

Ardyn Nordstrom

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Current version here

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Academic Appointments

- **Carleton University's School of Public Policy and Administration** Ottawa, ON
 - 2022-present: Assistant Professor of Program and Policy Evaluation
- **Queen's University** Kingston, ON
 - 2016–2022: Graduate Teaching Assistant; Instructor for Certified Professional Impact Analyst Program

Education

- **Queen's University** Kingston, ON Ph.D. in Economics, Advisor: Christopher Cotton 2016–2022
- **Barcelona Graduate School of Economics** Remote Development Summer School 2021
- **Carleton University** Ottawa, ON M.A. Economics and Data Science
- **Carleton University** Ottawa, ON B.Commerce with Concentration in Finance and Minor in Economics

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

- Information and Engagement Campaigns in Support of Girls' Education Increase Math Performance and Enrolment, 2023 ([Link](#)) - with Christopher Cotton, Jordan Nanowski, and Eric Richert [under review]
- Impact of a Severe Drought on Education: More Schooling Does Not Imply More Learning, 2021. ([Link](#)) - with Christopher Cotton [under review]
- It Takes a Village: The Impact of Community Mobilization Campaigns on Attitudes and Education, 2022. ([Link](#))
- Understanding Education Outcomes in Zimbabwe: A Machine Learning Approach to Informing Program and Evaluation Design, 2022. *Available upon request.*
- Trade, poverty and food security: A survey of recent research and its implications for East Africa, 2021. ([Link](#)) - with Huw Lloyd-Ellis

Works in Progress

- Text Mining Approaches to Efficiently Select a Purposeful Qualitative Sample – with Christopher Cotton
- Vocational Training for Out-of-School students: A Qualitative Evaluation Using Text Mining in Zimbabwe – with Christopher Cotton, Zachary Robb, Shannon Veenstra, and Lindsay Wallace

- Pedalling to prosperity: Understanding the impact of bicycles on education outcomes - *with Christopher Cotton and Zac Robb*
- 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*

Seminars and Conference Presentations

2023

- Canadian Evaluation Society annual meeting, Quebec City
- Canadian Economics Association annual meeting, University of Manitoba
- Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis Annual Meeting, George Washington University

2022

- Department of Economics Seminar Series, Université Laval
- Canadian Public Economics Study Group, Concordia University
- Applied Development Economics Conference, Lahore School of Economics
- Empirical Microeconomics Workshop, University of Calgary
- Canadian Economics Association annual meeting, Carleton University
- University of Chicago Joint Initiative for Latin American Experimental Economics Special ESA Meeting, Buenos Aires (Virtual)
- Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis Annual Meeting, George Washington University

2021

- Lessons from the Girls’ Education Challenge, World Vision United Kingdom Consortium Workshop ([Link](#))
- Workshop on Trade and Resilience, USAID Kenya and East Africa Workshop

2019

- Canadian Economics Association annual meeting, University of Calgary

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: Survey development and data analysis for Laura Vanderkam’s popular non-fiction book “Off the Clock” (2017)

Teaching

At Carleton University:

- **PADM 5127** Microeconomics for Public Policy Analysis 2022, 2023
- **PADM 5420** Introduction to Program and Policy Evaluation 2023

Other:

- **Instructor** at Queen’s University’s Certified Professional Impact Analyst Program 2018 - 2019
Measuring Impact (CPIA Measure)
- **Head TA** at Queen’s University 2020 - 2022
 - *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 2019
 - *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)*

Awards

- 2022 Carleton University Faculty of Public Affairs New Faculty Start Up Funds (\$10,000)
- 2018-2022 Mitacs Research Fellowship (10 consecutive academic terms) (\$100,000 total)
- 2020-2021 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (\$22,500)
- 2016-2020 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000/year)
- 2016 Carleton University Data Day Prize (\$1,000)
- 2016 Huntley Schaller Memorial Scholarship in Economic Research (\$2,200)

- 2015 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business (Local and National-level Scholarships) (\$5,500)
- 2014 Scholarship in Comparative Economics (\$2,500)
- 2010-2014 Carleton University Entrance Scholarships (\$6,000/year)

Refereeing Contributions

- Canadian Journal of Economics
- World Bank Economic Review
- Canada Public Policy
- National Science Foundation - Grant Reviewer (USA)
- The Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization
- Economic Modelling
- Land

Professional Experience

Canadian Women Economics Committee

- 2022-2023: Member of the mentoring and Canadian Economics Association annual meeting subcommittees
- 2021-2022: Member of the communications and mentoring subcommittees

Research Associate at Limestone Analytics (Kingston, ON)

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](#)
- **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 (Ottawa, ON)
January 2013- August 2016

- **Data Analyst**
 - 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.