

SHIKHA BASNET SILWAL

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Pittsburgh, PA, 2011

B.A. Mathematics (Honors) and Economics (Honors, Cum Laude), Simpson College, IA, 2006

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Development, Conflict and Peace Studies, and Law and Economics

EMPLOYMENT AND AFFILIATIONS

Associate Professor of Economics (with tenure), Washington and Lee University, July 2019-Present

Visiting Associate Professor of Economics, EBA Program, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, Fall 2020, Summer 2023

Assistant Professor of Economics, Washington and Lee University, June 2012-June 2019

Core Faculty, Middle East/South Asia ("MESA") Studies, Washington and Lee University, 2017-Present

Affiliated Faculty, Shepherd Program for the Interdisciplinary Study of Poverty and Human Capability, Washington and Lee University, 2015-Present

Visiting Scholar, The International Legal Foundation (ILF), USA/Nepal, July 2016-2017.

Visiting Researcher, Institute for Economics and Peace, Sydney, Australia, July-December 2015.

Economist/Quantitative Research Associate, One Earth Future Foundation, Colorado, USA, June 2011-May 2012.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Silwal, Shikha, Charles H. Anderton, Jurgen Brauer, Chris Coyne, and J. Paul Dunne. 2021. "The Economics of Conflict and Peace: History and Applications, Past, Present, and Future." Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Journal Articles

1. Shikha Silwal. *forthcoming*. "The Economics of Looting and Destruction of Cultural Heritage Sites and Objects," *Defense and Peace Economics*. [doi](#)
2. Peter Grajzl and Shikha Silwal. 2020. "Multi-Court Judging and Judicial Productivity in a Career Judiciary: Evidence from Nepal," *International Review of Law and Economics*. 61.
3. Peter Grajzl and Shikha Silwal. 2020. "The functioning of courts in a developing economy: evidence from Nepal," *The European Journal of Law and Economics*. 49, 101-129.
4. Silwal, S. 2017. "On Peace and Development Economics," *The Economics of Peace and Security Journal*. 12(2), 5-9.
5. Silwal, S. 2017. "Myopic Government and Strategic Rebels: Towards a Theory of Escalation of Violence," *The Civil Wars*. 19(2), 146-175.
6. Silwal, S. 2016. "Resilience Amidst Conflict?: Impact of Exposure to Violence on Secondary Education," *The International Journal of Conflict and Development*. 6(2), 97-120.
7. Silwal, S. 2013. "A Spatial-Temporal Analysis of Civil War: The Case of Nepal," *The Economics of Peace and Security Journal*. 8(2), 20-25.

Book Chapters

Silwal, Shikha and Sophie Croome. (*forthcoming*). "Incorporating Cultural Heritage Destruction in Conflict and Peace Economics," in *Contribution to Conflict Management, Peace Economics, and Development*, Manas Chatterji et al. (eds) series 30 on Globalization and COVID-19. Emerald Publishing, U.K.

Other Peer-Reviewed Articles

1. Basnet, S. 2007. "Monopolist Strategies in a Durable Goods Market," *Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Undergraduate Math Journal*. 8(1). (undergraduate honors thesis in Mathematics).

Work-in-Progress

1. Sekeris, Petros and Shikha Silwal. "Economic Analysis of Strategic Destruction of Culture."

BOOK REVIEWS

Silwal, S.B. (2020) Review of Charles H. Anderton and John R. Carter: Principles of conflict economics: The political economy of war, terrorism, genocide, and peace. *Public Choice* 185, 237-239.

Manuscript Review of "Principles of Conflict Economics: Economics of War, Terrorism, Genocide and Peace, 2nd Edition Cambridge University Press." for Cambridge University Press.

SEMINAR, CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, and INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2023: *Including Scheduled*

1. Presenter (by Petros Sekeris), 6th International Conference on the Political Economy of Democracy and Dictatorship, University of Munster, Germany, February 23-25, 2023.

2. Presenter, The National Security State: Institutional Causes and Consequences hosted by the Foundations for the Market Economy Program (virtual), New York University, April 27-28, 2023. *Invited*

2022:

1. Presenter, January Research Exchange Meeting (virtual), Atrocity Prevention Study Group, January 11, 2022.
2. Presenter, 2022 ASSA Meeting, virtual meeting, January 7, 2022.
3. Panelist, Nepali Academics in America, 2nd Annual Conference, virtual meeting, April 16, 2022.
4. Discussant, Feminist Economics Special Issue on "Conflicts, Disasters, and Violence Against Women (VAW)" Workshop Program, virtual meeting, October 22, 2022.

2021:

1. Presenter, 10th International Conference at ABBS School of Management, Bangalore, India, 5-7 August, 2021. *Best Paper Award winner*
2. Presenter, International Conference on Economics and Security, Volos, Greece, 8-10 July, 2021.
3. Guest Speaker, "Coffee With The Chair", Department of Economics, Virginia Tech, virtual event, 22 April, 2021.
4. Guest Lecturer, Global Public Relations Class, Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, Washington and Lee University, virtual event, 23 March, 2021.
5. Panelist, Special Session: The Job Search Process, Research, Teaching, and Work-life Balance in Liberal Arts Colleges, 1st Workshop in Applied Microeconomics, Association for Mentoring and Inclusion in Economics (AMIE), virtual event, 19 March, 2021.
6. Guest Lecturer, Shepherd Program for the Interdisciplinary Study of Poverty and Human Capability Program's Capstone Class, Washington and Lee University, virtual event, 5 February, 2021.

2020:

1. Guest Lecture, Economics of War and Peace class by Professor Charles H. Anderton, College of Holly Cross, 10 November, 2020.
2. Attendant, Household in Conflict Network Annual Workshop, 10-11 November, 2020.
3. Coordinator and Moderator: 15th Annual Himalayan Policy Conference, December 5, 2020.

2019:

1. New Faculty Cohort on Scholarship, Winter Academy, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, USA, December, 2019.
2. The 23rd Annual International Conference on Economics and Security, Madrid, Spain, June 26-28, 2019.
3. 6th International Workshop on Economic Analysis of Litigation, Granada, Spain, June 24-25, 2019.
4. American Economic Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, USA, January 4-6, 2019.

2018:

1. Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, USA, November 18-20, 2018.
2. 14th Annual Workshop of the Households in Conflict Network (HiCN), "The Economics of Peace Building," Medellin, Colombia, October 29-30, 2018. *accepted for presentation but unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances.*

3. Western Economic Association International 93rd Annual Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, June 26-30, 2018. (*presented at a special panel on International Migration organized by the Committee on the Status of Women in Economics Profession (CSWEP)*).
4. The Eighth Annual AEA Conference on Teaching and Research in Economic Education. San Antonio, TX, USA, May 30-June 1, 2018.

2017:

1. Ethics of Looting and Destruction of Cultural Heritage Object, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, USA, March 2-3, 2017.
2. Roundtable Panel Discussion, "Peace Economics: From Theory to Practice," American Economic Association meeting, Chicago, IL, USA, January, 2017.

2016:

1. 12th Annual Workshop of the Households in Conflict Network, "Violent Conflict, Resilience and Agriculture: From Emergency to Development," Rome, Italy, October 24-25, 2016.
2. International Studies Association-Comparative Interdisciplinary Studies (ISA-CISS), "Boundaries and Borders in an Evolving World Order: Challenges and Prospects," Thessaloniki, Greece, June 13-15, 2016.
3. Associated Colleges of the South Summer Teaching Workshop, Furman University, South Carolina, USA, May 30-June 4, 2016.
4. Virginia Association of Economists, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA, March 31, 2016.

2015:

1. Guest Speaker, Economics Department, St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY, USA, December 14-15, 2015.
2. Mentee, The Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP) mentoring workshop, New Orleans, USA, November 19-20, 2015.
3. Participant, From Theory to Practice: Inaugural Positive Peace Conference, Stanford University, CA, USA, October 5, 2015.
4. Guest Lecturer, Econ 280: Contemplative Development Economics (Prof. Jim Casey's class), Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, USA, September 29 and October 1, 2015.
5. Institute of Economics and Peace, Sydney, Australia, July 15, 2015.

2014:

1. Session Chair, 9th Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, USA, October 16, 2014.
2. Presidential Panel: "Costly Space: The Influences of Spatial Variation in War Costs on Politics," 55th Annual Convention of the International Studies Association, Toronto, Canada, March, 2014. *invited presentation unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances.*

2013:

1. Guest Lecture, BBA Orientation Program at the Kathmandu University School of Management, Kathmandu, Nepal, July, 2013.
2. European Society of Population Economics Annual Conference, Aarhus, Denmark, May, 2013.

3. Virginia Association of Economists, Federal Reserve Board of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia, March, 2013.

2012:

Seventh Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference, University of Wisconsin at Madison, WI, USA, October, 2012.

2010:

Fifth Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference, University of Wisconsin at Madison, WI, USA, October, 2010.

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Fellowship and Grants

Scheidt Teaching Research Grant for Atrocity Prevention (\$1,000), Keene State College, NH, 2022.

The Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Grant for Global Fellows Seminar, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, USA, 2016.

NASDAQ/SunTrust Faculty Development Grant, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, USA, 2013 and 2015 (with Peter Grajzl).

Mellon Foundation Grant for developing Spring Term Course in Nepal, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, USA, 2014 and 2016 (with Tim Lubin).

Lenfest Grant, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, USA, 2013-2020.

Honors

Nepal Vidya Bhushan (Education Medal), Ministry of Education, Nepal, 2013.

Arts and Science Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA, 2006-2011.

Summer Research Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA, 2007, 2008.

Heckert Award for Outstanding Senior in Economics, Simpson College, IA, USA, 2006.

Outstanding Senior in Mathematics, Simpson College, IA, USA, 2006.

MEDIA COVERAGE

1. [Interview](#) by Sujhaab Chautari, an online forum that, among many things, profiles successful Nepali professional to give educational and professional advice to Nepali youth.
2. Interview by Radio Nepal (Nepal's National Radio): featured on the program *Aaja kaa Naari (Women Today)*. One of the most popular programs of Radio Nepal that features successful Nepali women as an inspiration to other women throughout the country. The interview was broadcasted at 8:30 am on August 30, 2017.
3. Study of Economic Cost of Somali Piracy, 2011 covered in NY Times, WSJ, Newsweek, Financial Times, Reuters, Bloomberg, Chicago Tribune, and Voice of America.

COURSES

Regular Courses

Introduction to Economics
Principles of Macroeconomics
Principles of Microeconomics
Interdepartmental Applied Statistics

Electives and Seminars

Caste at the Intersection of Economy, Religion, and Law
(jointly with Prof. Tim Lubin in Religion Department)
Economics of War and Peace
(jointly with Prof. Jurgen Brauer at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)
Demography and Development in South Asia
Culture and Economic Development (300-level Seminar)

SERVICE

Service to the University and Williams School

Faculty Affairs Committee, 2021-
General Education Review Committee, 2018-2019
UCIC, 2019-2020
Public Functions Committee, 2017-
Race, Class, and Gender Cohort, 2018-
Values Committee, 2018
Global Learning Faculty Liaison, 2015-2018
Glynn Family Scholarship Selection Committee, 2014, 2017-2018
(chair)
Williams School Strategic Planning Committee, 2016-2017
University Collection of Art and History, 2014-2016
Johnson Scholar Interview, 2013

Departmental Service

W&L/VMI Seminar Series Conveyor, 2021-2022
Tenure Committee, 2018, 2022
Study Abroad Coordinator, 2015-2020
Outreach Director, 2018-2020
Restricted Funds Committee, 2017-
Hiring Committee, 2018, 2021
Economics 100 Task Force, 2017-2018
Statistics and Econometrics Committee, 2017
Undergraduate Women in Economy, 2015-2017
Pedagogy Seminar Coordinator, 2014

Professional Service

Associate Editor: The Economics of Peace and Security Journal, 2016-

Coordinator: Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 2014-2020

Referee Review: Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, The European Journal of Law and Economics, Education Economics, The Economics of Peace and Security Journal, Economic Modeling

COMPUTER SKILLS

Statistical Packages/Applications: STATA, Matlab, Mathematica, Geographical Information System (GIS)

LANGUAGES

Native: Nepali

Fluent: English, Hindi

Beginner: French