

SUJAAN ARYAL

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sujaan-aryal

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Environmental and resource economics, development economics, water economics, agriculture, air quality, migration, remittances

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

2024–present	Ph.D., Economics
University of New Mexico, USA	
2017–2021	B.A., Economics
Kathmandu University School of Arts, Nepal	

ADVISOR

Primary Advisor

Prof. Jingjing Wang, Associate Professor, University of New Mexico – WANG EconLab
<https://sites.google.com/view/jingjingwang>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2025–present	Graduate Research Assistant
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University of New Mexico – WANG EconLab

Research assistant for NSF-funded TRI-CEA project focusing on socioeconomic analysis of controlled environment agriculture. Assist in survey design and implementation for agricultural water users in the Middle Rio Grande Basin. Contribute to data analysis and policy-oriented research on water and agriculture.

2023–2024	Pre-doctoral Fellow / Research Associate
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South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE), ICIMOD

Worked on cost-benefit analysis of springs revival programs in the Indian Himalayan Region. Contributed to research on regional investment gaps in air pollution mitigation across South Asia. Assisted in multi-country forest restoration data and analysis.

2022–2023	Research Intern
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Institute for Integrated Development Studies (IIDS), Nepal

Supported policy research on Nepal's Agriculture Development Strategy. Contributed to gender-responsive budgeting research in collaboration with UN Women Nepal.

TEACHING (at UNM)

Fall 2025	TA ECON 2120-002: Microeconomic Principles
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Spring/Summer 2025	TA ECON 2130: Personal Investing
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Spring 2025

TA ECON 2110-016: Macroeconomic Principles

Fall 2024

TA ECON 2110: Principles of Macroeconomics

Fall 2024

TA ECON 2120: Principles of Microeconomics

PUBLICATIONS

Adhikary, A., Aryal, S., Nepal, M., & Pattanayak, S. K. (2025). *Cost-benefit analysis of springs revival in the Indian Himalayan Region*. International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development.

WORKING PAPERS / IDEAS

2025–present

Dynamic Bioeconomic Model of Pathogen Management in Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) Setup

(Prof. Jingjing Wang, Prof. Benjamin Jones)

Developing a dynamic optimal control model linking pathogen dynamics with leafy greens (Kale) production in CEA firms, characterizing optimal monitoring-treatment strategies through steady-state and stability analysis (phase diagrams) under biological and economic constraints, with simulations implemented in GoldSim.

Return Migrants and Development in Nepal

(Prof. Matías Fontenla)

Using Nepal Living Standards Survey (NLSS IV) dataset to explore how migration and remittances are linked to agricultural productivity, disentangling the effects on farm outcomes across migrant/non-migrant/return-migrant households in Nepal.

CONFERENCES

2025

AERE Summer Conference (Santa Ana Pueblo)

Participant as a graduate student and organizer from the University of New Mexico

2021

South Asian Economics Students Meet (Online)

Presenter: Consumption Instability and the Role of Remittances in South Asia

AFFILIATIONS

2024–present

Secretariat, Nepal Study Center at the University of New Mexico

SKILLS

Programming and statistical software: Stata, R, SPSS, Excel, Qualtrics

Tools: LaTeX, GitHub, GoldSim, HEC-HMS

Languages: English (Fluent), Hindi/Bengali (Conversational), Nepali (Native)

Last updated: March 2026