

# Prerna Kundu

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## Education

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- Vancouver School of Economics, University of British Columbia** *2021-Present*  
PhD Candidate in Economics  
Fields: Development Economics, Labor Economics, Behavioral Economics
- Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi** *2017 - 2019*  
Master of Arts, Economics
- Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi** *2014 - 2017*  
Bachelor of Arts (Hons), Economics

## Working Papers

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**Creating Cohesive Communities: A Youth Camp Experiment in India** (with [Arkadev Ghosh](#), [Matt Lowe](#), and [Gareth Nellis](#)) | *Conditionally Accepted, Review of Economic Studies*

## Professional Experience

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**Research Associate, J-PAL South Asia** *Jun 2019 - Jun 2021*  
*Principal Investigators: Prof Karthik Muralidharan (UCSD), Prof Paul Niehaus (UCSD), Prof Sandip Sukhtankar(UVA) and Prof Jeffrey Weaver(USC)*

- Led the implementation of a randomized controlled trial (RCT) to test the effectiveness of an unconditional cash transfer to pregnant and lactating mothers in Jharkhand
- Oversaw 4 large-scale data collection rounds with a sample of over 5000 respondents. Tasks included digitizing survey instruments, sampling, managing a field team of 120+ surveyors, running high-frequency quality checks, and data cleaning
- Worked closely with the Jharkhand State Nutrition Mission to implement the cash transfer scheme and ensure compliance with RCT protocols

## Teaching Experience

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- **Introduction to International Finance**, Teaching Assistant (3rd year undergraduate) *2024*
- **Introduction to Empirical Economics**, Teaching Assistant (3rd year undergraduate) *2024, 2023*
- **Introduction to Econometrics**, Teaching Assistant (3rd year undergraduate) *2023*
- **Fertility, Families and Human Migration**, Teaching Assistant (3rd year undergraduate) *2022*

## Leadership Experience

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**Founder, Women in Econ and Policy** *Jun 2020-Present*

- Provide strategic oversight, lead fundraising, and build partnerships for an India-based nonprofit working to solve the gender representation problem in economics and public policy
- Leading the implementation of a 4 year intervention with 10 colleges, funded by the Internal Economic Association (IEA)
- Curate events and networking opportunities to further members' professional goals and promote academic engagement among the 2200+ members of the group

## Professional Service

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**Referee:** Economics of Education Review

## Research Grants

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- CIDER Small Grants in Innovative Data, UBC *2024, 2023*

- Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics, UChicago 2023
- J-PAL Governance Initiative Grant (with Arkadev Ghosh, Gareth Nellis and Matt Lowe) 2022

## Fellowships and Awards

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- Four Year Doctoral Fellowship, UBC 2022-2026
- International Tuition Award, UBC 2021-2024
- President's Academic Excellence Initiative PhD Award, UBC 2021-2024
- R Howard Webster Foundation Fellowship, Green College 2022
- Albert Whiteley Memorial Fellowship, UBC 2021
- Faculty of Arts Graduate Award, UBC 2021

## Presentations

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- **2024** NBER Diversity, Identity, and Nation Building Meeting<sup>+</sup>
- **2023** Indian Statistical Institute (ISI Delhi)\*, Advances in Field Experiments (UChicago)\*, NBER Development Economics Meeting<sup>+</sup>

*\*presenting author, <sup>+</sup>presentation by co-author*

## Skills and Languages

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**Software:** STATA, R, LaTeX, SurveyCTO

**Languages:** English (fluent), Hindi (native)