

# Ph.D. programs in Econ/AgEcon at WSU



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# PhD Program

- Introduction to SES and Ph.D. in Economics and Ag. Economics
- Ph.D. Program usually takes four years to complete
  - Two years of course work
    - Option: simultaneous Masters in Statistics
  - Then two years of research

# PhD Required Courses-First Year

- Fall Semester

- 500 (Macro I) Bai
- 501 (Micro I) Espinola-Arredondo
- 510 (Stats) Mittelhammer
- EconS 506 (Math for Economists) Mandal



Jinhui Bai



Ana Espinola-Arredondo



Ron Mittelhammer



Bidisha Mandal

- Spring Semester

- 502 (Macro II) Ortigueira
- 503 (Micro II) Munoz
- 511 (Econometrics) Marsh

- **June:** Prelim exams in micro, macro, & quantitative (stats/econometrics).

- **August:** Prelim re-takes



Salvador Ortigueira



Felix Munoz



Tom Marsh

## The Second Year

- Finish core courses:
  - EconS 512, Econometrics II
- File program of study
- Choose dissertation topic and advisor
  - They can be changed in subsequent years.
- Take field courses & electives
  - Two-semester sequences in two field areas.

# Ph.D. Fields

- Econometrics
  - Advanced Econometrics I
  - Advanced Econometrics II:
- Environmental & Natural Resource Economics
  - Natural Resource Economics
  - Environmental Economics
- International Economics
  - International Trade
  - International Development
- Industrial Organization
  - Industrial Organization
  - Applications in Microeconomic Topics
- Agricultural Economics
  - Production and Demand Systems
  - Choice of one of the following courses
    - International Trade
    - Natural Resource Economics
    - Industrial Organization
    - International Development



## Third Year

- Make significant progress on dissertation.
  - Most second-year courses ask you to write short papers, which can become chapters of your dissertation.
  - Most of our students co-author their first paper with a faculty member.
    - This is an effective approach to learn how to do research and understand journal expectations.
    - Journal publications by our students before going to the job market:
      - *Science Magazine, Economic Inquiry, Canadian Journal of Economics, BE Journal of Macroeconomics, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, and Economic Letters*, among others.
- Ideally, by the end of the Spring semester of the third year, the student should take his/her "oral preliminary examination" where the student should:
  - Present preliminary research results and plan for completion of dissertation.
  - Have a completed draft of one paper, some preliminary results on a second paper, and plan of work for the third.

## Fourth Year

- Fourth year: Go on the job market.
  - Apply to the SES Excellence in Research Award, and to the SES Excellence in Teaching Award.
  - By September, you will have your first (or second!) meeting with Prof. Ben Cowan, Graduate Student Placement Coordinator.
  - By October-November of fourth year, the student should have a polished job paper paper.
  - Ben Cowan will meet with you several times during the fourth year to prepare all your job applications, practice interviews, etc.
  - (For a reference, see the “Job Market Guide” website in our Ph.D. program)

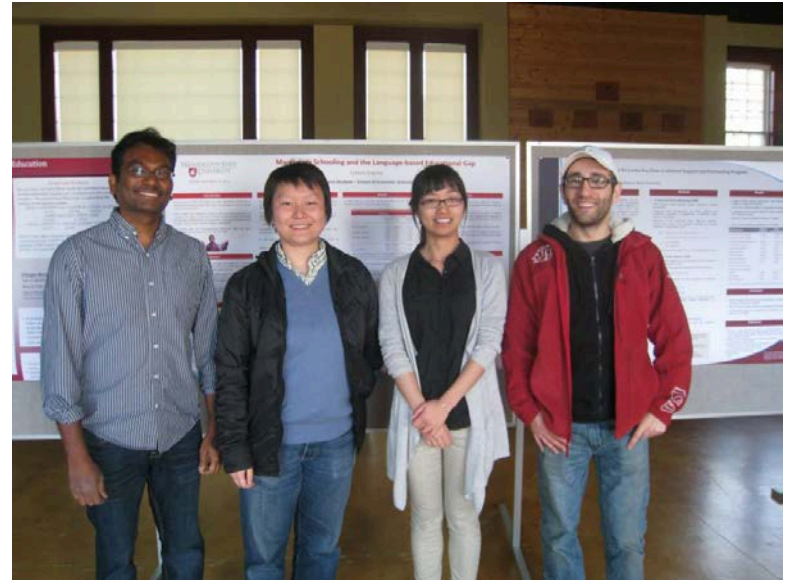


Prof. Greg Galinato and  
Adrienne Ohler (Ph.D. 2009,  
now an Associate Professor at  
Illinois State Univ.).

# Research/Dissertation Writing

Two approaches:

1. Three papers to each be published as journal articles.
  - A. Submit papers to journals as you finish them.
  - B. This is a great signal to potential employers that you are doing good research
2. Unified manuscript
  - A. More work to convert to journal articles.





# Recent WSU Ph.D. Job Placements

- Recent Tenure-Track Assistant Professors at

- Purdue University
- Utah State University
- Univ. of Arkansas
- Colorado State Univ.
- Texas Tech
- Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
- Univ. of Kentucky
- Univ. of New Mexico
- Univ. of Houston
- Univ. of Georgia
- University of Delaware
- Illinois State Univ.
- Penn State Univ.
- Univ. of Oklahoma
- Univ. of Nebraska
- Cornell and Yale (Postdocs)



- Government

- Economic Research Service, USDA
- Freddie Mac
- State of WA, foreign governments
- United Nations
- World Bank



# Recent WSU Ph.D. Job Placements

- Foreign academic positions

- City University of Hong-Kong, China
- Renmin University, China
- University of International Business and Economics, China
- Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, China
- Higher School of Economics, Russia



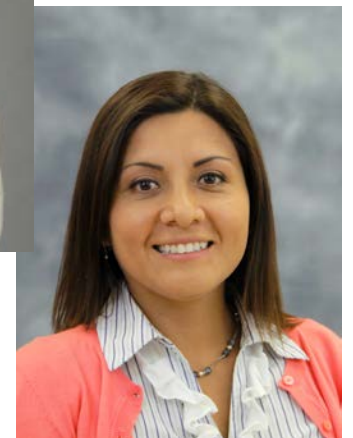
- Recent Industry Job Placements

- Consulting Firms
- American Express
- JP Morgan Chase
- BNP Paribas



# Faculty

- 27 full-time faculty
  - Internationally recognized faculty
- Excellence in teaching
- Joint research with Graduate students leading to coauthored publications before going to the job market.



# Opportunities

- Econometrics
- Economics of Health and Disease
- Environmental and Natural Resource Economics--  
water
- Transportation Economics
- Agricultural Economics
- Industrial Organization
- International Economics
- Energy Economics
- More...

# International Teaching Assistants (ITA) exam

- Oral English exam required by the State of Washington for all international students from non-English speaking countries who receive a graduate assistantship from WSU.
- You will receive a score 1 (highest/best) to 5 (lowest).
- Your teaching assignments and ability to teach your own course depends on your score.
- You can take the ITA exam at least once per semester.
- Visit the International Programs website to schedule a exam, especially after the first semester:  
<https://ip.wsu.edu/learn-english/teaching-assistant-evaluations/>.

## Next few days

- Get ready for the semester!
  - Housing, office, paperwork with the graduate school, etc.
  - Complete checklist in your welcome packet.
- Contact the faculty member you have been assigned to as teaching assistant (TA) or research assistant (RA).
- If you receive an assistantship and you haven't heard about your assignment yet, please contact Prof. Jill McCluskey.
- Please check your email at least twice a day, and respond in a timely manner.

**Work Hard and  
Enjoy your time in Pullman!!**

