

MATTHEW MCKETTY

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Department of Agricultural & Applied Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics

May, 2026 (*expected*)

Committee: Jeremy Foltz (Chair), Dustin Frye,

Priya Mukherjee, Christopher Timmins

University of Wisconsin-Madison

M.S. in Agricultural and Applied Economics

May, 2022

École d'Ingénieurs de Purpan

Purpan Agricultural Summer Study and Internship Program

Summer, 2018

University of Florida

B.A. in Economics

May, 2019

Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Primary Fields: Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics

Secondary Fields: Trade, Structural Change

JOB MARKET PAPER

Sun, Sand, and Services: Tourism and Household Welfare in Jamaica

Abstract: Tourism services have seen marked growth over the previous two decades. A number of lower- and middle-income countries have sought to take advantage of this boom in demand in the hopes of driving economic development. Even so, there remain significant questions about the ability of tourism to contribute to robust and inclusive prosperity for local populations in developing countries. I address this gap in the literature by investigating these questions in Jamaica, an upper-middle-income country that has made tourism the foundation of its development strategy. I combine an extremely rich and granular dataset of tourist expenditure surveys from the Jamaican Ministry of Tourism with a detailed, nationally representative household expenditure survey, both spanning nearly two decades. Linking tourist activity and individual households across consistent spatial units, I employ a shift-share instrumental variable identification strategy to estimate the effects of changes in tourism revenues on the welfare of local households. I find increases in real consumption and welfare for urban households with members working in mid-skilled occupations in non-tourism services and manufacturing. I discuss the implications of these findings for understanding the welfare impacts of tourism specialization in developing countries, and for the design of policies that aim to harness and scale tourism in service of development.

WORKING PAPERS

Tourist Demand, Hotel Competition, and Aggregate Welfare: Evidence from Jamaica

Beaches or Books: Tourism Shocks and Human Capital Accumulation

Climate and Consumption: Evidence From Mali with Jeremy Foltz

Nowcasting Trade From Space

with Arslanalp, Seung Mo Choi, Parisa Kamali, Robin Koepke, Michele Ruta, Mario Saraiva, Alessandra Sozzi, and Jasper Verschuur.

IMF Working Papers 2025, 093 (2025)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Research Assistant to Prof. Jeremy Foltz

Fall 2021 - Summer 2024

International Monetary Fund

Intern(Fund Internship Program): Strategy, Policy, and Review
External Policy (SPRXP)

*Summer 2024
Washington D.C.*

PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Florida Information Technology

Intern: Reporting and Analytics

*2019–2020
Gainesville, FL*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Wisconsin-Madison

TA, AAE 350: World Hunger & Malnutrition,

Spring, 2026

TA, German 267: Communication-B Academic Writing Course,

Fall, 2025

TA, AAE 215: Intro. to Agr. & Applied Economics, [eval. 4.5/5]

Spring, 2023

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

2026 ASSA (Poster Presentation), 2025 CSAE (Oxford), 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting (Invited) 2024 CSAE (Oxford), 2024 West Indies Economic Conference (Kingston, Jamaica)

AWARDS, MEMBERSHIPS, AND SERVICE

Awards

Conference Travel Grant, Latin American, Caribbean, & Iberian Studies Program, (2×) *2024, 2025*

Conference Travel Grant, AAE Dept., UW-Madison (2×) *2024, 2025*

SciMed GRS Fellowship, UW-Madison (2×) *2020–2021, 2023–2024*

Membership and Affiliations

Membership in professional associations: AEA, AAEA, EEA

Service

Student Representative Graduate Committee, Social Chair, AAE Dept., UW-Madison *2022–2024*

Volunteer Tutor, Urban League of Dane County, WI *2023–2024*

LANGUAGES AND COMPUTER SKILLS

Languages: English (Native), French (Advanced)

Computer Skills: R (Advanced), STATA (Advanced), Julia (Advanced)

REFERENCES

Jeremy Foltz (Advisor)

Professor

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Dustin Frye

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