

# James E. Allen IV

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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D.	Economics and Public Policy	University of Michigan	2023 ( <i>expected</i> )
	<i>Primary fields: development economics, labor economics</i>	<i>Secondary field: economic demography</i>	
M.A.	Economics	University of Michigan	2018
M.S.	Agricultural, Food, & Resource Economics	Michigan State University	2012
B.A.	Major: Political Science, Minor: Economics	Alma College	2009

## RESEARCH

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### ***Dissertation:***

**JOB MARKET PAPER:** "Double-Booked: Overlap between School and Farming Calendars". Draft coming soon!

*Abstract:* Across sub-Saharan Africa, countries with a greater percentage of overlapping days in their school and farming calendars also have lower primary school survival rates. In theory, greater overlap between the school and farming calendars should indeed reduce schooling investments, and farm-based child labor too, as it constrains the time allocation opportunity set for both productive activities. I causally identify such effects by leveraging a four-month shift to the school calendar in Malawi that exogenously changed the number of days that the school calendar overlapped with specific crop calendars, which differentially affected communities based on their pre-policy crop bundles. Using panel data for children of primary-school age pre-policy, I find that a 10-day increase in school calendar overlap during peak farming periods significantly decreases school advancement by 0.33 grades (one lost grade for every three children) and annual household-farm hours worked by 19.5 hours after four years, with even greater declines in schooling if occurring during the labor-intensive sowing period. Policies aiming to increase rural school participation should better accommodate farm labor demand—for example, as I illustrate with a policy simulation, by adapting the school calendar to minimize overlap with peak farming periods.

**Essay #2:** "[Teaching and Incentives: Substitutes or Complements?](#)" (with Arlete Mahumane, James Riddell IV, Tanya Rosenblat, Dean Yang, and Hang Yu), *Economics of Education Review*, 2022. [[NBER Working Paper 28976](#), [AEA Registry](#)]

**Essay #3:** "[Correcting Perceived Social Distancing Norms to Combat COVID-19](#)", (with Arlete Mahumane, James Riddell IV, Tanya Rosenblat, Dean Yang, and Hang Yu), revise and resubmit, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*. [[NBER Working Paper 28651](#), [AEA Registry](#)]

### ***Doctoral Publications:***

"[Knowledge, Stigma, and HIV Testing: An Analysis of a Widespread HIV/AIDS Program](#)," (with Arlete Mahumane, James Riddell IV, Dean Yang, and Hang Yu), *Journal of Development Economics*, 2022. [[NBER Working Paper 28716](#), [populated pre-analysis plan](#), [AEA Registry](#)]

"[The Demography of the Labor Force in Sub-Saharan Africa: Challenges and Opportunities](#)," (with David Lam and Murray Leibbrandt), GLM|LIC Synthesis Paper No. 10, November 2019.

"[Are agricultural markets more developed around cities? Testing for urban heterogeneity in separability in Tanzania](#)," *Food Policy* 79 (2018): 199-212.

## Ongoing:

["The Economics of Health Decision-Making in Mozambique"](#) project (with Arlete Mahumane, James Riddell IV, Tanya Rosenblat, Dean Yang, and Hang Yu).

- See other outputs from recent [Combating Covid-19 study](#): policy briefs and summary reports
- Ongoing study of hiring practices of community health workers tasked to promote HIV/AIDS

"Blood Taxes: The Development Effects of Military Conscription in Colonial French West Africa" (with Jon Denton-Schneider). Currently digitizing raw data collected at the *Archives Nationales du Senegal*.

**Select Pre-Doctoral Publications:** (from time before starting PhD program in 2016)

["Do community supported agriculture programmes encourage change to food lifestyle behaviours and health outcomes? New evidence from shareholders,"](#) (with Jairus Rossi, Timothy Woods, and Alison Davis), *International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability*, May 2016.

["Residents' Willingness-to-Pay for Attributes for Rural Health Care Facilities,"](#) (with Alison Davis, Wuyang Hu, and Emmanuel Owusu-Amankwah), *Journal of Rural Health*, 31:1, 7-18, July 2014.

## AWARDS

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**Research Grants:** co-authored proposals awarded \$1,062,203.

- \$49,988 ["Accelerating Changes in Norms about Social Distancing to Combat COVID-19"](#), IPA P&R, PI: Dean Yang.
- \$26,100 ["Accelerating Changes in Norms about Social Distancing to Combat COVID-19"](#), J-PAL IGI, PI: Dean Yang.
- \$676,733 "Educational Decision-Making in the Aftermath of a Disaster: Evidence from Cyclone Idai in Mozambique", INEE and Dubai Cares E-Cubed Research Fund, PI: Dean Yang.
- \$9,042 Michigan Student Grants: Weinberg Graduate Student Award (\$4,042), Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies Graduate Student Research Grant (\$3,500), Rackham Pre-Doctoral Research Grant (\$1,500)

### Predoctoral:

- \$96,512 "Going to the Farm-acy: The Effect of CSA-Backed Produce Prescriptions on Eating Behaviors and Health Outcomes in Rural Kentucky" USDA Agricultural Market Service, Farmers' Market Promotion Program.
- \$39,828 "Neighbourhood Disadvantage, Food Resources in the Environmental, and the Influence on Food Store Choice and Purchasing Behaviour among SNAP Participants and SNAP Eligible Household" USDA Economic Research Service, FoodAPS Research Initiative, PI: Alison Gustafson.
- \$164,000 "An Evaluation of ARC Health Projects in Appalachia" Appalachian Regional Commission. PI: Alison Davis.

### Fellowships and Honors:

- 2018-23 Rackham Merit Fellowship (3 years tuition & stipend)
- 2020-22 Population Studies Center Pre-Doctoral Traineeship in Economic Demography (2 years tuition & stipend)
- 2018-19 Weinberg Population, Development & Climate Change Fellowship (\$7500)
- 2019 Outstanding Third-Year Paper Award
- 2016 Supervisor of the Year Nominee, University of Kentucky

## EXPERIENCE

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### **Professional:**

- 2017-19 Graduate Research Assistant, U of Michigan, with Lauren Falcao-Bergquist and David Lam
- 2012-16 Research Director, Community & Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky (CEDIK)
- 2009-12 Pre-doctoral Graduate Assistant, Michigan State, with Duncan Boughton and Eric Crawford

### **Teaching:** *Instructed 342 students since 2013*

- 2018-19 Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Economics, University of Michigan
  - Introductory Macroeconomics, 2 sections, (with Ed Cho) – Winter 2019
  - Development Economics, (with Lauren Falcao-Bergquist) – Fall 2018
- 2013-15 Instructor, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky
  - Agriculture & Development Economics – Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015
  - Introduction to Resource and Environmental Economics – Spring 2014
  - Intermediate Microeconomics – Spring 2015

### **Presentations:**

- 2022 Michigan Economic Development Seminar (scheduled), Michigan H2D2
- 2021 Conference on Behavioral Economics Experiments & Insights on Covid-19 (JHU and LSE)
- 2020 Michigan H2D2, University of Cape Town
- 2018 Michigan: H2D2, African Studies Center 10th Anniversary Symposium, Ford School Gramlich Showcase
- 2013-15 *Predoctoral:* Economic Research Service, US Department of Agriculture, (Washington DC, 2015), 2nd International Conference on Global Food Security (Ithaca, NY, 2015), Agricultural & Applied Economics Association Meeting (Washington DC 2013, Minneapolis 2014)

### **Service:**

- Referee: *Journal of Human Resources; Food Security; Review of Development Economics, Environment, Development and Sustainability; The Journal of Rural Health; Prentice Hall's Introduction to Agricultural Economics, Global Edition*
- 2021-22 Doctoral Admissions Committee, Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
- 2019-20 Doctoral Admissions Committee, Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
- 2018,21 Emcee for "Econ Skit Night", Department of Economics, University of Michigan
- 2015 Junior Research Task Force, 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Global Food Security, Cornell
- 2014-21 Board Member, African Sky (small non-profit working in Mali, West Africa)
- 2010-12 Peace Corps Volunteer, United States Peace Corps, Mali

**Languages:** English (*native*), Bambara (*advanced*), French (*intermediate*)