Ardyn Nordstrom

Latest Update: November 12, 2021

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EDUCATION

Queen's University

Kingston, ON

Ph.D. in Economics, Advisor: Christopher Cotton

2016-2022 (expected)

Carleton University

Ottawa, ON

M.A. Economics and Data Science, GPA: 11.2/12.0

2015-2016

Carleton University

Ottawa, ON

B.Commerce with Concentration in Finance and Minor in Economics, GPA: 10.7/12.0

2010-2015

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

• C. Cotton, F. McIntyre, A. Nordstrom and J. Price, "Correcting for bias in hot hand analysis: An application to youth golf", *Journal of Economic Psychology*, December 2019

Working Papers

- Job Market Paper: A. Nordstrom, Can Interventions Targeting Community Attitudes Improve Education for Marginalized Students? Evidence from a Mixed-Methods Experimental Design in Zimbabwe, 2021
- Job Market Paper: A. Nordstrom and C. Cotton, Impact of a Severe Drought on Education: More Schooling Does Not Imply More Learning, Available at SSRN 3601834, 2021
- Cotton, C., A. Nordstrom, and Z. Robb, "Pedalling to prosperity: Understanding the impact of bicycles on education outcomes," 2021
- A. Nordstrom, "What Affects the Education Outcomes of Marginalized Students? A Machine Learning Approach to Inform Program Design," 2021
- H. Lloyd-Ellis and A. Nordstrom, Trade, poverty and food security: A survey of recent research and its implications for East Africa, Economics Department, Queen's University Working Paper, no. 1460, 2021
- C. Cotton, J. Nanowski, A. Nordstrom, and E. Richert, Information and Engagement Campaigns in Support of Girls' Education Increase Math Performance and Enrolment, Available at SSRN 3547786, 2020
- K. Nield and A. Nordstrom, Response bias in voluntary surveys: An empirical analysis of the Canadian census, Carleton Economics Working Paper, 2016
- K. Dick and A. Nordstrom. Identifying Unvaccinated Individuals in Canada: A Predictive Model. arXiv preprint arXiv:1607.08656, 2016

Works in Progress

- Estimating the causal impact of trade liberalization on food security with Huw Lloyd-Ellis (based on professional publication "An Empirical Analysis of the Relationships Between Trade and Food Security")
- Focusing on foundational skills: Understanding literacy and numeracy skill acquisition in Zimbabwe with Christopher Cotton

- Quantifying qualitative data: An alternative to content analysis in survey data with Christopher Cotton
- Monetizing education benefits in cost-benefit evaluations with Christopher Cotton

Professional Publications

- Endline Evaluation of IGATE-T (2021) for World Vision UK, with Heather Britt, Christopher S. Cotton, Jay MacKinnon, Zachary Robb, Shannon Veenstra, and Lindsay Wallace
- Cost-Benefit Analysis: Improving the Quality of Primary School Education in Malawi (2021) for Copenhagen Consensus Center and the African Institute for Development Policy, with colleagues.
- Cost-Benefit Analysis: Reducing Secondary School Dropout Rates in Malawi (2021) for Copenhagen Consensus Center and the African Institute for Development Policy, with colleagues.
- An Empirical Analysis of the Relationships Between Trade and Food Security (2020) for USAID Kenya/East Africa, with Huw-Lloyd Ellis, Edward Carr, and Deanna Gordon
- Understanding the Relationships Between Trade and Food Security: A Landscape Map (2020) for USAID Kenya/East Africa, with Huw-Lloyd Ellis, Edward Carr, Anthony Cambas, and Deanna Gordon
- IGATE-T Midline Evaluation Report (2020) for World Vision UK, with Christopher S. Cotton and Shannon Davis
- Cost Benefit Analysis of Youth Ready Programs in Central America (2019) for World Vision Canada, with Bahman Kashi
- IGATE-T Baseline Evaluation Report (2018) for World Vision UK, with Christopher S. Cotton, Bahman Kashi, and Jay MacKinnon
- Contributor: Data Analysis for Laura Vanderkam's "Off the Clock" (2017) designed time-use survey and conducted analysis for the book

TEACHING

• Instructor at Queen's University's Certified Professional Impact Analyst Program
Measuring Impact (CPIA Measure)

2018-2019

- Head TA at Queen's University

 2020-present

 Principles of Economics (MPA 804), Quantitative Program Evaluation (MPA/PMPA 816), Economics Capstone

 Course (MPA/PMPA 817, Cost-Benefit Analysis (Econ 437)
- Regular Guest Lecturer at Queen's University

 Development Economics (Econ 435/835), Public Policy (Econ 840), Economics for the Mining Sector (EERL 803/EERL 804, Cost-Benefit Analysis (Econ 437)
- Teaching Assistant at Queen's University

 2016-2020

 Development Economics (Econ 239 and Econ 435/835), Gender and the Labour Market (Econ 262), Cost-Benefit

 Analysis (Econ 437), Statistics (Econ 250)
- Teaching Assistant at Carleton University 2014-2016 Intermediate Macroeconomics (Econ 2102), Monetary Policy (Econ 3607), Business Ethics (Busi 4601)

Relevant Experience

Canadian Women's Economic Council (CWEC)

CWEC Committee Member

September 2021-present

- Member of the communications and mentoring subcommittees

Kingston, ON Research Associate 2017-present

- Lead Evaluation Expert and Project Manager for the IGATE-T Girls' Education Challenge project

- Coordinated the mixed-methods evaluation of the FCDO's Girls' Education Challenge project designed to improve access to education and learning outcomes for at-risk youth and especially girls in rural Zimbabwe. Personally responsible for overseeing the design and implementation of both quantitative and qualitative instruments, as well as the completion of a mixed-methods analysis. Participated in enumerator training in-country and oversaw data collection efforts in the field. This has involved managing over a dozen researchers and external partners involved with the evaluation. The findings of this research have been turned into multiple evaluation reports, policy briefings, and infographics, which I have been responsible for overseeing and contributing to. I have managed this portfolio for Limestone Analytics since its inception through to completion for the baseline, midline, and endline evaluations.
- Published work associated with this project: IGATE-T Baseline report, IGATE-T Midline report, IGATE-T Endline report (forthcoming)

- Economist and Project Manager for the Evaluation of Primary and Secondary School Reforms in Malawi

- Project manager for the economic evaluation of various education reforms in Malawi to compare the cost-effectiveness of alternative public investments. Supported literature reviews to identify relevant interventions suitable for Malawi's existing educational barriers. Compared the effectiveness of alternative initiatives including technology assisted education, school construction, school feeding, and teacher training programs at the primary school level, and classroom construction, sexual and reproductive health campaigns at the secondary school level. This involved developing two cost-benefit analysis models for primary and secondary school interventions, which were the basis of policy briefs prepared for the Malawi National Planning Commission. Participated in media briefings with Malawi's National Planning Commission.
- Published work associated with this project: Policy brief (primary education), Technical report (primary education), Technical report (secondary education), Policy brief (secondary education)

- Project Manager and Economic Research Expert, Evaluation of Relationships between Trade and Food Security

- Project manager and economic research expert for a causal analysis of the relationships between trade and food security around the world, with policy recommendations made specifically for East Africa. The causal analysis used two different econometric approaches, using a new data set I developed that integrated dozens of independent data sources. The findings of this research have been turned into two research reports, and two accompanying policy briefing notes. This work has since been presented to several other international organizations and thought leaders focused on economic development and food security around the world.
- Published work associated with this project: An Empirical Analysis of the Relationships Between Trade and Food Security - with Huw Lloyd-Ellis, Edward Carr, and Deanna Gordon

- Project Manager and Economic Research Expert, Landscape Mapping Of Analytical Relationships between Trade and Food Security

- Project manager and economic research expert for a landscape mapping exercise on the state of analytical work done on trade and food security outcomes in East Africa. This included a desk review of the existing research on trade and food security, as well as interviews with key stakeholders in Uganda and Kenya to understand the state of analytical work and areas for future research. The final stages involved identifying and prioritizing research opportunities and making recommendations to the client for future research that would inform policymakers at USAID and their partner organizations around the world.
- Published work associated with this project: Understanding the Relationships Between Trade and Food Security: A Landscape Map - with Huw Lloyd-Ellis, Edward Carr, Anthony Cambas, and Deanna Gordon

- Project Manager and Economist, Cost-Benefit Analysis Support Retainer

 Developed and oversaw the development of economic cost-benefit models in Cambodia, Brazil, Honduras, and El Salvador. Participated in capacity building for World Vision Canada staff to develop skills in Cost-Benefit Analysis methodologies.

- Project Coordinator

Responsible for managing client relationships, as well as project deliverables, budgets, timelines, and contracts.
 As an Associate, I regularly worked with the Senior Management Team to identify and pursue business development opportunities, and to develop the company's strategy and objectives in addition to managing and executing the research projects described above.

Employment and Social Development Canada

Data Analyst

January 2013- August 2016

- Developed models to predict labour market outcomes for the Employment Insurance Program beneficiaries by analyzing data with billions of observations and thousands of variables.
- Used these models to make suggestions for policy improvements to Associate Deputy Minister and other external government partners.
- Developed and analyzed control-treatment research designs to study the efficacy of changes made to the Employment Insurance Program.

Honours and Awards

• Attendance Certificate: Barcelona Graduate School of Economics Development Summer School	2021
• Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	2020 – 2021
Ontario Graduate Scholarship	2016 – 2020
• Carleton University Data Day Prize	2016
• Huntley Schaller Memorial Scholarship in Economic Research	2016
• University Student Association Honours Award	2015
• Distinguished Toastmaster	2015
• Jane M. Klausman Women in Business (City and National-level Scholarships)	2014
• Scholarship in Comparative Economics	2014
• John M Tory Entrance Scholarships	2010-2014

Refereing Contributions

- The Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization
- Economic Modelling

• Land

TECHNICAL SKILLS

• Advanced user: R, Stata, Base SAS, SQL, QGIS

• Intermediate user: Python, SPSS

• Beginner user: HTML, C++, Matlab

References

• Christopher Cotton - Queen's University

Professor, Jarislowsky-Deutsch Chair in Economic and Financial Policy, Director, John Deutsch Institute Email: cc159@queensu.ca

• Huw Lloyd Ellis - Queen's University

Professor

Email: lloydelh@queensu.ca

• Karen Ye - Queen's University Assistant Professor

Email: karen.ye@queensu.ca