University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
Department of Economics
4-101 Hanson Hall
1925 Fourth Street South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
U.S.A.

Placement Directors
Kyle Herkenhoff
(612) 624-4558
kfh@umn.edu
Aldo Rustichini
(612) 625-4816
rusti001@umn.edu
Placement Coordinator
Wesley Peterson
(612) 625-6859
pete6046@umn.edu

Curriculum Vitae
Fall 2026

Lakshya Narula

Personal Data

Address
4-101 Hanson Hall
1925 Fourth Street South
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Contact Information
Cell: 612-461-7193
E-mail: narul014@umn.edu
URL: https://lakshyanarula.com

Citizenship: India (F1 Visa)

Major Fields of Concentration

Macroeconomics, International Economics, Monetary Economics, Central Banking, Text Analysis

Education

Degree	*Field*	*Institution*	*Year*
PhD	Economics	University of Minnesota (expected)	2027
MA	Economics	University of Minnesota	2025
MA	Economics	Ashoka University, India	2020
Dual Degree (B. Tech. + M. Tech.)	Ceramic Engineering	Indian Institute of Technology (BHU) Varanasi	2018

Dissertation

Title: "Essays on International Economics and Monetary Policy"
Dissertation Advisor: Professor V.V. Chari
Expected Completion: Summer 2027

References

Reference Name	**Email / Contact Info**	**Address**
Professor V.V. Chari	chari002@umn.edu	Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, 4-101 Hanson Hall, Minneapolis, MN 55455
Professor Larry Jones	lej@umn.edu	Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, 4-101 Hanson Hall, Minneapolis, MN 55455
Dr. Neil Mehrotra	neil.r.mehrotra@gmail.com	Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, 90 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55401

Honors and Awards

2022	*CLA Summer Graduate Fellowship*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
2020	*Academic Excellence Award*, Department of Economics, Ashoka University, Sonipat, Haryana, India
2018	*Gold Medal*, Department of Ceramic Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (BHU) Varanasi

Research Experience

Sep 2023–Present	*Research Analyst*, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. Worked with Dr. Neil Mehrotra as part of the Economic Analysis Group.
May 2020–May 2021	*Research Assistant*, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi. Worked on the "Climate change and internal migration in India" project with Professor Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay.
Jul 2019–Mar 2020	*Research Assistant*, University of Warwick (Remote). Worked with Amit Chaudhary.

Teaching Experience

Spring Semester 2023	*Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. Course: Principles of Econometrics. Taught R programming to undergraduates during recitation sessions.
Spring Semester 2023	*Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. Course: Introduction to Econometrics. Led recitation sessions for junior undergraduates.
Fall Semester 2022	*Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. Course: Principles of Microeconomics. Led recitation sessions for freshmen.

Working Papers

Narula, Lakshya. "Oil Shocks, Capital Outflows, and Optimal Central Bank Policy" **(Job Market Paper)**

Narula, Lakshya. "Policy and Language in the FOMC's Hidden Statement Menu"

Narula, Lakshya. "When Central Bank Vagueness Reveals Low Confidence" (R&R at *Economics Letters*)

Mukhopadhyay, Abhiroop and **Narula, Lakshya**. "Are Citizens Happy When 'She' Is the Leader? Evidence from Rural India"

Work in Progress

Narula, Lakshya. "Household Debt and Optimal Monetary Policy in an Oil-TANK"

Narula, Lakshya. "Directional Reversals in Growth and Inflation Forecasts: Evidence from SPF"

Computer Skills

MATLAB, Stata, Python, R programming, LaTeX, Text Analysis

Languages

Hindi (Bilingual Proficiency), Punjabi (Bilingual Proficiency), English (Advanced)

Abstract(s)

Narula, Lakshya. "Oil Shocks, Capital Outflows, and Optimal Central Bank Policy" **(Job Market Paper)**

How should an energy-importing economy's central bank combine its policy rate with foreign exchange intervention

(FXI) when it faces oil and portfolio shocks? I study this question in a small open economy with imported energy, sticky prices and wages, foreign ownership of long local-currency bonds, and currency dealers with limited position capacity. An oil shock can itself raise the position and premium dealers must carry by worsening the importer's external financing order. A foreign bond sale amplifies that pressure. Sterilized FXI changes the residual order directly, while the policy rate changes domestic demand, inflation, and bond prices. For an oil shock, sterilized FXI remains welfare improving even when the export-side terms-of-trade motive is removed. The model also yields a capacity threshold and a timing result: intervention is most valuable when the order reaches dealers under capacity constraints. I then calibrate the model using Indian data on energy exposure, foreign holdings, reserves, shock persistence, and policy scales. Under the combined oil and portfolio shock, the optimal mix preserves the exchange-rate adjustment required by the real oil loss while limiting the premium created by scarce intermediation.

Narula, Lakshya. "Policy and Language in the FOMC's Hidden Statement Menu"

Before each Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting, the staff prepares several statements that combine current instruments, future policy, and language, while the public observes only the statement the Committee selects. These hidden menus reveal how monetary policy and its communication are designed together. I reconstruct 433 official drafts from 135 meetings and score 429 of them using a fixed large language model (LLM) procedure that generates a joint panel of 30 tenor-specific rate readings. On released statements, the dispersion of these readings ranks the magnitude of immediate repricing across futures, swaps, and Treasury markets and improves historical predictions based on earlier meetings. Applying the same procedure to the official alternatives reveals that, among drafts implementing the same current instruments, the selected statement generally supports more concentrated medium-and long-term rate readings. A second model family reproduces the direction of this ordering. The official record explains the pattern. Staff usually place the expected action and inherited language at the center of the menu, while alternatives and meeting-day revisions encode changes in the future policy path, the reaction function, and the flexibility retained by policymakers. The selected statement therefore reflects how complete policy and communication packages are constructed before the public announcement.

Mukhopadhyay, Abhiroop and **Narula, Lakshya.** "Are Citizens Happy When 'She' Is the Leader? Evidence from Rural India"

Literature on females in leadership positions in politics finds positive effects on the electorate- health and education of children, public goods aimed at women, and women's empowerment. In this paper, we investigate how women political leaders affect the mental well-being of citizens. Using individual-level health survey data from two large states of India, where the headship position for a fixed proportion of village councils is reserved for women, and this allocation is randomized, we find that women electorate in reserved villages are happier relative to men in the unreserved villages. This result also bears out when we use self-reported quality of life as an indicator. We find that while men of all age groups are unhappy under a female leader, women aged 18-49 are happier than their unreserved counterparts, suggesting that women leaders may favor policies which affect gender relations. Mediation analyses indicate that one mechanism at play is that women in reserved villages feel safer when on their own, a channel distinct from those found in the literature. Heterogeneity analyses indicate that this impact on happiness is stronger for women in villages with a lower gender ratio. We also find that women higher up in the socio-economic ladder have the highest marginal effect.