

# Eduardo Montero

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## Academic Positions

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2021 – University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy  
*Assistant Professor*

2022, 2019 – 2020 Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies  
*Postdoctoral Scholar*

2018 – 2021 University of Michigan, Ford School of Public Policy  
*Assistant Professor*

## Affiliations

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2021 – Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), *Affiliate*

2021 – National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), *Research Fellow (DEV)*

## Education

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2018 Harvard University  
*Ph.D., Economics*

2011 Stanford University  
*M.S., Statistics*

2010 Stanford University  
*B.A., Economics (with distinction)*

## Research Fields

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Development Economics, Political Economy, Economic History

## Research Papers

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[“The Legacy of Colonial Medicine in Central Africa,”](#) with Sara Lowes, 2021. *American Economic Review*, 111(4): 1284-1314.

[“Concessions, Violence, and Indirect Rule: Evidence from the Congo Free State,”](#) with Sara Lowes, 2021. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 136(4): 2047-2091.

[“Cooperative Property Rights and Development: Evidence from Land Reform in El Salvador,”](#) 2022. *Journal of Political Economy*, 130(1): 48-93.

[“The Effects of Fair Trade Certification: Evidence From Coffee Producers in Costa Rica,”](#) with Raluca Dragusanu and Nathan Nunn, 2022. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 20(4): 1743-1790.

[“Religious Festivals and Economic Development: Evidence from the Timing of Mexican Saint Day Festivals,”](#) with Dean Yang, 2022. Forthcoming, *American Economic Review*.

[“Market Structure and Extortion: Evidence from 50,000 Extortion Payments,”](#) with Zach Y. Brown, Carlos Schmidt-Padilla, and Maria Micaela Sviatschi, 2022. Revision Requested, *Review of Economic Studies*.

## Research In Progress

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“[On the Origins and Consequences of Communal Land Rights](#)” with Etienne Le Rossignol and Sara Lowes

“[Disease, Disparities, and Development: Evidence from Chagas Disease Eradication in Brazil](#)” with Jon Denton-Schneider

“[African Origins of Development in the Colombian Pacific](#)” with Juan Sebastián Galán

“[Bokoko: Supernatural Authority and Political Power in the DRC](#)” with Sara Lowes, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson

“[Age Organization and Accountability: Evidence from the DRC](#)” with Sara Lowes, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson

## Research Synopses for Broader Media

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African Economic History Network - [Historical Experiences and Demand for Health](#) – November 2021

NBER Digest - [Religious Festivals, Agriculture, and Economic Progress in Mexico](#) – August 2021

ProMarket - [Competition for Extortion: Evidence from 50,000 Extortion Payments in El Salvador](#) – February 2021

VoxDev - [Lasting Effects of Colonial-era Resource Exploitation in Congo](#) – January 2020

VoxDev - [Cooperative Property Rights and Development in El Salvador](#) – April 2019

VoxDev - [Historical Experiences and Demand for Health](#) – June 2018

VoxEU - [Historical Experiences and Foreign Aid Efficacy](#) – May 2018

World Bank Development Impact - [Cooperative Property Rights and Development in El Salvador](#) - December 2017

## Book Chapters & Non-Refereed Publications

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“[Traditional Medicine in Central Africa](#),” with Sara Lowes, 2019, *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*, 109: 516-520.

“[King Leopold’s Ghost: The Legacy of Labor Coercion in the DRC](#),” *The Long Economic Shadow of History*. Eds. Stelios Michalopoulos and Elias Papaioannou, CEPR/VOXEU, 2017, (with Sara Lowes)

## Research Awards and Honors

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Becker Friedman Institute, Research Grants for the Study of Economics in Brazil, 2022. “[Health, Income, and Public Finances in a Developing Economy: Evidence from Chagas Disease Eradication in Brazil](#),” (with Jon Denton Schneider)

Teaching Honor Roll, 2021. Ford School PubPol 534 & PubPol 750.001

Pershing Square Venture Fund for Research on the Foundations of Human Behavior, 2020. “[Age Organization and Accountability: Evidence from the DRC](#),” (with Sara Lowes, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson).

Harvard Academy Research Grant, Harvard University, 2020.

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, 2018.

Roger L. Martin Cornerstone Graduate Student Fellowship, Harvard University, 2017.

DFID RA4 Grant, 2017. “[Age Organization and Accountability: Evidence from the DRC](#),” (with Sara Lowes, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson).

Cambridge University Press Dissertation Fellowship, Economic History Association, 2016.

J-PAL Governance Initiative, 2016. "Age Organization and Accountability: Evidence from the DRC," (with Sara Lowes, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson).

Weiss Family Program Fund Grant, 2016. "Addressing Mistrust in Medicine in Central Africa," (with Sara Lowes).

Warburg Fund Grant, 2016. "Land Redistribution and Incomplete Property Rights: Evidence from Land Lotteries in Puerto Rico," (with Raissa Fabregas).

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, 2015.

Institute for Quantitative Social Science Grant, 2015. "Blood Rubber: The Effects of Labor Coercion on Development and Culture in the DRC" (with Sara Lowes)

Warburg Fund Grant, 2015. "Blood Rubber: The Effects of Labor Coercion on Development and Culture in the DRC," (with Sara Lowes).

The History Project Research Grant, Center for History and Economics, 2015. "Blood Rubber: The Effects of Labor Coercion on Development and Culture in the DRC" (with Sara Lowes)

Private Enterprise Development in Low-Income Countries Grant. 2015. "The Impacts of Currency Fluctuations on Ethiopian Firms," (with Alex Segura).

Lab for Economic Applications and Policy Grant (LEAP) Research Grant, 2015. "Blood Rubber: The Effects of Labor Coercion on Development and Culture in the DRC" (with Sara Lowes)

Foundations of Human Behavior Initiative Summer Research Grant, 2014. "Blood Rubber: The Effects of Labor Coercion on Development and Culture in the DRC" (with Sara Lowes)

Graduate Research and Travel Grant, 2014, 2016. "Cooperative Property Rights and Agricultural Development: Evidence from Land Reform in El Salvador."

Lab for Economic Applications and Policy Grant (LEAP) Research Grant, 2013. "The Lasting Impacts of Colonial Medical Campaigns in Central Africa" (with Sara Lowes)

Douglas Dillon Fellow, Harvard University, 2012-2013.

## Professional Activities

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Referee: *American Economic Review*, *AER: Insights*, *Econometrica*, *Economic Journal*, *Explorations in Economic History*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Economic Growth*, *Journal of Economic History*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Politics*, *National Science Foundation*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Economic Studies*

## Seminar and Conference Presentations

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"On the Origins and Consequences of Communal Land Rights":

NOVAFRICA Conference (June 2022)

"Market Structure and Extortion: Evidence from 50,000 Extortion Payments":

World Bank ABCDE Conference (June 2022), Harvard Academy (March 2022), Paris Sorbonne (November 2021), Universidad de Costa Rica (October 2021), SIOE (June 2021), BREAD (May 2021), Harvard Business School BGIE Seminar (October 2020), LANE-HOPE Seminar (Universidad de Los Andes, October 2020)

"Religious Festivals and Economic Development: Evidence from Catholic Saint-Day Celebrations in Mexico":

Brown University (December 2021), University of Washington (November 2021), CEPR Workshop in Political Economy, Cultural Economics and Gender (June 2021), University of Nottingham (March 2021), Vancouver School of Economics (March 2021), RIDGE: Towards Sustainable Growth Workshop (December 2020), NBER Development Economics Meeting (November 2020), ASREC24hr Conference (November 2020), SIOE Conference (June 2020), University of Michigan H2D2 Conference (March 2020), ASREC Conference (March 2020), University of Michigan Political Economy Seminar (November 2019)

*“Cooperative Property Rights and Agricultural Development: Evidence from Land Reform in El Salvador”:*

Economics of Social Sector Organizations (Chicago, October 2020), NBER Organizations (Cambridge, April 2020), Harvard LACLAS Seminar (Cambridge, October 2019), Dartmouth Economics (Dartmouth, October 2019), LACEA-LAMES Conference (Guayaquil, Ecuador, November 2018), Northwestern *Development Rookiefest* (Chicago, IL, May 2018), Stanford University (Palo Alto, CA, May 2018), EHA Conference (San Jose, CA, September 2017)

*“The Legacy of Colonial Medicine in Central Africa”:*

University of Michigan Economic History Seminar (Ann Arbor, MI, April 2019), University of Michigan Economic Development Seminar (Ann Arbor, MI, April, 2019), Deep Rooted Factors in Comparative Development (Brown, RI, May 2018)

*“Concessions, Violence, and Indirect Rule: Evidence from the Congo Free State”:*

NBER Economics of Culture and Institutions Spring Meeting (Cambridge, MA, April 2018), Deep Rooted Factors in Comparative Development (Brown, RI, May 2017); WGAPE (World Bank, DC, April 2016); Conference Sur la Croissance Economique Inclusive en RDC (Kinshasa, DRC, January 2015); B-WGAPE (Cambridge, MA, November 2014); NEUDC (Boston University, MA, October 2014); Macro Lunch (Brown, RI, September 2014)

## Teaching

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Winter 2021	Econ 666: PhD Development Economics II (Graduate), University of Michigan
Winter 2021	PubPol 750.001: Applied Methods for Development (Graduate), University of Michigan
Winter 2021	PubPol 534: Economics of Developing Countries (Graduate), University of Michigan
Winter 2019	PubPol 750.310: Applied Methods for Development (Graduate), University of Michigan
Winter 2019	PubPol 480.001: Global Policy Seminar: Costa Rica (Undergraduate), University of Michigan
Winter 2019	PubPol 558.001: Microeconomics B (Graduate), University of Michigan