

Osman Keshawarz

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Education

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Expected August 2022
(Major Fields: Political Economy, Microeconomics)

M.A. in Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, November 2019

Dual B.A. in Economics and Philosophy, University of Connecticut, 2007

Primary Fields

- Political Economy
- Microeconomics
- Urban Economics
- Applied Microeconomics

Dissertation

Title: "Three Essays on Urban Economics"

Committee: Michael Ash (Chair), Vamsicharan Vakulabharanam (Member), JW Mason (Member), Max Page (Outside Member)

- Explores the role of spatial relations, particularly rent and land ownership, in the context of developed urban capitalist economies
- First essay: develops a Marxist-Georgist framework for thinking about urban land rents, drawing on classical political economy thought, radical geography, and urban sociology. This framework features a three-part class society (capital, land, labor) that engages in distributional conflict over the social product.
- Second essay: based on the above framework, develops a model of urban growth and distribution in an urban economy with particular attention to the evolution of the three factor shares (wages, profits, rents) along with changes in the spatial structure of production, communication, and transportation technology. This model is used to examine the role landed property (residential in particular) plays in the production and distribution of surplus.
- Third essay: an empirical analysis of rent control. Using an author-constructed database of New Jersey municipal rent control ordinances, I estimate the effects of rent control on the growth of rents and the rental housing stock in rent controlled vs uncontrolled towns using a first-differences approach.

Papers and Contributions

"Towards a Theory of Ground Rent," Chapter in Doctoral Thesis

"What do Landlords Do? The Political Economy of Urban Growth and Distribution," Chapter in Doctoral Thesis

"The Effects and Effectiveness of Rent Control: Evidence from New Jersey," Chapter in Doctoral Thesis

Contributor, "Extremism and Radicalization: An Overview of the Social, Political, Cultural, and Economic Landscape of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas of Pakistan," *FATA Research Centre*, August 2012

Research Experience

Research Associate, FATA Research Centre, 2011-2012

- Produced reports on radicalization and terrorism in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas of Pakistan, drawing from survey data and news reports.

Research Interests

- Economic power and distributional conflict
- Ground rent and its implications for inequality
- The interaction between institutions and economic power
- Stratification economics

Teaching Experience

Visiting Professor in the Department of Economics at Trinity College, 2022-2024

Courses

Urban Economics
The Economics of Urban Growth

Instructor in the Department of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2016 – 2020

Courses

Intermediate Microeconomics (Online, Su2019)
Intermediate Macroeconomics (Online, F2018)
Introduction to Political Economy (Online, Su2015)

Teaching Assistant in the Department of Economics at the University of Massachusetts, 2012 – 2019

Courses

Graduate Game Theory (S2015, S2016)
Intro to Microeconomics (F2012, S2013, S2014, S2015, F2015, F2017, S2018)
Intro to Macroeconomics (F2014)
Intermediate Microeconomics (F2013, F2016, F2018, S2018)
Intermediate Macroeconomics (S2013)
Game Theory (F2017)

Work History

Data Research and Statistics Counselor at Smith College, August 2019 – Present; Northampton, Massachusetts

- Provided educational support and research supervision for undergraduates in statistics, data science, and economics at Smith College

Teaching Interests

- Political Economy
- Urban Economics
- Econometrics
- Data Science
- Applied Microeconomics

Seminars and Presentations

UMass Amherst, Urban and Industrial Organization Workshop, 14 April 2019

Paper presented: "What do Landlords Do? The Political Economy of Urban Growth"