

LISSA ANDREA F. DE MESA

Department of Economics, Texas Tech University

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EDUCATION

Texas Tech University

expected graduation: Spring 2027

Ph.D. in Economics

Major in Applied Macroeconomics - International Economics

Master of Arts in Economics

Fall 2022 - 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

RESEARCH

Working Papers

- **U.S. Financial Uncertainty and Emerging-Market Vulnerability: Evidence from a Two-Country New Keynesian DSGE Model of Mexico**

This paper examines the transmission of U.S. financial uncertainty to Mexico, modeled as a small open emerging economy. To analyze these spillovers, it develops a non-linear two-country New Keynesian DSGE model with an endogenous sovereign risk premium and evaluates its implications against empirical Structural Vector Autoregression (SVAR) evidence. The empirical results show that a U.S. financial uncertainty shock triggers a flight-to-safety episode characterized by equity price declines, currency depreciation, and a persistent contraction in economic activity. The DSGE model replicates these responses and identifies nominal rigidities, sovereign risk premia, and investment adjustment costs as key transmission mechanisms. Counterfactual exercises indicate that greater trade dependence amplifies the effects of foreign uncertainty through exchange-rate pass-through and imported inflation. The analysis also reveals a policy trade-off: while a more aggressive monetary response better stabilizes inflation and exchange-rate dynamics, it does so at the cost of tighter financial conditions, lower asset valuations, and weaker real activity. Overall, the findings highlight the joint role of financial frictions, trade exposure, and monetary policy in shaping emerging-market vulnerability to external financial shocks.

- **The Spillover Effects of U.S. Uncertainty in Latin America** (Under Review: Emerging Markets Review)
- **U.S. Uncertainty Shocks and Labor Market Outcomes: Gender, Ethnicity, and Educational Attainment**
- **Uncertainty Beyond Borders: Spillover Effects of U.S. Uncertainty in Emerging Economies**
- **Domestic and Cross-Border Effects of Trade Policy Uncertainty: Evidence from the United States and China** with Ali Mahmoud (Under Review: Open Economies Review)

Work in Progress

- **The Messi Effect: Pre and Post 2026 World Cup** with James Kemper and Murad Latifov

TEACHING

Instructor (Texas Tech University)

Principles of Economics: Microeconomics (large class, 100+ students)	Fall 2025 - Fall 2026
Principles of Economics: Microeconomics and Macroeconomics	Spring 2025

Teaching Assistant (Texas Tech University)

2023 - 2024

Microeconomics and ECO 2305: Principles of Economics
Introduction to Econometrics and Graduate Econometrics 1

LEADERSHIP & EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Research Seminar

Fall 2025 - Spring 2026

Co-organizer (inaugural)

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

Isle Utilities, Asia-Pacific

July 2021 - August 2021

Intern

- 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

CONFERENCES

North Texas Economics Conference (NTxEC)

November 2025

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

ISA-South 2025

October 2025

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

Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting 2023

Fall 2023

2022 Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Research Fair

July 2022

Cashless Payments and Economic Growth: Evidence from Selected ASEAN Countries

AWARDS

Dr. Rashid B. Al-Hmoud Competitive Scholarship in Economics

Fall 2023 - present

A \$1 Million scholarship endowment: the Department of Economics, TTU

SKILLS

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

LANGUAGES

English (native) • Filipino (native) • Spanish (B1 level) • French (beginner)

ELIGIBILITY

Civil Service Exemption for Honor Graduates (Philippines)

- Certificate of Eligibility with number 100104264186