Lakshita Sharma

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Education

2021–2027 **Ph.D. in Applied Economics & Management**, *Cornell University*, Ithaca, NY
Thesis: Essays in Labor Market Inequalities

2019–2020 **M.S. Econometrics & Mathematical Economics**, *London School of Economics (LSE)*, UK

2017–2019 **M.S. Economics**, *Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics*, Pune, India

2014–2017 **B.S. Statistics**, *Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi*, New Delhi, India

Research Fields

Labor Economics; Personnel Economics; Development Economics

Working Papers

Affirmative Action and Career Consequences: Evidence from India *(Job Market Paper)*

Gender Promotion Gap and Performance: Evidence from Lawyers

Work in Progress

The Components of Executive Compensation:Theory and Evidence, *with Michael Waldman and Emre Ekinci*

Lateral Moves and the Path to the Executive Suite, *with Michael Waldman and Emre Ekinci*

Research Experience & Employment

Summer 2025 **Short Term Consultant**, *World Bank*, Washington, DC
- Analyzed climate shocks on household labor outcomes in India using large datasets
- Synthesized insights from team members to condense research into a report targeted at policy journals

2022–2023 **Research Assistant**, *Cornell University - Prof. Michael Waldman*, Ithaca, NY
- Constructed and analyzed firm-level executive dataset on promotions and performance
- Built reproducible workflows for data cleaning, validation, and documentation

2020–2021 **Research Assistant**, *Indian Statistical Institute - Prof. Farzana Afridi*, New Delhi, India
- Implemented an RCT with **7,500** respondents on demand-side constraints to women's LFP
- Designed surveys; trained and supervised **30+** enumerators; cleaned and analyzed geocoded microdata
- Prepared policy briefs on jobs and gender inclusion for policy makers in India

Summer 2018 **Intern, Financial Stability Unit**, *Reserve Bank of India*, Mumbai, India
- Produced analysis on mutual-funds and summarized results on risk and volatility for monitoring.

Summer 2016 **Analytics Intern**, *Genpact India*, Gurugram, India
- Coordinated with inter-departmental team to facilitate a sales model linked to innovation indicators

Teaching Experience

Fall 2026 **Teaching Assistant**, *AEM 5600: Managerial Economics*, Cornell University

Spring 2025 **Teaching Assistant**, *AEM 4100: Applied Managerial Economics*, Cornell University

Spring 2023 & 2024 **Teaching Assistant**, *AEM 7021: Applied Microeconomics II—Game Theory*, Cornell University

Fall 2023 **Teaching Assistant**, *AEM 6080: Production Economics*, Cornell University

Summer 2023 **Co-Instructor**, *AEM 2350: Introduction to Economics of Development*, Cornell University

Fall 2022 **Teaching Assistant**, *AEM 4570: Corporate Finance*, Cornell University

Awards, Fellowships & Grants

2025 Research Grant, Center for Racial Justice and Equitable Futures, Cornell University ($3,000)

2025 International Research Travel Grant, Einaudi Center, Cornell University ($1,300)

2025 Travel Research Grant, Cornell University ($1,600)

2021 Full Departmental Graduate Fellowship, Cornell University

2019 Prof. Srikantan Scholarship, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics

2018 National Eligibility Test (NET) in Economics, University Grants Commission, India

Professional Activities

Presentations
- 2026: APPAM Fall Research Conference (scheduled); Colloquium on Personnel Economics (COPE'26) (accepted); Labor Work In-Progress Seminar (LWIPS), Cornell University; Collaboration for International Development Economics Research (CIDER), Cornell University
- 2025: Southern Economic Association; CSWEP Mentoring Workshop
- 2024: Collaboration for International Development Economics Research (CIDER), Cornell University
- 2018–2019: ECON-VISVA (2019); D.R. Gadgil Memorial Workshop (2019); ISLE Annual Conference (2018)

Mentoring Peer Mentor, Structural Transformation of Agriculture and Rural Spaces (STARS), guiding postdoctoral fellows in policy-oriented research.

Skills

Software Stata, R, LaTeX, GIS

Methods Causal inference (DiD, event studies); randomized controlled trials; administrative and survey data analysis; field experiment design

Languages English (fluent), Hindi (native)

Additional Information

Served as Treasurer of the Alumni Committee at Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, managing INR 200,000 and leading a team to organize workshops and the Institute's first TEDx event. Additionally, I have volunteered in community initiatives including flood relief in Kerala and teaching underprivileged school students at VIDYA, a non-profit organization in New Delhi.