

**JOZEFINA KALAJ**  
Curriculum Vitae (Nov. 2018)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Economics, George Washington University, 2019 (expected)

*Committee:* Barry R. Chiswick (chair), Paul Carrillo, Carmel Chiswick, and Stephen C. Smith

M.A. Economics, George Washington University, 2014

B.A. Economics, Political Science, University of Michigan, 2007

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Labor Economics, Development Economics, Applied Econometrics

**TEACHING**

**Adjunct Professor of Economics, Women's Leadership Program, GWU**

Principles of Macroeconomics (undergraduate), Spring 2019

Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate), Fall 2018

Women and Leadership Symposium (undergraduate), Fall 2018, Spring 2019

**Lecturer, Elliott School of International Affairs, GWU**

Advanced Quantitative Analysis (graduate), Spring 2018

**Lecturer, BAU International University**

Introduction to Econometrics (undergraduate), Fall 2014

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, GWU**

Principles of Macroeconomics (undergraduate), Spring 2014 - 2018

Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate), Fall 2013 - 2017

Macroeconomics for the Global Economy (graduate), Spring 2013

**WORKING PAPERS**

1. (*Job market paper*) **Do Remittances Compensate for the Negative Impact of Migration on Children's Schooling?**

Abstract: This paper examines the direct impact of remittances on the school attendance of children ages 14-18. Drawing data from Albania, the main objective is to understand the schooling choices of migrant households when faced with an abrupt shock to remittance inflows. The proposed methodology consists of two parts. First, to avoid potential bias from selection into migration, the analysis is restricted to households with at least one migrant abroad. Second, identification relies on the unexpected onset of the 2008 global financial crisis and the heterogeneous unemployment shocks which ensued across countries where Albanian migrants were living at the time. Formally, the change in the unemployment rate from

2007 to 2008, which varied markedly between destination countries, is used as an instrument for receipt of remittances. Results indicate that households with migrants in destinations where the unemployment rate increased were less likely to receive remittances and in turn less likely to have children attending school. Specifically, the likelihood of attendance increases by 5-6 percentage points when the probability of remittance transfers increases by 0.1. Results are robust to various specifications.

**2. The Impact of Migration and Remittances on Labor Supply**

**3. A mHealth voice messaging intervention to improve infant and young child feeding practices in Senegal**, (with Shauna Downs, Jessica Franzo and Stephen C. Smith), under review at *Maternal & Child Nutrition*.

**4. Could Austerity Collapse the Economy of Puerto Rico?** (with Paul Carrillo and Anthony Yezer), *Institute for International Economic Policy Working Paper Series*, Sep. 2017.

**5. Sewers in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century's Largest Cities: A Prequel for African Cities?** (with Robert Buckley)

**6. Conflict and Urbanization: The Case of Sierra Leone**

## RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Women's Leadership Program, George Washington University**, Adjunct Professor of Economics, Program Coordinator for Globalization, Economics, and Business Cohort (Aug. 2018 - present)

The Women's Leadership Program is a selective program for freshmen women. It is composed of four discipline cohorts. As the coordinator of Globalization, Economics and Business cohort, I teach a two semester sequence in introductory microeconomics and macroeconomics and organize weekly symposia consisting of special lectures, workshops, conferences and other experiences related to women's leadership in business and economics.

**Randomized Evaluation of Drip Irrigation in Senegal, Department of Economics, George Washington University**, Senior Research Aide (May 2015 - Aug. 2017)

Developed baseline instruments, trained enumerators, accompanied them in the field, lead focus groups, performed consistency checks, cleaned and analyzed the baseline data, wrote the baseline report.

**Girls' Education Challenge (GEC) Sierra Leone, Department of Economics, George Washington University**, Research Assistant (Feb. 2013 - Jan. 2015)

**The Wilson Center**, Research Assistant, Washington, DC (Jun. - Sep. 2012)

**Bank of America Corporation**, Sales and Service Specialist, Detroit, MI (Aug. 2008 - 2011)

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

George Washington University Graduate Fellowship, 2013-2018

Philip J. Amsterdam Graduate Teaching Award, 2016

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Economic Association ASSA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, 2019

– Presenting my job market paper at the poster session.

Southern Economic Association Conference, Washington, DC, 2018

Southern Economic Association Conference, Tampa, FL, 2017

International Economic Association Conference, Mexico City, Mexico, 2017

Public Choice Society Conference, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 2016

## MISCELLANEOUS

*Citizenship:* US and Albanian (dual)

*Languages:* English (fluent), Albanian (fluent), knowledge of Spanish and Italian

*Computer Skills:* R, Stata, Matlab, ArcGIS

## REFERENCES

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