

# Sandra Aguilar-Gomez

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sandraaguilargomez.com

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

July 2021 - June 2022: **UC San Diego, USA.** Postdoctoral scholar at CGT (Center for Global Transformation)

From August 2022: **Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.** Assistant Professor of Economics

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## EDUCATION

### Columbia University

Ph.D., Sustainable Development

(Expected) 2021

M.Phil., Sustainable Development

2020

M.A., Sustainable Development

2019

*Fields: Environmental Economics, Development Economics, Public Health*

*Advisors: Rodrigo Soares (chair), Jeffrey Shrader, Anja Benschaul-Tolonen*

### Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM)

B.A., Economics

2014

Honors thesis - *Violence in Mexico: Drug-related crimes, income effects and consumption adaptation*

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## RESEARCH

### **Job Market Paper - *Adaptation and mitigation of pollution: evidence from air quality warnings***

Standard economic analyses of environmental policy focus on either reducing pollution externalities through mitigation or reducing the harms from exposure by encouraging adaptation. In practice, these issues are both critical, particularly when looking at the health effects of local air pollutants, which can be acute, and policymakers often pair information provision with short and long-run mitigation actions. This paper studies one widely used example of such a policy— air quality alerts. I explore whether, in the context of the Mexico City air quality alert program, information policy is more effective when paired with mitigation. I find that the policy did not improve air quality or health outcomes until the mitigation component, which limited transport emissions, was introduced. I also use sensor-level traffic data, geo-tagged accident reports, and search data as a measure of awareness of the policy to unveil the mechanisms through which considerable short-run improvements in air quality and health are achieved after issuing an alert. I find that the alert reduces car usage even before the driving restrictions enter into place, suggesting that, due to an increased awareness of pollution, people reduce their trips.

### **Selected work in progress**

*Inside the black box of child penalties* with Eva Arceo-Gomez and Elia de la Cruz Toledo. Submitted

*Leadership, public health messaging, and containment of mobility in Mexico during the COVID-19 pandemic* with Eva Arceo-Gomez, Elia de la Cruz Toledo and Pedro Torres

*Weather and credit management* with Emilio Gutierrez, David Heres, David Jaume and Martn Tobal

*Norms Formation: The California Gold Rush and womens roles* with Anja Benschaul-Tolonen

*Measurement error in labor surveys* with Carlo Alcaraz and Javier Cano

*Giving birth under the weather: extreme temperatures and health care provision*

*Biological, material and socio-cultural constraints to effective menstrual hygiene management among secondary school students in Tanzania* with Dani Stoilova, Rebecca Cai, Naomi Heller Batzer, Elias Charles Nyanza and Anja Benschaul-Tolonen

### **Published Work**

Baum, A., Aguilar-Gomez, S., Lightwood, J., Bruzelius, E., Glantz, S. A., Basu, S. (2020). *Estimating the long-run relationship between state cigarette taxes and county life expectancy*. *Tobacco Control*, 29(1), 81-88.

Benschaul-Tolonen A, Aguilar-Gomez S, Heller Batzer N, Cai R, Nyanza EC (2020) Period teasing, stigma and knowledge: A survey of adolescent boys and girls in Northern Tanzania. *PLoS ONE* 15(10): e0239914. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0239914

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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Bank of Mexico - Economic Research Division (DGIE) Summer Research Fellow	<i>July 2019 - Sep 2019</i>
Columbia University - International Affairs Research Assistant for Prof. Jan Svejnar	<i>May 2018 - Dec 2019</i>
Barnard College - Economics Department Research assistant for Prof. Anja Tolonen	<i>May 2017 - Mar 2018</i>
Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine - Arnhold Institute of Global Health Data Science Division. Summer Research Fellow	<i>May 2019 - Jan 2018</i>
Central Bank of Mexico Economic Research Division. Economist.	<i>Mar 2014 - Jul 2016</i>

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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#### **Columbia University**

Teaching assistant, Economic Development, Prof. Michael Gechter	<i>Spring 2020</i>
Teaching assistant, Economic Development, Prof. Miguel Urquiola	<i>Spring 2019</i>
Teaching assistant, Environmental Economics, Prof. Wolfram Schlenker	<i>Fall 2018</i>
Teaching assistant, Marcoeconometrics, Prof. Dalibor Etanovic	<i>Spring 2018</i>
Teaching assistant, Research Methods in Public Policy, Prof. Selcuk Eren	<i>Fall 2017</i>

#### **Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM)**

Main Instructor, Gender economics.	<i>2018, 2019</i>
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### **SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

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Victor L. Urquidi Prize in Economic Research	<i>2020</i>
Student Research Grant, Columbia University Center for Environmental Economics and Policy	<i>2020</i>

Earth Institute Travel Grant	2020
Lead Teaching Fellow, Columbia University	2019 - 2020
Student Research Grant, Columbia University Center for Development Economics and Policy	2019
Wu Fellowship for Research on Health and Public Policy	2017 - 2021
Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University	2016 - 2021
First place, Citibank Economic Research Award	2014
First place in the 5th International Thesis Contest on Violence and Crime in Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nations Development Program	2015
Bank of Mexico Fellowship	2014 - 2016
Academic Excellence Scholarship, ITAM	2009 - 2014

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

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Online Summer Workshop in Environment, Energy, and Transportation (OSWEET)	April, 2021
NBER 2020 Summer Institute: Gender in the Economy	July, 2020
Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE) Virtual Conference	May, 2020
The Workshop in Environmental Economics and Data Science (TWEEDS)	October, 2020
AGW Workshop on Poverty, Development and Globalization, Bangalore, India	June 2019
Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty Washington, DC (poster)	March 2019
North America Young Scholars Initiative Convening, Los Angeles, CA	February 2019
APPAM International Conference, Mexico City, Mexico	July 2018
Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Workshop in Sustainable Development, New York, NY	April 2018
Sustainable Development Research Symposium, New York, NY	April 2018

## SERVICE

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Referee Service: Revista Desarrollo y Sociedad	
Founder and director, Columbia Sustainable Development PhD Mentoring Program	2020
Co-Organizer, Ninth Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Workshop in Sustainable Development	2019
External Relations Officer, Mexican Students Association at Columbia University	2017-2018
Co-organizer, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Workshop on Sustainable Development, Columbia University	2018
Co-organizer, Science and Policy Summer School, Columbia University and Science Po Paris	2017
Advised theses: Ricardo Olivares (ITAM, undergraduate, 2020), Mariana Prez (ITAM, undergraduate, 2021)	
Refereed theses: Karla Doig (ITAM, graduate, 2019), Maria Jos Cota (CIDE, undergraduate, 2021)	

## MEMBERSHIP

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American Economic Association, Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Latin American Association of Environmental and Resource Economists

## SKILLS

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### Computing Skills

Stata, R, QGIS, ArcGIS, LaTeX

### Languages

Spanish (native), English (fluent; Toefl ibt 109/120, Cambridge FCE),  
French (B2)

## REFERENCES

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### Rodrigo Soares (chair)

School of International  
and Public Affairs (SIPA)  
Columbia University  
United States, 10027

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### Jeffrey Shrader

School of International  
and Public Affairs (SIPA)  
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United States, 10027

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### Anja Benschaul-Tolonen

Department of Economics  
Barnard College  
United States, 10027

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### Eva Arceo-Gomez

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Mexico City, 01219

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