Abdulrazzak Tamim

A short description of the course of graduate study pursued and the years of enrollment in the PhD program

I am currently pursuing a PhD in Economics at UC Berkeley, having enrolled in 2022 with an expected completion date of 2027. This places me in my fourth year of the program as of September 2025. My coursework and research focus on development economics, with particular emphasis on water economics, migration and displacement studies, and the application of econometric methods to policy-relevant questions affecting vulnerable populations.

A short description of research interests, any research projects that are in process, and when appropriate, a dissertation title, short description, and list of committee members.

My research agenda centers on understanding how external shocks – including climate change, conflict, and policy interventions – affect vulnerable populations and their livelihoods. I employ rigorous empirical analysis with a commitment to informing policy solutions that address both immediate humanitarian needs and long-term resilience.

Primary Research Areas:

- Equity-efficiency tradeoff in the allocation of scarce resources
- Migration and displacement economics, particularly refugee integration
- Applied econometrics and causal inference methods
- Large-scale analysis using satellite imagery and machine learning tools

1. Current Research Projects:

My primary dissertation research examines water rationing policies and their distributional effects using comprehensive billing data from a major water provider in Jordan covering nearly one million residential and non-residential meters. This project investigates how time-based water rationing affects different households and explores the role of household storage capacity in determining policy effectiveness.

I am also developing machine learning methods to predict rooftop storage tank capacities from satellite imagery at scale. This innovative approach combines computer vision techniques with ground-truth household survey data to better understand storage behavior and inform water policy design.

2. Published Research

- "Housing Subsidies for Refugees: Experimental Evidence on Life Outcomes and Social Integration in Jordan" (NBER Working Paper 33408, 2025)
- "Relaxing Credit and Information Constraints: Five-Year Experimental Evidence from Tanzanian Agriculture" (Economic Development and Cultural Change, 2025)
- "The Syrian Refugee Life Study: First Glance" (Oxford Review of Economic Policy, 2022)

3. Recent Professional Development:
I recently began consulting positions with Scale AI and Mercor, focusing on improving economic models that leverage AI tools for complex problem-solving, including quantitative equilibrium models. I also participated in the Machine Learning in Economics Summer Institute (MLESI) at the University of Chicago, where I further developed skills in applying AI methods to economic research.

4. Dissertation Committee:

Edward Miguel, Nano Barahona, Kelsey Jack, Nick Tsivanidis

Contact information:
Abdulrazzak Tamim
Department of Economics
530 Evans Hall #3880
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720-3880
E-mail: atamim@berkeley.edu