

Debbie Amewu

Darla Moore School of Business, University of South Carolina,
1014 Greene Street, Columbia, SC 29208

 [debbie-amewu](#) |  damewu@email.sc.edu |  +1-803-363-7184

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Economics of Crime, Economics of Education

EDUCATION

2022 - PRESENT Ph.D. in Economics, University of South Carolina, United States
2019 - 2020 MSc. Economics, University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom
2014 - 2018 B.A. Economics (First Class), University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana,

RESEARCH

Working Papers

“The Impact of Decreasing Pretrial Detention on the Criminal Case Outcomes of Violent Offenders”

“Do Leadership Transitions Degrade Law Enforcement? Evidence from Sheriff Elections”

“Do Prison reforms work: Evidence Based on the Justice Reinvestment Initiative”

Works In Progress

“Can Machine Learning Improve Pretrial Risk Assessment? Evidence from Virginia’s Public Safety Assessment”

SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS/GRANTS

2025 Darla Moore School of Business Research Grant, with Phil Brookins and Cooper Woodham (\$5,000)
2022 Graduate Assistantship at the University of South Carolina
2019 Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC) Scholarship

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS

2025 (EXPECTED)	Association of Public Policy and Management, Boston, MA (The Impact of Expanding Pretrial Release: Evidence from the Repeal of Presumptions Against Bail in Virginia)
2025 (EXPECTED)	Southern Economic Association 96th Annual Meeting, Houston, TX (The Impact of Expanding Pretrial Release: Evidence from the Repeal of Presumptions Against Bail in Virginia)
2025 (EXPECTED)	American Economic Association conference, Washington The Impact of Expanding Pretrial Release: Evidence from the Repeal of Presumptions Against Bail in Virginia)
2025	Association of Public Policy and Management, Seattle, WA (presented: Do Leadership Transitions Degrade Law Enforcement? Evidence from Sheriff Elections)
2025	Interdisciplinary Policing Workshop, University of South Carolina, SC (presented: Do Leadership Transitions Degrade Law Enforcement? Evidence from Sheriff Elections)
2024	Southeastern Micro Labor Workshop, Clemson University, SC
2023	Carolina Region Empirical Economics Day, University of South Carolina, SC

TEACHING

Primary Instructor:

- ECON 224 Introduction to Economics (Fall 2025)

Teaching Assistant:

- Public Finance ECON562 (Spring 2023)
- Principles of Microeconomics ECON221 (Spring 2023)
- Political Economy ECON516 (Fall 2022)
- Industrial Organization ECON515 (Spring 2023)
- Health Economics HSPM412 (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Experience

AUG 2024 - APR 2025	Research Assistant to Dr. Jessica Brown and Dr. Chris Herbst: “Impact of private equity ownership status on child care companies.”
AUG 2024 - DEC 2024	Research Assistant to Dr. Lindsey Woodworth: “The impact of sheriff characteristics on death investigations”.
MAY 2024 - AUG 2024	Research Assistant to Dr. David Fuente:- Projects involved analysing the impact of various experiments to encourage payment of utility bills in several African countries.
MAY 2024 - AUG 2024	Research Assistant to Dr. Orgul Ozturk
MAY 2023 - JULY 2023	Research Assistant to Dr. Felipe Saenz

Professional Experience

2020-2022	Consultant, Credit Administration Department, PwC, Ghana
2018-2019	Associate, Advisory LoS, PricewaterhouseCoopers Ghana Limited
JUNE - JULY 2017	Call Centre Intern, Dalex Finance and Leasing Company, Ghana

LANGUAGES

ENGLISH: Fluent
AKAN: Native

TECHNICAL SKILLS

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES Python, Matlab, LATEX
SOFTWARE Stata, zTree, MS Office.

REFERENCES

Lindsey Woodworth (Committee Chair)
Department of Economics
University of South Carolina
LINDSEY.WOODWORTH@moore.sc.edu
+1 (803) 777 3602

Sarah Walfogel
Department of Economics
University of South Carolina
SARAH.WALDFOGEL@moore.sc.edu
+1 (610) 348 6423

John Gordanier
Department of Economics
University of South Carolina
JGORDANIER@moore.sc.edu
+1 (803) 777 4943