

Shreya Bhattacharya

Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai
India

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Director, Centre for Advanced Financial Research and Learning (CAFRAL),
Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai, India, September 2025-Present

Senior Research Analyst, Digital Inclusion and Governance Lab, Global Research
Institute, William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA, March 2023-August 2025

- Design of randomized control trials and survey instruments
- Independently conducting data analyses for research projects aimed at bridging gender gaps in digital access in Africa, Asia and the US
- Grant writing, outreach to partners and external stakeholders
- Mentoring students and data analysts working at the Institute

Economist II, Amazon, Arlington, VA, October 2022-March 2023

Economist, Amazon, Arlington, VA, August 2020-September 2022

- Led 5 independent projects, and directed teams of 2-6 researchers on multiple projects
- Conducted quantitative analyses using econometric and machine learning methods
- Presenting written reports to business leaders and program managers
- Collaborated with qualitative researchers on experiment design
- Experience in independently managing projects end to end and collaborating with diverse stakeholders (program managers, qualitative researchers and engineers)

Assistant Professor, Symbiosis School of Economics, Pune, India, July 2014-June 2015

- Taught courses in Development Economics and Human Development at the undergraduate and graduate levels
- Mentored students for undergraduate and graduate theses

Intern, Department of Disinvestment, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, June-July 2011

EDUCATION

- University of Houston, Ph.D., Economics, 2020
Dissertation Title: *Essays on Identity and Social Interactions*

Committee: Willa Friedman (*Chair*), Aimee Chin, Gergely Ujhelyi

- Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai, India, M.Phil., Development Economics, 2014
- Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, India, M.A., Economics, 2012
- Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi, B.A.(Hons), Economics, 2010

WORKING PAPERS

- Intergroup Contact and its Effects on Discriminatory Attitudes: Evidence from India (WIDER Working Paper 42/2021, **Revise & Resubmit at Economic Development and Cultural Change**)
- Technology in Agriculture and Religious Conflict
- Smartphone Ownership, Economic Empowerment and Women's Property Rights: Experimental Evidence from Malawi (with Philip Roessler, Tanu Kumar, Peter Carroll, Boniface Dulani and Daniel Nielson) (BIGD Working Paper, 2023)
- The Sources of Researcher Variation in Economics (with Nick Huntington-Klein, Claus Portner, et al.)

WORK IN PROGRESS

- School's out, Lunch's out? The Effect of Summer Break on Student's Body Size (with Claire Kang)
- The Long-Road Ahead: Exploring Health and Labor Market Outcomes of Mandatory Retirement Ages In India (with Shreyasee Das)
- Water Allocation Rules and Health Outcomes: Evidence from India (with Shreyasee Das and Nayana Bose)
- Evaluation of a Laptop Distribution Program: Evidence from West Bengal, India (with Sakshi Upadhyay)

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

- Qualitative data collection as part of USAID Digital Strategy evaluation (**Kathmandu, Nepal, August-September 2024**)
 - Designed focus group discussion and key informant interview protocols
 - Supervised qualitative data collection in villages of eastern and central Nepal
- RCT implementation for *Smartphone Ownership, Economic Empowerment and Women's Property Rights: Experimental Evidence from Malawi* (**Zomba, Malawi, December-March 2024**)
 - Designed survey for endline data collection
 - Piloting of survey tools in collaboration with Institute of Public Opinion and Research, Malawi
 - Facilitated high frequency data checks and survey monitoring

- Assistance in RCT design for *Building State Capacity and National Unity with Market Design* (**Nairobi, Kenya, August-September 2019**)
Principal Investigators: Willa Friedman, Guthrie Gray-Lobe and Michael Kremer
 - Designed survey for follow up round
 - Data cleaning and analysis, in collaboration with Evidence Action
 - Worked on survey protocol and ethics review
- Survey design and data collection for *Intergroup Contact and its Effects on Discriminatory Attitudes: Evidence from India* (**Pune, India, July-September 2018**)
 - Designed survey questionnaires
 - Justified research value in obtaining independent grant worth \$1.2k in funding
 - Wrote IRB protocol and incorporated modifications
 - Training of enumerators and pilot surveys undertaken on the field
 - Secured administrative data from city governments and non governmental organizations
 - Presented findings to city government officials
 - Data collection and conducted qualitative surveys, along with focus group discussions

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- BRAC WEE-Connect Initiative, with P. Roessler, C. Manda, J. Tibanywana (\$198,034), July 2025
- Credit Innovations Umbrella Grant, Gates Foundation, with P. Roessler (\$200,000), January 2025
- Applied Research & Innovation Initiative, William & Mary, with P. Roessler, A. Barger and L. Johnson, (\$170,000), March 2024
- IPV Initiative, Innovations for Poverty Action, with P. Roessler, T. Kumar, B. Dulani, P. Carroll, D. Nielson, (\$78,408), February 2024
- Reves Faculty Travel Grant, William & Mary, (\$1000), December 2024
- BRAC WEE-Difine Initiative, with P. Roessler, T. Kumar, B. Dulani, P. Carroll, D. Nielson, (\$228,012), November 2023
- Cullen Fellowship Travel Grant (\$750), November 2018
- United Nations University World Institute of Development Research (UNU-WIDER) Visiting PhD Fellowship, September-November 2018
- Hayek Fund for Scholars, Institute of Humane Studies (\$1200), June 2018
- Graduate Assistant Tuition Fellowship, University of Houston, 2015-Present

SOFTWARE SKILLS

STATA, R, Python, Spark, SQL, \LaTeX , ArcGIS, SurveyCTO

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WIDER Development Conference, UNU WIDER, Helsinki, Finland, 2025 • UNESCO Digital Inclusion Toolkit Consultation, 2025 • Southern Economics Association Conference, 2024 • Oxford Digital and Computational Demography Group, Nuffield College, Oxford University, 2024 • Centre for Studies of African Economies Annual Conference, 2024 • Panel discussion 'Benchmarking countries' progress globally in Bridging the Gender Digital Divide' at UNCTAD E-Week, 2023 • Oxford Policy Management Research Seminar, 2023 • Midwest International Economic Development Conference, 2020 • APPAM Fall Research Conference, Denver, Colorado, 2019 • The Busara Center for Behavioral Economics, Nairobi, Kenya, 2019 • Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, 2019 • Annual Workshop of the Households in Conflict Network, Universidad EAFIT, Medellin, Colombia, 2018 • WIDER Seminar Series, UNU WIDER, Helsinki, Finland, 2018 	
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP	American Economic Association (AEA), Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM)	
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search Committee Member, Global Research Institute Postdoc Program, William & Mary, May 2025 • Referee, BRAC WEE-Connect Initiative, 2024 • Mentor, Women in Network, 2020-Present • Mentor, Women in Econ/Policy, 2021-Present • Mentor, Science Mentorship Program, Amazon • Member, Behavioral Science Consulting Group, Amazon • Monitoring and Evaluation Training, Mandela Fellows, William & Mary, June 2023 	
CITIZENSHIP / VISA	India	
REFERENCES	Willa Friedman (<i>Chair</i>) Assistant Professor Department of Economics University of Houston E-mail: whfriedman@uh.edu	Aimee Chin Professor Department of Economics University of Houston E-mail: achin@uh.edu

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