# Ipek Tastan

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**Contact Information**

University of Calgary
Department of Economics
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Languages: English, Turkish


**Education**

University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada — 2026 (Expected)
Ph.D. in Economics
*Committee:* Prof. Jean-William Laliberté (Supervisor), Prof. Arvind Magesan, Prof. Leonard Goff

Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey — 2019
M.A. in Economics

Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey — 2016
B.Sc. in Economics

**References**

Jean-William P. Laliberté
Associate Professor
University of Calgary
jeanwilliam.lalibert@ucalgary.ca
Ph.D Supervisor

Arvind Magesan
Associate Professor
University of Calgary
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Thesis Committee Member

Leonard Goff
Assistant Professor
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Thesis Committee Member

Lucija Muehlenbachs
Associate Professor
University of Calgary
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**Research Interests**

Applied Microeconomics, Labour Economics, Health Economics, Gender Economics, Environmental Economics

**Work in Progress**

"Household Labour Supply Dynamics Following Health Shocks: Evidence from Canada" **[Job Market Paper]**


**Abstract:** Health shocks impose substantial economic costs on households, but the spillover effects on unaffected spouses are less well understood. Spouses can increase work to replace lost income ("the added worker effect") or reduce work to provide care, and gender norms may play an important role in these responses. I study how serious health shocks affect household labour supply using administrative data linking hospital records with tax returns for all Canadian married couples from 2004 to 2019. Exploiting variation in the timing of cancer diagnoses, strokes, and acute hospitalizations, I find asymmetric spousal responses by gender. Following a partner's health shock, wives reduce earnings by 4 percent in the first year, with losses persisting at 3.5 percent through year five. Husbands reduce earnings by 1.5 percent initially but recover to baseline within three years. The gender gap widens with shock severity. For strokes, which generate intensive caregiving needs, wives' earnings fall by 7 percent while husbands' earnings increase by 5 percent. The probability of permanent labour force exit rises by 2.0 percentage points for wives compared to 1.6 percentage points for husbands. These patterns emerge despite universal healthcare coverage that eliminates medical cost concerns. The results reveal

that when formal long-term care is limited, households respond to binding caregiving constraints through gender specialization, with women bearing disproportionate and lasting economic costs.

"Targeting Economic Relief: Evidence from Environmental Cleanup on First Nations Reserves with Lucija Muehlenbachs & Laurel Wheeler"

**Funded by:** *Resources for the Future - Resilient Energy Economics Initiative*

**Abstract:** The final cleanup of an oil or gas well is an expensive endeavour, resulting in many yet-to-be-remediated wells scattered across North America. Recent initiatives have devoted billions of dollars in federal funds for the cleanup of these wells. In this paper, we evaluate the impact of a program in Alberta, Canada, that directed some of the federal funding for cleanup toward investment in Indigenous firms and communities. The program would cover up to 50% of the cost to clean up inactive wells, but in certain phases, would cover 100% of the cost if an Indigenous-owned company were contracted to do the cleanup. In one phase, the program specifically earmarked $100 million for closure work on First Nations reserves or Métis Settlements. We show that the added incentives increased well cleanup on First Nations reserves and also led to the creation of new Indigenous-owned companies. During the phases of added subsidies for Indigenous firms, almost half of the funding allocations went to Indigenous-owned companies. Upon removal of the added subsidies, we see a reduction in the hiring of Indigenous-owned companies. Our results shed light on industrial policies aiming to mitigate environmental risks and promote inclusive economic growth.

"Geographic Variation in Healthcare: Patient Migration and Place Effects in Ontario"

"The Reproducibility and Robustness of Economics and Political Science" with Abel Brodeur, Derek Mikola, Nikolai Cook and many others. (R&R in Nature)

Specific role in the paper: Author of one replication report.

**Abstract:** Trust in science is paramount for advancing knowledge. To ensure this trust, scientific research must adhere to transparent processes and yield robust findings. The present study pushes the boundaries of understanding research reliability by mass reproducing and replicating claims from 110 papers in leading economic and political science outlets. The analysis, involving computational reproducibility checks and robustness assessments, reveals several patterns. First, we uncover a high rate (over 85%) of fully reproducible results. Second, excluding very minor errors like missing packages or paths, we uncover coding errors for about 25% of studies, with some studies containing multiple errors. Third, we test the robustness of the results to 5,494 re-analyses. We find a robustness, reproducibility and replicability rate of 71%. Robustness reproducibility rates are relatively higher for re-analyses using new data and lower for re-analyses involving changing the definition of the dependent variable or the sample. Fourth, 52% of reanalysis effect size estimates are smaller than the original published effects, and the average statistical significance of re-analysis is 77% of the original. Last, we rely on a many-analysts approach to answer eight additional research questions. Our findings underscore the need for continued efforts to enhance the transparency and reliability of scientific research.

## Teaching Experience, UCalgary

Sessional Instructor

ECON 209: Engineering Economics — Summer 2023

Teaching Assistant

ECON 201: Principles of Microeconomics — Fall 2025, Fall 2023, Winter 2023, Fall 2022

ECON 203: Principles of Macroeconomics — Summer 2020

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| ECON 209: Engineering Economics | Spring 2024, Winter 2022, Fall 2021 |
| ECON 301: Intermediate Economic Theory - Microeconomics I | Fall 2020 |
| ECON 303: Intermediate Economic Theory - Macroeconomics I | Fall 2024 |
| ECON 357: Intermediate Economic Theory - Microeconomics II | Winter 2024 |
| ECON 359: Intermediate Economic Theory - Macroeconomics II | Fall 2019 |
| ECON 377: Economics and the Environment | Winter 2020 |
| ECON 389: Introduction to Mathematical Economics II | Winter 2025 |
| ECON 427: Energy Economics and Policy | Fall 2024 |
| ECON 481: Behavioural Economics | Winter 2020 |
| ECON 497: Advanced Econometrics | Winter 2021 |
| ECON 491: Managerial and Decision Economics | Spring 2025 |

## Research Experience

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|---|---|
| Research Assistant to Dr. Lucija Muehlenbachs, University of Calgary and Dr. Laurel Wheeler, University of Alberta | 2021- |
| Research Assistant to Dr. Jean-William Laliberté, University of Calgary | 2022-2023 |
| Research Assistant to Dr. Lucija Muehlenbachs, University of Calgary | 2021-2022 |
| Research Assistant to Dr. Arvind Magesan, University of Calgary | 2020-2022 |
| Research Assistant, Department of Economics, Hacettepe University | 2016-2019 |

## Presentations

University of Calgary - Department of Economics Internal Seminar, Oct 2025
CEA, May 2025, Montreal, Canada
University of Calgary - Department of Economics Internal Seminar, Jan 2025
ASSA, Jan 2025, San Fransisco, US
University of Calgary - Electricity Lunch Seminar, Oct 2024
CEA, May 2024, Toronto, Canada

## Grants, Honours, Scholarships & Awards

Faculty of Graduate Studies Doctoral Scholarship, University of Calgary

TA Excellence Award, Department of Economics, University of Calgary

Eyes High International Doctoral Scholarship, University of Calgary

Eyes High International Doctoral Scholarship, University of Calgary

Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship (AGES) - International, Alberta Government

Anton and Dalgarno Memorial Graduate Scholarship, Department of Economics, University of Calgary

## Certifications

Machine Learning with Pyhton - Issued by: IBM 2021

## Softwares

Stata Python ArcGIS Git