

LISSA ANDREA F. DE MESA
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I am currently a 3rd year Ph.D. candidate from Texas Tech University. My major is applied macroeconomics. My research interests include international, development, labor, monetary, financial, energy, and environmental economics, with the use of STATA, Matlab, R, and GTAP. My working experience involves teaching economics to university students and helped in the content creation of the Hunter Water Digital Meter Horizon Scan and W-lab project for Isle Utilities, Asia-Pacific. I am also adept in the use of Google Workspace and Microsoft Office.

Education

Texas Tech University

Ph.D. in Economics

expected graduation: Spring 2027

Major in Applied Macroeconomics

Master of Arts in Economics

expected graduation: Fall 2025

University of the Philippines Los Baños

August 2018 - May 2022

BS Economics, Development Economics

Thesis Topic: [Cashless Payments and Economic Growth: Evidence from Selected ASEAN Countries](#)

Honors: Magna Cum Laude, nominated for Best Thesis Award 2022

Teaching

Texas Tech University**Graduate Part-time Instructor**

ECO 2301: Principles of Economics: Microeconomics

Fall 2025

ECO 2305: Principles of Economics

Spring 2025

Teaching Assistant

2023 - 2024

ECO 2301: Microeconomics and ECO 2305: Principles of Economics

ECO 4305: Introduction to Econometrics and ECO 5314: Econometrics 1

Research

Working Papers

- **The Spillover Effects of U.S. Uncertainty in Latin America**

This paper examines the spillover effects of economic policy uncertainty and financial uncertainty shocks from the U.S. on Latin American economies. The structural vector autoregressive (SVAR) model is employed to examine effects on Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile from 1994M1 to 2023M12. The results show that these U.S. uncertainty shocks negatively affect the output and stock prices for all countries while there are heterogeneous effects for the rest of the variables. Greater spillover effects are found in Mexico and Colombia while Argentina and Brazil experience greater decline in terms of their trade activities with the United States.. This can be attributed to trade linkages and geographical factors between the U.S. and the Latin American countries. Nonetheless, overall, the U.S. uncertainty shocks depress real and financial activities. Specifically, financial uncertainty shock results in a sizable and more persistent negative effect on the top five economies in Latin America, requiring at least ten months for recovery.

- **U.S. Uncertainty Shocks and Labor Market Outcomes: Gender, Ethnicity, and Educational Attainment**

This paper analyzes the effects of U.S. uncertainty shocks on labor market outcomes across different groups: gender, ethnicity, and educational attainment. Using a structural vector autoregression (SVAR) model from 1990M1 to 2023M12, results show that uncertainty shocks significantly affect aggregate economic activity while unemployment and labor force participation rates experience persistent adverse effects. Notably, the findings show considerable disparities in the responses of different demographic groups. Women experience slightly higher increases in unemployment than men, which could reflect gender-specific vulnerabilities, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, none-Whites face higher chances of job losses and larger declines in labor force participation. Lastly, those with lower educational attainment, particularly high school graduates, experience greater negative impacts compared to those with bachelor's degrees or more.

Leadership and Experience

Graduate Student Research Seminar (GSRS) Co-organizer (inaugural) Fall 2025

- Organizes seminars for graduate students to share ideas and present their papers

Isle Utilities, Asia-Pacific Intern July 2021 - August 2021

- Assisted with the online content of the W-lab project in partnership with the Water Services Association of Australia
- Helped in the creation of the Hunter Water Digital Meter Horizon Scan for AU and UK

Finance Committee Head of UPLB Economics Society August 2020 - June 2021

- Supervised regional and national seminars and donation drives

Conferences

ISA-South 2025 October 2025

- Working Paper: The Spillover Effects of U.S. Uncertainty in Latin America

2024 TTU Poster Competition March 2024

- Working Paper: Effects of Cashless Payments on Inflation Stability

Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting 2023 Fall 2023

- Participant and helped in the logistics of the conference

2022 Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Research Fair July 2022

- Working Paper: Cashless Payments and Economic Growth: Evidence from Selected ASEAN Countries

Scholarships and Awards

Dr. Rashid B. Al-Hmoud Competitive Scholarship in Economics Fall 2023 - present

- A \$1 Million scholarship endowment: the Department of Economics, TTU, awards these scholarships on a competitive basis.

Skills

- STATA • Matlab • Dynare • R • GTAP • Microsoft Office • Google Workspace

Languages

- English - native language • Filipino - native language • Spanish - beginner level