Nikhil Damodaran

7 Borela Court   nikhil.damodaran@gmail.com
Clarinda, VIC 3169   https://nikhildamodaran.github.io/
+61-480177416

Employment

Assistant Professor,	Jul '18 - *present*
School of Government and Public Policy,	
O. P. Jindal Global University, India	
Lecturer, Monash University, Australia	Feb'20-*present*
Teaching Associate, University of Melbourne, Australia	Jan'23-*present*
Graduate Assistant, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge	Jun '13–May '18
Research Fellow,Center for Development Studies	Jul'11-Jun'13
Research Assistant, Institute of Human Development, New Delhi, India	May–Jul '10

Education

Ph.D., Agricultural Economics, Louisiana State University	2018
M.A., Economics, Louisiana State University	2015
M.Phil., Applied Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University	2013
M.A., Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University	2011
B.A., Economics, Delhi University	2007

Research

Fiscal Policy and Open Economy Macroeconomics
ORCID - 216554388

Publications

1. Geerling, W., Mateer, G. D., Wooten, J., & Damodaran, N. (2023). ChatGPT has aced the test of understanding in college economics: Now what?. The American Economist, 05694345231169654.

2. Bajaj, A., & Damodaran, N. (2022). Consumer payment choice and the heterogeneous impact of India's demonetization. *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, 137, 104329.

Research Projects

1. *Fiscal Policy and Trade Transmission: The Case of India's States*
   Abstract: We examine the effectiveness of government spending in stimulating output for an Indian state and contrast it with a tax cut implemented at the state level. We find that optimal tax policies could be designed to have stimulative benefits when states are limited by a borrowing constraint.

2. Fiscal incentives in US Agricultural exports
   Abstract: Agricultural subsidies exist in an otherwise globalized world due to the infant industry argument which creates effective barriers. This allows US farm exporters to compete in the global markets. In this project, we empirically examine differences in subsidies across US states on the production and exports emanating from the state. We also micro-found an export competition model among states to understand the general equilibrium effects of such subsidies.

3. *Government borrowing, Debt sustainability and Divergence in Regional Currency Unions*
   Abstract: How much divergence in Indian states is explained by debt dynamics of states in India? Is there a difference in debt dynamics which is significant to explain divergence?

4. Banks, Credit and Fiscal Policy
   Abstract: We examine the causes and consequences of holding regional state government bonds by banks as an optimal response of their portfolio allocation choice.

Blogs

1. Enter Macroeconomics, Substack, 10 Feb 2023.
2. The Idea of Banking, Substack, 20 Jan 2023.
3. The Simple Art of Storytelling in an Essay, Substack, Jan 13, 2023.
4. What am I meant to write?, Substack, Jan 06, 2023.
5. The Need for public in public policy, *The Indian Express*, 23 March 2021.
6. Inflation tax and the Burden of Public Debt , The New Indian Express, 18 March 2021
7. Who pays for the wall? Farm Protests and the Budget, *The Indian Express*, 17 February 2021
8. Why is the government pushing farm laws despite so much protest?, The Pioneer, 11 February 2021.
9. On Domestic currency denominated local government bonds, with (Shraavan Varma and Aarjav Nair), The New Indian Express, 7 February 2021.
10. RBI's response to COVID-19 needs to be localised and unconventional, The Indian Express, 24 April 2020
11. Breaking the value chain: How the lockdown migration will impact other parts of the economy, The Indian Express, April 2020.

Teaching Experience

Jindal Global University
Econometrics II - Spring 2021, Spring 2022
Short course on International Economics, Comptroller Auditor General, India, JILDEE, JGU, Spring 2022
Open Economy Macroeconomics (PG course) - Fall 2021
Macroeconomics II - Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Fall 2021
Statistics II - Spring 2020, Spring 2021
Mathematical Methods for Economics I- Fall 2019, Fall 2020
Macroeconomics I - Fall 2018
International Trade - Spring 2019 and Fall 2018
Agricultural Price Analysis, Spring 2017

Monash University
Economics 2953/5953 - S1, S2, 2021; S1 2022, S2 2022, SU-2022, S1 2023.
Macroeconomics Policy 2331/5923 - S2, 2021
Trade Finance and Foreign Exchange, 2721 - S1 2021, S1 2022, S1 2023
Macroeconomics, 1200 - S1 2022, S2 2022.
Business in Asia - WS 2021, WS 2022, SU-2022, WS 2023.

University of Melbourne
Money, Banking and Finance - S1 2023.
Teaching evals available on request.

Conference Participation

Brown Bag, Monash University	May'23
Seminar, The Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation	Apr'23
Bhopal School of Social Sciences, India	Nov'21
The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Delhi,	Oct'21
Winter School, Econometric Society, New Delhi	Feb'21
Macroeconomics Workshop, Shiv Nadar University	Mar '20
Invited Seminar, IGIDR, Mumbai	Mar'20
Invited Seminar, IIM-Bangalore	Mar'20
Econometric Society Australasian Meeting, Perth	July '19
HenU / INFER Workshop on Applied Macroeconomics	May '19
Seminar, O. P. Jindal Global University, India	Apr '18
Macro/Trade Seminar Series, Monash University, Australia	Oct '17
Midwest Economic Theory, University of Kentucky, USA	May '17
Eastern Economic Association Conference, USA	Feb '17
12th Conference on Economic Growth, ISI, India	Dec '16

Midwest Macro, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas, USA	Nov '16
Efferson Series Seminar, LSU, USA	Oct '16
Agricultural and Applied Economics Annual Meeting, USA	July '16
9th Migration Training Program, JNU, India	Oct '12

Referee Service

Economic Modelling, Economic Change and Restructuring, Macroeconomic and Finance in Emerging Economies

Fellowships

M.Phil, Centre for Development Studies, JNU, India	July '11–'13
National Eligibility Test, Government of India	June '12

Skills

Programming	MATLAB, Stata, Python
Data Analysis	R, Stata, SPSS
Data Management	MySQL
Publishing	Latex, HTML, Markdown

References

Horag Choi, Associate Professor, Monash University (horag.choi@monash.edu).
Wayne Geerling, Associate Professor (Teaching), Monash University (wayne.geerling@monash.edu)
P. Lynn Kennedy, Head, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, LSU (lkennedy@agcenter.lsu.edu).

Citizenship and Residency Status

Permanent Resident: Australia   Citizen: India