JULIO ACUNA
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Office Contact Information:

Department of Economics
Odom 206
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Employment:

Croft Instructional Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Mississippi, 2022 -
Assistant Professor, Universidad San Francisco de Quito, 2018 - 2022

Doctoral Studies:

The Ohio State University, Ph.D., 2013 - 2018
Dissertation Title: "*Essays on the Causes and Consequences of Migration from Latin America to the U.S.*"

Pre-Doctoral Studies:

Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico, M.Sc., Economics, 2012
Universidad Americana, Nicaragua, B.Sc., Industrial Engineering, 2008

Research Fields:

Primary Fields: Development Economics
Secondary Fields: Labor Economics and Applied Econometrics

Publications:

Acuna, Julio (2026). "Immigration, Selection, and Human Capital: The Venezuelan Inflow and Educational Pathways in Ecuador." *Forthcoming Labour Economics*.

Acuna, Julio (2026). "Weapon supply shocks, violence, and migration." *Journal of Development Economics* 181 (2026): 103728.

Acuna, Julio, Lenin H. Balza, and Nicolas Gomez-Parra (2024). "From wells to wealth? Government transfers and human capital." *Journal of Development Economics* 166 (2024): 103206.

Acuna, Julio (2023). "The Asymmetric Impact of Out-Migration and Return Migration on Wages in the Source Country: Evidence from Mexico." *Journal of Human Capital* 17, no. 2 (2023): 000-000.

Acuna, Julio (2021). "Non-classical measurement error with false positives and negatives", *Applied Economics Letters*, 28:18, 1620-1625, DOI: 10.1080/13504851.2020.1841080

Acuna, J. et al. (2012). "*Características poblacionales relevantes en el sector agropecuario jalisciense*." *Impactos del TLCAN* en el sector agropecuario de Jalisco. México: 2012, editor Jesús Arroyo Alejandre. ISBN: 978-607-711-086-6

Acuna, J. et al. (2012). "*Resultados de la encuesta a productores.*" *Impactos del TLCAN en el sector agropecuario de Jalisco*. México: 2012, editor Jesús Arroyo Alejandre. ISBN: 978-607-711-086-6

Research Papers

"The Ripple Effects of U.S. Monetary Policy on Social Unrest and Conflict" (with Jorge Avila-Santamaria and Pedro Romero, USFQ) (Under Review)

"From Finite Resources to Enduring Potential: Early Investment Through Oil Revenue" (with Bernard Moscoso) (Under Review)

"*The effects of border enforcement and expected economic gains*: *Mexico-U.S. migration during and after the Great Recession*"

"Distant Economic Shocks, Migrants' Networks, Jobs, Informality, and Violence"

Research papers in progress

"Who turned the lights off? (with Lenin Balza, Nicolas-Parra, and José Belmar)

Media Coverage

"*Central American kids come to the US fleeing record-high youth murder rates at home*". Published by The Conversation and Univision.

Other publications

Acuna, Julio (2026). "*How US-supplied weapons fuel migration to the US border."* VoxDev.

Acuna, Julio, Lenin H. Balza, and Nicolas Gomez-Parra (2024). "*How oil royalties have shaped education and labour markets in Ecuador*"**.** VoxDev

Acuna, J., R. Aldaz-Peña, D. Rivera, and R. Viteri (2022). "*Más información y Menos Especulación: Salario Mínimo en Ecuador*"

Acuna, J. (2019). *"¿Hay Luz al final del Túnel? Latinoamérica, el Sentimiento Social y la Economía*" Koyuntura. No 91.

Teaching Experience:

2026 –	Quantitative Research Methods, University of Missisippi
2023 –	International Trade and Globalization, University of Missisippi
2022 –	Principles of Microeconomics, University of Mississippi
2020 – 2022	Introduction to Economics, Universidad San Francisco de Quito
2020 – 2022	Intermediate Microeconomics, Universidad San Francisco de Quito

2019 – 2022	Econometrics 1, Universidad San Francisco de Quito
2019 – 2022	Mathematics for Economists 1, Universidad San Francisco de Quito
2019 – 2022	Microeconomics 2, Universidad San Francisco de Quito (M.Sc.)
2018 – 2022	Mathematics for Economists, Universidad San Francisco de Quito (M.Sc.)
2018 – 2022	Mathematics for Economists 2, Universidad San Francisco de Quito
2018 – 2019	Research Seminar, Universidad San Francisco de Quito
2015 – 2016	Applied Quantitative Methods, The Ohio State University, Guest Lecturer (M.Sc.)
2014 - 2018	Econometric Applications in Agribusiness and Applied Economics, The Ohio State University, Lab Instructor (B.A.)
2014 - 2018	Operations Research in Agribusiness and Applied Economics, The Ohio State University, Lab Instructor (B.A.)
2012	Introduction to Mathematics in Economics, Universidad de Guadalajara, Instructor (M.Sc.)
2011	Intro to Microeconomic Theory, Universidad de Guadalajara, Instructor (M.Sc.)

Other Employment:

2011 - 2012	Universidad de Guadalajara, Researcher

Professional Activities:

Service

	Journal of Development Economics, Applied Economics, Econoquntum, and Canadian Journal of Economics, Referee
2017	Midwest Economic Association, Cincinnati, Ohio, Discussant
2017	Annual Midwest Graduate Student Summit on Applied Economics and Regional Science, Columbus, Ohio, Session Moderator
2017	Annual Midwest Graduate Student Summit on Applied Economics and Regional Science, Columbus, Ohio, Discussant

Presentations

2025	Global Health Economics Seminar Series 2025-2026 (presented by coauthor)
2022	Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) and Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society, Lima, Peru.
2021	The Society of Labor Economists (SOLE), 26th Annual Meeting
2019	5th Workshop on the Economics of Migration, Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg.
2019	IV Immigration Health and Well-being Workshop, Pittsburgh, USA.
2018	Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) and Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society, Guayaquil, Ecuador.
2018	The Society of Labor Economists (SOLE), 23rd Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada
2018	Midwest Economic Association, Chicago, Illinois
2017	Midwest Economic Association, Cincinnati, Ohio
2017	Annual Midwest Graduate Student Summit on Applied Economics and Regional Science, Columbus, Ohio
2017	Ohio State University and Bowling Green State University Graduate Student Conference on Population

Grants, Awards and Scholarships:

2020	Excellence in teaching and mentoring recognition by the Dean of Students
2019	Economics Department Research Grant, Universidad San Francisco de Quito

2018	Economics Department Research Grant, Universidad San Francisco de Quito
2018	The Ohio State University, Alumni Grant
2013 - 2018	Graduate Assistantship, The Ohio State University
2009 - 2011	M.A. Studies National Scholarship, National Council of Science and Technology (CONACyT), Mexico

Outreach

2018-2022	Radio program titled *Economía de la vida diaria*. I participated regularly and discussed diverse topics such as the market structure of the airline industry in Latin America, the economic causes of the waves of protests in 2019 in Latin America, the economics of ransomware, etc.

Advising

M.Sc.	Miguel Sangurima (2020)
B.Sc.	Nicolás Chuquimarca (2021, *best thesis award*), Mateo Yerovi (2020, *best thesis award*), Martin Rodriguez (2020), Ximena Quezada (2018), Jean Pierre Lopez Chavez (2018), Alejandra Marchán (2021), María Cristina Santacruz (2021)

References

Dr. Joyce Chen (Ph.D Advisor)
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