

# Sanjukta Basu

---

Department of Economics, 206 Tilton Hall, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118  
◆ (504) 208-8228 ◆ sbasu@tulane.edu

## Summary

Five years of research experience in applied microeconomic topics such as behavioral, experimental and household economics, working with large datasets from India and USA Proficient in using econometric tools and software such as STATA, LATEX and R. Aptitude for novel, creative and collaborative approaches for solving research problems.

## Education

**Tulane University**; New Orleans, LA Expected: May 2020

PhD, Department of Economics

*Dissertation title:* Analyzing the Behavioral Changes Caused by Exogeneous Shocks in Economic, Political and Legal Atmosphere.

*Committee:* Steven Sheffrin (chair), Jonathon Pritchett and Wei Long

**Gokhale Institute of Politics & Economics**; Pune, India April 2013

M.A. Economics

*Masters' Dissertation title:* Whom Do We Trust? An Experimental Approach

*Committee:* Neeraj Hatekar (chair) and Debasish Nandy

**Hans Raj College, Delhi University**; Delhi, India July 2011

B.A. (Hons) Economics

## Research Areas

Household Economics, Law and Economics, Labor Economics, Parental Behavior, Behavioral and Experimental Economics, and Applied Microeconomics.

## Publications

Sanjib Pohit and **Sanjukta Basu** "Trends in High Technology Trade", India: Science and Technology Vol 2 (CSIR-NISTADS), Cambridge University Press India, May 2013 pp164-168.

**Sanjukta Basu**, Santanu Mitra and Gautam Gupta "Wealth Difference in a Centipede Game: Backward Induction in an Experimental Economics Framework", International Journal of Humanities and Social Science vol 3 no.10[Special issue-May 2013] pp 127-131.

Sanjib Pohit and **Sanjukta Basu** "High Technology Merchandize Export: Where does India stand?", South Asia Economic Journal vol 13 II 2012-2013 pp-183-206.

## Presentations

**American Economic Association**, Atlanta, Georgia; Paper: "Effect of Parental Employment Status on Child Care. Session title - Poster session; AEA Poster Sessions for JEL D; Paper: The Highs and Lows of Medical Marijuana Legalization. Session title - Poster session; AEA Poster Sessions for JEL K. January 2019.

**Southern Economic Association**, Washington DC; Paper: “Effect of Parental Employment Status on Child Care”. Session title – Economics and Parental Behavior. *November 2018.*

**Tulane University Fourth Annual 3-Minute Thesis Competition.** *November 2018.*

**Workshop on Experimental Economics at the Indian School of Business**, Hyderabad, India; Paper “Wealth Difference in a Centipede Game: Backward Induction in an Experimental Economics Framework”. *December 2012.*

**National Institute of Science Technology and Development Studies (CSIR)** annual workshop SUTRA, Delhi, India; Paper “High Technology Merchandize Export: Where does India stand?”. *January 2011.*

### **Research Experience**

**Consultant**, *Global Development Network*,  
USA May 2018- August 2018

- Supported the project “Commitment to Equity Institute: Research and Policy Tools, Data Center, and Advisory and Training on Social Spending and Taxation”.
- Assisted in harmonization of micro data for the country of Ghana and other countries.
- Surveyed the literature on correcting top income surveys and creating models applying various methods such as re-weighting and replacing to correct for the top income (missing rich) surveys for household micro data of Mexico.

**Research Assistant**, *Murphy Institute, Department of Economics*,  
Tulane University, USA June 2017 – August 2017

- Worked on the project titled “How do businesses respond to very temporary sales tax changes?”.
- Cleaned raw data received from tax returns form, R-1029, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), LA.
- Built various empirical models using econometric tools to study how the frequent changes in tax rates influenced sales decisions.

**Consultant**, *National Institute of Public Finance and Policy*,  
Delhi, India April 2014 – January 2015

- Analyzed projects for the Ministry of Finance (MOF), Government of India and the Principal Economic Advisor of India.
- Built a macro economic model enabling the forecast of macroeconomic variables assisting the debt sustainability analyses with the Department of Budget, MOF, IMF and World Bank, India.
- Projects: need assessment review of the FRBM Act, cross country study of fiscal rules and their impact on the countries’ business cycle and Seventh Pay Commission of India.
- Assisted the PDMA Task Force set by the Ministry of Finance.

**Research Associate**, *Centre for Civil Society*,  
Delhi, India May 2013 – March 2014

- Studied and drafted a research paper to study the Higher Education sector of India highlighting the main challenges, current legal structures, role of private and public universities, and other aspects specific to the Indian Education structure.
- Met and conducted interviews with government agencies and private sector players (of established and upcoming universities) for research and data collection purposes.
- Co-authored a successful research grant proposal for \$15400 from International Growth Centre, India.

- Editor of the weekly newsletter; responsible for re-designing its template and increasing readership by 50 percent in less than 3 months.

### **Other Work Experience**

**Campaign Manager**, *Yuktiyan – A No Tobacco Movement*, April 2015- June 2015  
*Delhi, India*

- Created awareness campaign by organizing workshops in schools, among underprivileged children in slums, among factory workers and management.
- Created and collaborated a network of doctors, dentists and rehabilitation centers to create de-addiction facilities and promote nicotine anonymous programs.
- Created a month-long focused campaign to promote a marathon to celebrate No Tobacco Day on May 31, 2015.
- Responsible for the social media campaign and communications.

### **Teaching Experience**

#### **Instructor**

Tulane University Spring 2019  
*Introduction to Microeconomics*  
Class size – 15; sole instructor and responsible for creating the syllabus, reading materials, assignments, class worksheets, examinations and class tests, matters involving grading.

#### **Teaching Assistance**

Tulane University August 2015- Present  
*Introduction to Microeconomics, Econometrics, Health Economics and Policy, Microeconomics (PhD level)*  
Responsible for holding weekly office hours, grading, proctoring examination, responding to students' queries outside office hours

### **Grants**

Graduate Student Summer Merit Fellowship Award from the School of Liberal Arts, May 2019 (\$2500 + \$300).

Hayek Fund for Scholars for attending the I.S.E.O Summer School 2019, February 2019 (\$750).

J.E. Land Fund for SLA Graduate Student Travel for presenting at American Economic Association 2019, Tulane University, January 2019 (\$500).

Graduate Studies and Student Association (GSSA) travelling fund for presenting at Southern Economic Conference 2018, Tulane University, November 2018 (\$400).

Department of Economics travel funds for presenting at Southern Economic Association 2018, November 2018 (\$300).

Stone Centre Summer Field Research Grant, Tulane University, June 2017 (\$1478).

Department of Economics research funds to support an academic trip to Ecuador, Tulane University, - May 2017 (\$1500).

Centre for Computational Social Sciences (UPE Program) for supporting masters' research, University of Mumbai, India, December 2012 (\$500).

### **Software**

STATA, R, Z-TREE, LATEX

### **Leadership and Institutional Services**

**Founding President**, *Indian Subcontinent Graduate Student Association, Tulane University* 2018-2019

- Collaborated with various university departments like Transportation, Dining, International Students' Office, Graduate Student Bodies, etc. to discuss students' needs.
- Organized diversity such as Indian Subcontinent New Year and screening Indian movies.
- Media coverage of the organization by Tulane News on the occasion of International Women's Day.

**Member**, *Vegan/Vegetarian Advisory Board, Tulane University* 2018-Present

- Educating the concept of Asian vegetarianism, Kosher, Halal and other food restrictions due to religious beliefs inclusive meals.
- Advising on bringing vegan/vegetarian desserts on campus.

**Member**, *Campus Advisory Board, Tulane University* 2017-Present

- Representing the needs of graduate students, focusing on International graduates.
- Highlighting the lack in accessibility of various campus services to graduate students and discussing solutions to incorporate more graduate students.

**Residence (Hostel) Secretary**, *Gokhale Institute of Public Policy and Economics, India* 2011-2013

- Served on the Student Council Body.
- Met with Institute Director, Registrar and other authorities to discuss students' needs.

### **Languages**

English, Hindi, Bengali

### **Memberships**

American Economic Association, Southern Economic Association, Econometric Society.

### **References**

**Dr. Steven Sheffrin**  
Professor of Economics  
Director of the Murphy Institute of Political Economy  
Tulane University  
Office Phone: (504)865-5317  
Email: [smsheffrin@tulane.edu](mailto:smsheffrin@tulane.edu)

**Dr. Jonathon Pritchett**  
Professor  
Department of Economics  
Tulane University  
Office Phone: (504) 862-8359  
Email: [jpri@tulane.edu](mailto:jpri@tulane.edu)

**Dr. Wei Long**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Economics  
Tulane University  
Office Phone: (504)862-8345  
Email: wlong2@tulane.edu

**Teaching Reference**

**Dr. LaPorchia Collins**  
Professor of Practice  
Department of Economics,  
Tulane University  
Office Phone: (504)862-8356  
Email: lcollins@tulane.edu

**Abstracts (Working papers)**

***Effect of Parental Employment Status on Child Care, (Job Market Paper)***

Parents spend a significant amount of time and income on raising children. Existing literature shows that parental unemployment has detrimental long-term effects on child development. My study focuses on the short-term impact of unemployed parents in their time investment. Using an instrumental variable approach and the American Time Use Survey (ATUS), I study if individuals who were laid-off or have been unemployed reallocate the time that was spent at work by spending more time with their children. I find that when unemployment, parents spend more time with their children than looking for new employment opportunities in the short run. The short-run effects of unemployment are opposite and favorable for children. This behavior is consistent among all races and sexes. Unemployment also makes fathers spend more time contributing to household chores.

***Does the Daylight Savings Time Causes People to Change More than their Clock?***

The Daylight-Saving Time (DST) has a long and controversial history, in regards to both its implementation and main intent. This paper attempts to take advantage of the natural experiment created by the DST twice a year to study how individuals are affected by an arbitrary change in clock. I study how individuals' respond to the DST by adjusting their daily schedules when the clock changes. The main findings are - first, individuals in the USA reduce light intensity activities as a result of the fall DST. Second, in the spring, sedentary activities decline while more intensive activities rise. Third, working population loses more relaxing time in the spring and increases higher intensity activities. Fourth, the magnitude of the DST impact is higher for retired population.

***The Highs and Lows of Medical Marijuana Legalization***

We estimate the impact of legalizing medical marijuana on the consumption of marijuana, alcohol, hard drugs, and cigarette using data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97). We apply a difference-in-difference approach to study the effect of medical marijuana legalization on individual-level consumption of substances and other criminal behaviors. We incorporate the state-level institutional variation in medical marijuana laws in our analyses. We test the impact of this variation on individual-level behaviors using self-reported data. Preliminary results show that MML increases consumption of cigarettes, marijuana, alcohol and other hard drugs but reduces criminal behavior.