

RAJIB ORAON

rajiboraon.com

ro2094@nyu.edu

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Address 19 West Fourth St., 6th Floor
New York, NY 10012-1119

Phone (+1) 332-248-7045 (mobile)

Placement Director: Jaroslav Borovička jaroslav.borovicka@nyu.edu 347-899-6273
Graduate Administrator: Ian Johnson ian.johnson@nyu.edu 212 998-8901

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, New York University, 2021–2027 (expected)
Thesis Title: *Essays on Technological Change and Human Capital Investment*.
M.S. in Quantitative Economics, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi, 2019–2021
M.S. in Statistics, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, 2013–2015
B.S. in Statistics, St. Xavier's College, University of Calcutta, 2010–2013

References

Professor Petra Moser
Stern School of Business, NYU
44 West 4th Street
New York, NY 10012
pm119@stern.nyu.edu

Professor Jacob French
Stern School of Business, NYU
44 West 4th Street
New York, NY 10012
jff305@stern.nyu.edu

Professor Martin Rotemberg
Department of Economics, NYU
19 West 4th Street
New York, NY 10012
(212) 998-8926 (office)
mrotemberg@nyu.edu

Research Fields

Primary field: Labor Economics
Secondary fields: Economics of Education, Applied Econometrics

Teaching Experience

Spring 2023	Introduction to Econometrics (UG), New York University, teaching assistant for Professor Timothy Roeper
Spring 2024	Introduction to Econometrics (UG), New York University, teaching assistant for Doruk Gökalp
Fall 2025	Introduction to Econometrics (UG), New York University, teaching assistant for Professor Sharon Traiberman

Research Experience and Other Employment

2017–2018	Indian School of Business, Research Associate in Economics and Public Policy for Professor Ashwini Chhatre
2016–2017	BlackRock, Analyst, Research and Modeling Group
2015–2016	Deloitte, Consultant, Analytics and Risk Services

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

2021–2026	MacCracken Fellowship, New York University
2021	Sanghamitra Das Memorial Gold Medal, Indian Statistical Institute
2019–2021	Graduate Fellowship, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi
2013–2015	Graduate Fellowship, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

Research Papers

Adapting to Artificial Intelligence: Worker Skill Investment after ChatGPT (Job Market Paper)

How do incumbent workers adjust their human capital when a new technology changes the value of existing skills? I study this question using quarterly résumé histories for 1.5 million U.S. workers from 2018 through 2025 and the public release of ChatGPT as a common shock. Treatment intensity is the pre-release AI exposure of a worker's occupation. Workers in more exposed occupations become substantially more likely to earn AI-related credentials after ChatGPT. This increase does not represent a broad expansion of training: the same workers reduce certification in adjacent technical fields, including data science and cloud/IT, and in other discretionary subjects such as marketing and finance, while safety and compliance credentials do not move and total certification does not increase. The response is therefore primarily a reallocation of human-capital investment across skills. Adjustment is stronger among postgraduates, workers with technical backgrounds, employees at large firms, workers with shorter tenure, and workers already employed in technology industries. Employer demand for AI skills subsequently rises more in exposed occupations, but worker certification begins to increase before this rise in vacancy demand becomes clearly detectable. The findings are consistent with workers reallocating skill investment in anticipation of technological change before changes in posted labor demand are fully visible.

Effect of Fast Internet Access on Human Capital Formation: Evidence from India

Educating children in developing countries continues to pose a challenge, and technology might be a potential solution. This paper explores the most basic technology: the availability of affordable, fast internet access and its impact on human capital outcomes. I exploit the phased rollout of BharatNet, India's national rural broadband programme, estimating 2SLS specifications with district and time fixed effects and instrumenting phased treatment with a district's terrain ruggedness index, since Phase 1 prioritized blocks requiring less optical fibre to connect and cable requirements are themselves a function of terrain. The sample combines three rounds of India's National Sample Survey on Household Social Consumption: Education, covering roughly 164,000 rural households across up to 651 districts, with district-level rollout data. I document a positive and significant impact of fast internet access on educational enrollment at the middle and secondary levels. There is a noticeable shift in major choice from humanities to science at the secondary level, along with an increase in preference for medicine courses and a decrease in IT and computer courses at the tertiary level. Lastly, I document an increased preference for private institutions.

Selected Projects

Predicting Corporate Default: A Dynamic Logit Benchmark versus Machine Learning (with Kunal Garg)

Skills and Competences

Languages	English (fluent), Hindi (native), Bengali (native)
Programming	Python, R, Stata, SQL, SAS