HÉCTOR ALBERTO BOTELLO PEÑALOZA
Contact Information

- **Mobile**: +1 509-595-9909
- **Email**: hector.botello@wsu.edu

Educational Institution

- **Current School**: Washington State University, USA
- **PhD Program**: Economics
    - **Year of Entry**: 2020
    - **Expected Year of Completion**: 2026

Research Area of Interest

- Economic development, poverty reduction, and the role of entrepreneurship in emerging economies.

Faculty Member Providing a Letter of Recommendation

- Jeffrey Luckstead. Professor & Graduate Director
  jluckstead@wsu.edu

Curriculum Vitae

Hector Alberto Botello Peñaloza

Email: hector.botello@wsu.edu
Mobile: +1 (509) 595-9909
Date of Birth: April 6, 1989
Nationality: Colombian

Education

Ph.D. in Economics (in progress)
Washington State University, USA
Expected Graduation: April 2026

Master in Economic Science
Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia
Graduated: April 2019

Bachelor of Economics (Cum Laude)
Universidad Industrial de Santander, Colombia
Graduated: June 2012

Research Interests

- **Entrepreneurship:** Firm entry and exit, SME growth, role of social capital in new ventures
- **Entrepreneurial Finance:** Access to credit, capital constraints, venture capital in emerging markets
- **Innovation:** Technological adoption, R&D policy, productivity improvements
- **Development Economics:** Poverty reduction, labor markets, public policy design

Selected Research Experience

Senior Researcher 04/2012–08/2021
Universidad Industrial de Santander, Colombia

- Investigated quality-of-life indicators and entrepreneurship potential in Colombian regions.
- Used firm-level microdata (including industrial and household surveys) to evaluate the impact of public policies on local business creation.
- Applied spatial and econometric methods to assess how social capital affects the formation and survival of new ventures.

Consultant 05/2018–04/2020
United Nations FAO, Colombia

- Led impact evaluation of a school feeding program in Bogotá, focusing on local economic effects.
- Implemented quasi-experimental designs and large administrative datasets to measure changes in nutrition and socio-economic outcomes.

Researcher (External Sector) 11/2014–12/2016
Central Bank of Colombia

- Examined how exchange and monetary policies affect business financing and new venture growth.
- Analyzed large panel data on firms' financing structures to identify constraints on credit access.

Selected Teaching Experience

Instructor (In-Person) Fall 2023–Spring 2025
Washington State University

- **ECON 302: International Trade** (Fall 2023)
- **ECON 321: Economics of Sports in America** (Spring 2024)
- **ECON 452: Advanced Business Management Economics** (Summer 2024, Fall 2024)
- **ECON 323: Labor Economics** (Spring 2025)

Assistant Professor (In-Person) 2012–2014
Industrial University of Santander & St Thomas University, Colombia

- Taught Macroeconomics, Monetary Policy, and Fiscal Policy to undergraduates.

Awards & Honors

- Best Research Award, Global Congress on Accounting and Finance (2013)
- Best Research Award, Latin American Federation of Banks (FELABAN) (2018)
- Best Research Award, IDB Innovation Network (2018)
- Mobility Scholarship, Santander Bank (2011)
- Cum Laude, Bachelor's Degree, Universidad Industrial de Santander (2012)

Relevant Research Funding

- **Innovation Determinants in Colombia** (2016–2017)
  Funded by Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
  Focus: Impact of innovation policies on entrepreneurship and firm performance.
- **Determinants of Pension System Contribution** (2017–2018)
  Funded by World Bank
  Focus: Savings behavior, policy effects on household financial decisions, and labor-market implications.

Selected Publications Relevant to Entrepreneurship and Innovation

- **Botello, H. A. B. (2015).** "Determinants of access to credit for SMEs: evidence at the level of the firm in Latin America." *Apuntes del Cenes*, 34(60), 247–276.
  Cited 52 times in Google Scholar. Explores firm-level constraints in acquiring external finance.
- **Botello, H. A. B. (2015).** "Determinants of access to credit for SMEs in Colombia." *Ensayos de Economía*, 25(46), 135–156.
  Cited 64 times. Examines policy factors affecting Colombian SMEs' credit constraints.

- **Botello, H. A., & Rincón, I. G. (2019).** "Competition, market concentration and innovation in Ecuador." *Ecos de Economía*, 23(48), 16–33.
  Assesses how market structures influence innovative activity among Ecuadorian firms.

- **Botello, H. A. (2014).** "Condiciones y determinantes de la internacionalización de las empresas industriales latinoamericanas." *Apuntes*, 41(75), 47–78.
  Cited 45 times. Identifies key drivers of export and FDI decisions in Latin American enterprises.

- **Botello, H. A. (2016).** "Las certificaciones de calidad y la internacionalización de las firmas industriales colombianas." *Suma de Negocios*, 7(16), 73–81.
  Cited 79 times. Explores how quality certifications impact export performance.

- **Botello, H. A. B., Avella, A. C. P., & Contreras-Pacheco, O. E. (2015).** "Análisis empresarial de la influencia de las TIC en el desempeño de las empresas de servicios en Colombia." *Revista Virtual Universidad Católica del Norte*, 45, 3–15.
  Cited 87 times. Studies the effects of ICT adoption on productivity and competitiveness.

Research Metrics

- 38+ publications in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters
- Google Scholar (Feb 2020): 1177 citations, H-index 18, i10-index 28

Language & Technical Skills

Languages: English (TOEFL 100), Spanish (Native)

Software and Data Handling:

- **Stata, R, SPSS:** Advanced econometric modeling for large panel and cross-sectional data
- **Python** Competent in Machine learning, data mining, visualization, and reporting
- **SAS** Competent in data analysis, data mining, visualization, and reporting
- **Tableau, Microsoft Office EXCEL** Excellent proficiency for presentation and business analytics
- **Big Data Experience:** Management of large-scale datasets (e.g. World Bank Enterprise Surveys), panel data handling, and cloud-based data processing

Essay

My current research investigates how e-commerce adoption affects Peruvian women's income levels amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Sounds interesting; can you summarize that a little bit more? Using a difference-in-differences-in-differences model and longitudinal data from the Encuesta Nacional de Hogares, I show that e-commerce adoption increases income resilience for many women despite facing substantial barriers. Such barriers include fragile digital infrastructure, socio-cultural norms, and inter-regional differences.

Going forward, I plan to expand my study to include cross-country comparisons. I aim to investigate how similar digital adoption strategies affect women in other Latin American nations and whether policy choices can strengthen or weaken the impact of e-commerce on entrepreneurship. I will also explore the role of venture capital and microfinance institutions in helping women launch or scale their digital businesses.

I am eager to attend the NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp because it will deepen my knowledge of current methods in entrepreneurial finance research. I want to learn state-of-the-art approaches to evaluate policies enabling women to overcome digital market structural barriers. I hope to discuss thoughts and ideas with leading scholars and other doctoral students who study entrepreneurship. These connections and insights will refine my dissertation and strengthen my capacity to recommend credible and data-driven policies to regions facing economic hardship. Ultimately, I want my findings to guide thoughtfully crafted interventions that enable more women to thrive within the rapidly changing digital economy.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
School of
Economic Sciences

February 5, 2025

Dear NBER Boot Camp:

I am pleased to strongly recommend Héctor Botello for the 2025 NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp. As chair of Héctor's dissertation committee, I have closely guided his research, which examines the impacts of COVID-19 on labor-market outcomes in Peru. Héctor is an excellent scholar—creative, self-motivated, and highly dedicated to producing meaningful and impactful research. His dissertation chapters are of exceptional quality, built upon his own ideas and research agenda.

Héctor holds the highest standards of academic integrity and approaches research with remarkable attention to detail and tenacity. In addition, he is a pleasure to work with, and I greatly enjoy our bimonthly meetings. I am confident that he will be a valuable addition to the 2025 NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Luckstead

Jeff Luckstead
Professor

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Email: jluckstead@wsu.edu