

MEENAKSHI SHEKHAR

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🌐 [Personal Website](#)

🌐 [LinkedIn](#)

🌐 [ORCID](#)

EMPLOYMENT

2025–Present 📖 **Assistant Professor (Research Director), Centre For Advanced Financial Research And Learning (CAFRAL), RBI.**

EDUCATION

2019 – 2025 📖 **Ph.D. in Economics** [Iowa State University \(ISU\)](#), Ames, IA, USA
2011 – 2013 📖 **PGDM (MBA) in Finance** [Indian Institute of Management \(IIM\)](#), Kozhikode, India
2008 – 2011 📖 **B.A. in Economics** [Shri Ram College of Commerce](#), University of Delhi, India

RESEARCH INTEREST

📖 *Structural Transformation, Growth and Development, Macroeconomics, International Trade*

SKILLS

Economics 📖 Macroeconomics, Economic Modelling, Structural Calibration, Quantitative Analysis
Software 📖 MATLAB, Mathematica, Stata, R, \LaTeX , Origin
Databases 📖 WIOD, PWT, GGDC ETD & PLD, KLEMS Data, OECD Database
Languages 📖 Hindi (native), English (fluent)

WORKING PAPERS

📖 [Shekhar, M. \(2024\), "Sluggish Growth or Premature Decline? A Comparative Study of Indian Industrialization with China" \[Job Market Paper\]](#)
📖 [Shekhar, M. \(2023\), "Stagnant Manufacturing in India: The Role of TFP and Trade"](#)

WORK IN PROGRESS

📖 [Shekhar, M., \(2025\) "Policy Distortion, Misallocation and Aggregate Productivity"](#)
📖 [Salat, M., & Shekhar, M., \(2025\) "Do Food Imports Perpetuate Subsistence Agriculture in SSA?"](#)
📖 [Shekhar, M., Roy, S., & Salat, M., \(2025\) "Excessive External Debt and Economic Growth in Low-Income Countries"](#)

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025 📖 [2025 Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting](#) May-2025;
2024 📖 [Southern Economic Association](#) Nov-2024; [The Missouri Valley Economic Association](#), Oct-2024; Annual Conference on Economics and Public Policy (ACEP), [O.P.Jindal Global University](#), Jun-2024; [Canadian Economics Association](#) May 2024; Economics Graduate Student Association, ISU, Apr-2024; [Midwest Economic Association](#), Mar-2024;
2022 📖 Macro Study Group, ISU, Sep-2022

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Research Assistant** Enrollment Research and Analytics, Iowa State University 2019–2025
Advisor: [Gregory R Forbes](#)
Projects: *Developing econometric models to analyze the impact of cost, financial support, demographics, academic performance, and socio-economic status on decisions to apply, matriculate, & persist in students' college/continued education*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Course Instructor** [Department of Economics, Iowa State University](#), Spring 2023, Fall 2022
Intermediate Macroeconomics (ECON 3020, Mandatory for Undergrad Econ Major)
- **Lab Instructor** [Department of Economics, Iowa State University](#), 2020–2024
Macroeconomics (ECON 5020, Graduate Class): Spring 2021, Spring 2024
Microeconomics (ECON 5010, Graduate Class): Fall 2023
Applied Economic Optimization (ECON 2070, Undergrad Class): Fall 2020, 2021, 2023
- **Teaching Assistant** [Department of Economics, Iowa State University](#), 2020–2024
International Finance (ECON 5570, Graduate Class): Spring 2024, Spring 2022
Managerial Economics (ECON 5320, Graduate MBA Class): Fall 2021
International Finance (ECON 4570, Undergrad Class): Spring 2024, Spring 2022
International Trade (ECON 4550, Undergrad Class): Spring 2022.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- **Senior Manager, Corporate Finance & Strategy** [Transcon Group](#), Mumbai, India, 2016–2019
Key Responsibilities: *Deal structuring, Pitchbook preparations, Deal Negotiations, Deal Execution, Fund Planning, Fund Management, Financial Projections preparation, Compliances under the RERA, Business Plans, and Growth Strategy Formulation.*
- **Senior Manager, Corporate Finance and Strategy** [Sugee Group](#), Mumbai, India, 2013–2015
Key Responsibilities: *Investor Relations, Financial Feasibility Study, Information Memorandum Preparation, Financial Modeling, Project Valuation, MIS reports, and Weekly Newsletter Preparation*
- **Summer Internship** [OPC Assets Solutions Private Limited](#), Mumbai, India, May-Jun 2012
Project: *"Prospects of leasing as the financial solution for Indian Solar Power Sector."*

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2025 ■ Notable Graduate Student Paper, [MVEA Annual Meetings 2025](#)
- Research Award 2025, [Graduate and Professional Students Senate](#), Iowa State University
- Most Engaging Presentation Award 2024, EGSA, Iowa State University
- James R. Prescott Scholarship 2023 in Economics, Iowa State University
- Teaching Award 2023, [Graduate and Professional Students Senate](#), Iowa State University
- Teaching Excellence Award 2021, [Graduate College](#), Iowa State University
- Winner, FiNNiX Valuation 360, 2012, Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode
- Finalist, Clinch the Deal 2012, Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Referee Service: [Economics Bulletin](#), [Economics Letters](#)
- Professional Membership: American Economic Association (AEA), Canadian Economic Association (CEA), Midwest Economic Association (MEA), Southern Economic Association (SEA)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (continued)

📖 Articles and Blogs: [Ask An Economist Forum](#), Iowa State University

REFERENCES

Dr. Juan Carlos Cordoba

PhD Committee Co-Chair
Professor, Dept. of Economics
Iowa State University

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Dr. Rajesh Singh

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Dr. Gary Lyn

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Senior Economist
Federal Reserve Board

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