

Johar Cassa-Avendaño

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EDUCATION

Emory University

Atlanta, GA

Ph.D. in Economics

08/2023–

Coursework: Causal Inference with Longitudinal and Panel Data, Empirical Industrial Organization, International Trade Theory, Labor Economics, Market Structures and Imperfect Competition, Econometrics I & II, Microeconomics I & II, Macroeconomics I & II, Probability Theory and Statistical Inference.

Universidad Nacional de San Antonio Abad del Cusco - UNSAAC

Cusco, Peru

B.A. in Economics (First-generation college student)

2012–2016

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics, Economics of Education.

WORK IN PROGRESS

— *This paper could get us real 3% raise or nothing: Evidence on returns to publications in economics*, joint with Chris Karbownik and Alexis Toda.

Presented at the Emory Economics Lunch and Learn Seminar (Spring 2026).

— *What's in a master's degree? Signaling versus human capital in returns to master's degrees in Ecuador*, joint with Chris Karbownik and Cristhian Rosales-Castillo.

— *Effects of School Infrastructure in a Developing Country: Evidence of the Millennium Schools in Ecuador*, joint with Chris Karbownik and Cristhian Rosales-Castillo.

PRE-DOCTORAL WORK

— *“Minimum Wages and the Labor Market in Peru”* (2021), joint with Diego Winkelried.

Presented at the 2021 Labor Economics Summer School at Barcelona School of Economics (BSE), and the 2021 Virtual Seminar Series on Minimum Wages and Low Wage Policies at Institute for Employment and Research (IAB) & Labor and Socio-Economic Research Center (LASER) of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to Chris Karbownik

Fall 2024, Spring 2025

Emory University

Research Assistant to Alejandro Sanchez

Summer 2024, Summer 2026

Emory University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

ECON 320: Econometrics LAB 3 & 4 (Undergraduate)

Fall 2026

Emory University

Teaching Assistant to David McMillon

ECON 450: Economics of Discrimination (Undergraduate)

Spring 2026

Emory University

Teaching Assistant to Maria Arbatskaya

ECON 201: Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate)

Fall 2025

ECON 341: Business & Government (Undergraduate)

Fall 2025

Emory University

Teaching Assistant to Chris Karbownik
ECON 499: Undergraduate Research in Economics (Undergraduate)
ECON 485: Causal Inference (Undergraduate)
Emory University

Spring 2025
Fall 2024

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Graduate Fellowship for Doctoral Studies, Emory University (2023–2028)
- Duke Economics Mentorship Program (2022)
- Opportunity Funds Scholarship, EducationUSA (2020–2021)
- Top 10% of Undergraduate Graduating Cohort, UNSAAC (2017)

POLICY

Employment

Planner, Planning Department
Cusco Regional Government

06-12/2019, 11/2021-06/2022

Data Analyst, Office of Epidemiology and Research
Regional Health Management of Cusco

07/2020-07/2021

Writing

“*Differences in SARS-COV-2 seroprevalence in the population of Cusco, Peru*” (2024). *Global Epidemiology* (7) 100131, joint with C. Huamani, F. Concha-Velasco, et al. Link: [ScienceDirect](#).

OTHER INFORMATION

Programming Languages and Software: Full command of Stata, $\text{\LaTeX}$, and Beamer. Good command of R and Python.

Languages: Quechua (Basic), Spanish (Native), English (Proficient).

Other Activities: Co-founder of [EconThaki](#) from 10/2021 (leading Voces, organized the 2022 reading group, and provided office hours for Ecomienza 2024).

Sport Practiced: Soccer.