, CERTIFICATIONS AND GRANTS

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- Earned a Certificate of Completion at the *Notre Dame '25 Institute on Teaching Social Action*, a two-day intensive faculty program on designing transformative social action courses and pedagogy. 2025
- Centre for Global Peace and Conflict Studies (CGPACS) Graduate Student Grant, UC Irvine 2022
- Graduate Division Completion Fellowship, UC Irvine 2022
- Graduate Dean's Recruitment Fellowship, UC Irvine 2017
- Department of Economics Summer Research Fellowship, UC Irvine 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- Illinois Economics Association Annual Economics Conference, DePaul University 2024
- Southern California Applied Economics Conference, UC San Diego 2022
- Centre for Global Peace and Conflict Studies Annual Graduate Student Conference, UC Irvine 2021
- Theory, History and Development Seminar, UC Irvine 2021, 2020
- Department of Economics, Annual Poster Session, UC Irvine 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
- Theory, History and Political Economy Seminar, UC Irvine 2021
- Centre for Global Peace and Conflict Studies, UC Irvine 2021, 2022

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- **Econometric Methodology:** Reduced form causal inference techniques like Regression Discontinuity, Difference in Differences, and Instrumental Variables, Time Series modeling, Binary and Count data models (Poisson, Probit, Logit, Negative Binomial), Panel data models (Fixed and Random effects), Spatial Econometrics, Semi-parametric models, Survey data analysis.
- **Remote Teaching:** Experience teaching both introductory and advanced undergraduate economics courses remotely with online learning tools such as NearPod, Cengage, YuJa, GradeScope, Brightspace and Canvas.
- **Data**
  - **ArcGIS:** Data mapping and visualization with Spatial data. Created an interactive and continuously updated map of mass shootings in the US, using originally collected data, which can be accessed on my website [here](#).
  - **MS Excel:** Extracting and collating data from multiple sources.
  - **Stata:** Statistical Analysis, Data Cleaning, Data Visualization. [[Sample Code](#)]
  - **R:** Statistical Analysis, Data Cleaning [[Sample Code](#)]
  - **Python:** Statistical analysis, Web scraping using the Pandas and BeautifulSoup packages respectively. [[Sample Code](#)]
  - **Tableau and Power BI:** Data Visualization. [[Sample Visual](#)]
  - **Data Collection:** Collecting original data, both manually and via web scraping, from sources such as newspaper articles and legislative documents among others.
- Familiar with legal databases such as LexisNexis, Westlaw, and HeinOnline and media archives such as Vanderbilt Television News Archive, Internet Archives, and ProQuest.
- Familiar with large healthcare-related datasets such as Health and Retirement Survey (HRS), Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), National Survey of Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), US Census-related datasets such as American Communities Survey (ACS), Current Population Survey (CPS), and other large datasets such as the FBI Supplementary Homicide Report (FBI-SHR).

# LANGUAGES

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English (Professional), Bengali (Fluent), Hindi (Intermediate), Spanish (Beginner)

# REFERENCES

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- **Timothy Harris**,  
Associate Professor of Economics,  
Illinois State University.  
**Email:** tfharr1@ilstu.edu
  - **Paul McGrath**,  
Professor of Economics, Emeritus  
Purdue University Northwest  
**Email:** pmcgrat@pnw.edu
  - **Yu Ouyang**,  
Department Chair,  
Department of History, Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
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  - **Dan Bogart**,  
Professor of Economics,  
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