Mr. Abhishek Chakravarty
Curriculum Vitae

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PhD Candidate and Teaching Assistant
Department of Economics,
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Placement Director:
Professor Orazio Attanasio
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Graduate Student Coordinator:
Daniella Fauvrelle
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Doctoral Studies:

PhD Economics, University College London **,** 2006 to present
Thesis Title: Health Impacts of Large-Scale Government Policy in Developing Countries.
Expected Completion Date: June, 2011

Referees:

Professor Imran Rasul,
Department of Economics,
University College London
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Professor Orazio Attanasio,
Department of Economics,
University College London
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Dr. Marcos Vera Hernandez,
Department of Economics,
University College London
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Education:

M.A. Economics, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), *First Class Honours*, New Delhi, India. 2004-2006

B.A. (Honours) Economics**,** St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, India. 2001-2004

Research and Teaching Fields:

Research:	Development Economics, Household Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Health Economics, Policy Evaluation
Teaching:	Development Economics, Health Economics, Microeconomics, Game Theory

Teaching Experience:

Graduate:	Game Theory, MSc Economics, UCL Economics of Development, MSc Economics, UCL *(Term 2, 2010-11)* Health Economics, MSc Economics, UCL *(Term 2, 2010-11)*

Undergraduate: Economic Development, BSc Economics, UCL
Microeconomics, BSc Economics, UCL
Dynamic Industrial Organisation, BSc Economics, UCL
The World Economy, BSc Economics, UCL

Employment:

Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, University College London, 2007 to present

Research Assistant, INNOGEN, Open University, provided a technical review of the literature on maternal ill-health and mortality in Africa. October, 2008

Research Assistant to Dr. Pedro Carneiro (Reader, UCL) and Dr. Sokbae 'Simon' Lee (Professor, UCL), analysed US National Longitudinal Survey data for CEMMAP publication. April – July, 2008

Internship with the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi, India. Summer, 2005

Scholarships & Awards:

UCL Economics Best Teaching Assistant Runner-up, 2009-10
UCL Economics Teaching Assistant Award, 2007-08, 2008-2009
UCL Alumni Scholarship, 2007-08

Invited Conferences and Presentations

2010 Institute of Fiscal Studies EDEPO Seminar; UCL Student Lunch Seminar

2009 EUDN Workshop for PhD Students, Örebro, Sweden; Nordic Conference in Development Economics, Oscarsborg, Norway

Publications

Chakravarty, Abhishek (2010) "Supply Shocks and Gender Bias in Child Health Investments: Evidence from the ICDS Programme in India," The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy: Vol. 10 : Iss. 1 (Topics), Article 88.

Research Papers

JOB MARKET PAPER

Dams and Infant Mortality in Africa

This paper investigates the impact of dams on infant mortality using 32 waves of DHS data that have GPS locations of households. This allows us to estimate the impact of dams on households that reside upstream, downstream, and within its immediate vicinity. We use a sample of over 900,000 children in 17 countries in Africa. In contrast to earlier research on the impact of dams

on agricultural productivity and poverty at the district level in India (Duflo and Pande, 2007), we examine child-level outcomes, measure the impacts of dams on households that are both close and very far to the dam, and exploit variation in floodplain and non-floodplain regions that is more important for agricultural production in Sub-Saharan Africa than India. For non-migrant households we find the following. First, children born in households that reside immediately downstream to a dam experience a significant reduction of 3.84-4.60% in infant mortality. This is because the benefits of irrigation services of the dam are large for downstream households geographically close to the dam. Second, for children born in households that reside further downstream, infant mortality significantly increases by 2.18-2.36%. This is because dams reduce water levels downriver, and households cannot access compensating irrigation services from dams, or benefit from the reduced volatility of water flow that dams provide. The infant mortality increase rises sharply to 7.57% for children born farther downstream in floodplain areas, as the reduced water level causes degradation of the wetland ecosystem which is crucial to household livelihoods in Africa. Children born in the vicinity of the dam experience increased infant mortality of at least 2.27%, due to increased malaria incidence and reduced agricultural productivity near the dam reservoir. This effect increases monotonically to more than 10% with the number of dams in children's vicinity.

November, 2010