

Pol Simpson

Primary field: Environment
Secondary fields: Development, Urban

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they/them · Citizenship: UK

Education

The London School of Economics, London, UK. July 2027 (expected)
MRes/PhD in Economics
Advisors: Robin Burgess, Gharad Bryan, Daniel Sturm, Oriana Bandiera

University College London, London, UK. 2019
MSc in Economics, with Distinction

University of Oxford, Oxford, UK. 2014
BA in Economics and Management, First Class

Working papers

Ray of Hope? China and the Rise of Solar Energy
with Ignacio Bañares Sánchez, Robin Burgess, Dávid László, John Van Reenen and Yifan Wang
Revise & Resubmit, The Quarterly Journal of Economics.

Select works in progress

The Economic Incidence of Natural Disasters (Job Market Paper)
with Amen Jalal

Dynamic Costs of Resource Shocks: Evidence from Cape Town's Water Crisis
with Emiliano Rinaldi

Heat Insurance at Work
with Amen Jalal, Ashley Pople, Kartik Srivastava, Eddy Zou and Oriana Bandiera

The Fundamental Need for Shelter: Evidence from the World's Largest Home Reconstruction Program
with Amen Jalal and Canishk Naik

Grants

Total funding as PI or co-PI: \$770,727

£190,000	IGC	The Economic Incidence of Natural Disasters
£90,000	CEPR-STEG	The Economic Incidence of Natural Disasters
\$35,000	Harvard University	The Economic Incidence of Natural Disasters
£5,000	LSE-STICERD	The Economic Incidence of Natural Disasters
\$264,987	JPAL K-CAI	Heat Insurance at Work
\$21,540	The Weiss Fund	Heat Insurance at Work
£10,675	IGC	Heat Insurance at Work
£22,758	IGC	Dynamic Costs of Resource Shocks
\$7,200	The Weiss Fund	Dynamic Costs of Resource Shocks

£5,000	LSE-HER	The Fundamental Need for Shelter
£2,000	Hayek Fund	Local Government Policy and the Spatial Concentration of Poverty
£2,000	LSE-STICERD	Do Migrants Have Worse Access to Urban Amenities?

Presentations

2026	NBER Summer Institute – Environment and Energy Economics; LSE Environment Camp; LSE Environment Week
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Professional service

Organizing Committee	LSE Environment Camp, Co-Chair (2023–); LSE Environment Week, Co-Chair (2022–); LSE Economics of Energy and Environment Reading Group (2021–2025); LSE QueerConf (2023–); Micro and Macro Implications of Household Finance Seminar (2021–2022)
Committees	LSE Diversity and Inclusion Committee in Economics (2021–2023)
Refereeing	American Economic Review; Journal of Urban Economics; European Economic Review; Economica

Teaching

The London School of Economics

Lecturer, School of Public Policy:

Introduction to Statistics	Exec. MPA/MPP	2022–
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Graduate Teaching Assistant, School of Public Policy:

Advanced Empirical Methods for Policy Analysis	MPA	2021–2026
Empirical Methods for Public Policy	Exec. MPA/MPP	2020–2022
Introduction to Statistics	Exec. MPA/MPP	2020–2022

Policy writing

[Ray of Hope? The Rise of Solar Energy in China.](#) VoxDev 2026.

[How the Rural Poor Cope with a Climate Catastrophe: Evidence from Pakistan's 2022 Floods.](#) STEG 2025.

[The Impact of Flooding on Migration and Occupational Change amongst the Rural Poor: Evidence from Pakistan.](#) IGC 2023.

Previous employment

Institute for Fiscal Studies , Research Economist	2016 – 2020
UK Government Economic Service , Assistant Economist	2014 – 2016

Awards

LSE Department of Economics PhD Studentship (2020–2025); Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust Graduate Bursary (2025–2027); UCL Faculty Dean's List Commendation (2019); New College (Oxford) Academic Scholarship (2012); Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust Undergraduate Bursary (2011–2014)

References

Robin Burgess

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Daniel Sturm

Professor of Economics, LSE
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Gharad Bryan

Associate Professor of Economics, LSE
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Oriana Bandiera

Sir Anthony Atkinson Professor of Economics, LSE
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