

# SAMYAM SHRESTHA

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## EDUCATION

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<b>University of Georgia</b> Ph.D., Agricultural and Applied Economics <i>Summer School, Economics of Migration, UC Davis Global Migration Center, 2023</i>	2020 – 2025 ( <i>Expected</i> )
<b>Montana State University</b> M.S., Applied Economics	2017 – 2019
<b>Kathmandu University</b> Bachelor of Business Information Systems	2009 – 2013

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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### **Trade Effects of Immigration Enforcement: Evidence from U.S. Labor-Intensive Agriculture**

*Abstract:* In recent decades, the farm labor supply in the U.S., which relies heavily on foreign-born workers, has declined, farm labor markets have tightened, and producers have reported labor shortages and rising wages. During this time, U.S. labor-intensive fruit and vegetable (FV) production has reduced, and imports and trade deficits have significantly increased. This study examines whether intensified immigration enforcement in the U.S. interior, a supply-side shock to farm labor availability affects domestic and international FV trade flows. First, I demonstrate that a state's FV production decreases with the intensification of immigration enforcement. Using reduced-form gravity models, I then show that immigration enforcement reduces FV exports to other U.S. states and foreign trading partners. I also show that a state's FV imports from other U.S. states increase with enforcement intensity, especially from states with lower enforcement levels. Most of these effects are driven by police-based rather than employment-based enforcement. However, I do not find evidence that immigration enforcement contributes to the rise in international FV imports. These results have important implications for U.S. agricultural and trade policy, food supply systems, and consumer welfare.

## WORKING PAPERS

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- Labor Market Effects of the Venezuelan Refugee Crisis in Brazil (with Hugo Sant'Anna) [*R&R Journal of Economic Geography*]
- Public Perceptions on Undocumented Agricultural Workers (with Benjamin Campbell, Vitalis Othuon, William Secor, and Daniel Tregeagle)

## SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

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- Import Competition and U.S. Domestic Fruit and Vegetable Production
- Immigration Enforcement and Business Dynamics (with Hugo Sant'Anna)
- The Effects of Crime on Firm Entry and Exit: Evidence from Rio de Janeiro (with Hugo Sant'Anna)

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2024 Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Conference, Washington, DC  | <i>Fall 2024</i>   |
| 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting (selected presentation), New Orleans, LA           | <i>Summer 2024</i> |
| 2023 Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA | <i>Fall 2023</i>   |

UGA AAEC Departmental Seminar	Fall 2023
2023 AAEA Annual Meeting (selected presentation), Washington, DC	Summer 2023
UGA Development Workshop	Spring 2023
2022 AAEA Annual Meeting (selected presentation), Anaheim, CA	Summer 2022
UGA Development Workshop	Spring 2022

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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Graduate Assistant, University of Georgia	Jan 2021 – Present
Short-Term Consultant, The World Bank	Apr 2023 – May 2024
Research and Operations Consultant, Precision Development (PxD)	Jul 2019 – Jul 2020
Graduate Assistant, Montana State University	Aug 2017 – May 2019
Research Associate, Interdisciplinary Analysts	Aug 2015 – Jul 2017

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Instructor for AAEC 2580: Applied Microeconomic Principles (UGA)	Summer 2024
TA for AAEC 3010: Farm Organization and Management (UGA)	Fall 2022
TA for AAEC 3040: Agribusiness Marketing (UGA)	Fall 2021
TA for ECNS 320: Public Finance (MSU)	Fall 2018

## AWARDS

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UGA Graduate School Summer Research Grants (\$1,500)	2024
UGA Graduate School Domestic Travel Grant Award	2022, 2023, 2024

## SERVICE

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Referee: 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Water Resources and Economics*

Treasurer (2021-23) and Social Chair (2024-25), UGA DAAE Graduate Student Association

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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American Economic Association (AEA)	2023 –
Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA)	2021 –
Southern Economic Association (SEA)	2023 –
Mentee, Association of Mentorship and Inclusion in Economics (AMIE)	2022–23

## REFERENCES

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**Nicholas Magnan**  
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Dept. of Ag. and Resource Economics  
Colorado State University  
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**Diane Charlton**  
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