

Edwar E. Escalante

Contact Information

Norris-Vincent College of Business
Angelo State University
ASU Station #10908
San Angelo, TX 76909-1030

Email: Eescalante@angelo.edu
Web: www.edwarescalante.com
Phone: +1 443-789-2805

Research Fields: Political Economy, Development Economics, Comparative Politics, Conflict
Regions of Research: Peru, Chile, Latin America.

Academic Employment

Norris-Vincent College of Business at Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX Economics Instructor	2019-Present
Free Market Institute at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX Research Associate	2019-Present

Education

Texas Tech University, Ph.D. Agricultural and Applied Economics Dissertation: <i>The Political Economy of Violence and Development in Latin America</i>	2019
Texas Tech University, MS Agricultural and Applied Economics, Thesis: <i>Economics of Terrorism and Counter-terrorism in Peru</i>	2017
State University of San Antonio Abad, Cusco, Peru, BA Electrical Engineering, (Peru)	2007

Writing Sample

- “Did Pinochet Cause the Chilean Miracle?”

Abstract: This paper analyzes the impact of Augusto Pinochet’s autocracy on the Chilean economy. The study compares outcomes under Pinochet’s leadership with those in a synthetic counterfactual made of a weighted average of countries with similar characteristics. I find that, relative to the control, income per capita did not diverge till several years after Pinochet’s coup. In contrast, health outcomes measured by life expectancy improved immediately after Pinochet’s installment, though only slightly. The evidence I present suggests that the remarkable economic growth did not depend on Pinochet’s autocracy. Also, the results on life expectancy show that positive health effects may not be an exclusive consequence of democracies.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- “Night Watchers and Terrorists”
Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, 2020.
- “Fighting on Christmas: Brawling and Self-Governance in Rural Peru.” (with Raymond March)
Journal of Institutional Economics, 2019.

Research Papers

- “Hierarchies, Women and Violence”

Abstract: This paper investigates insurgencies’ organizational structures and the recruitment of women. I argue that differences in campaigns’ structures across insurgencies play an essential role in the recruitment of women. In more hierarchical campaigns, organizations are more likely to recruit women, as incorporating them is less disruptive. When a campaign is consensus-based and organizations anticipate potential internal conflict, they are less likely to recruit women. I evaluate my theory by exploiting a panel dataset on female participation and violent campaigns active from 1945 to 2006 across ninety countries. My results provide empirical support for the main hypotheses.

- “Terrorism and Crime: The Self-defense Association in Peru”
(Presented at the Arizona State University - Voluntary Governance Conference 2020)

Abstract: According to conventional wisdom, self-enforcing agreements do not scale up. Several societies are able to provide order and security when the group is small, but when the group is larger, collective action seems to be more efficient if organized by state-like institutions. This paper covers a specific case where thousands of peasant patrols built partnerships that scaled up to national proportions with no central direction. The organizational patterns of these patrols resulted in a vast peasant movement that played a decisive role in defeating crime and terrorism in Peru at the end of XX century. For effective enforcement the inter-groups interactions rested on a polycentric order that resisted potential predation and, expanded organizational patters. This emerging jurisdictional hierarchy aggregated their demand and heterogeneous backgrounds on the direction of more general interest.

- “The Guano Republic: Economic Growth and Political Rights in Peru”
(Presented at Southern Economic Association 2020)

Abstract: Scholars have produced extensive literature to understand the mechanisms by which inclusive political institutions and economic growth take place. I examine the Guano era in Peru between 1845 and 1880 and the effects on Peru’s economic and political development. The sudden natural resource wealth contributed to the improvement of the country’s economic performance. The growing economy accompanied a political reform that abolished slavery and granted voting rights and representation to an emerging class of citizens. The political process ended with the establishment of a new constitution that constrained the power of the executive branch. However, the resource wealth was not enough to suffocate the coalitions contesting the reforms and at the end of the cycle Peru suffered a reversal due to a decline on the economy, external threats and internal rebellions. By using historical data on notarized loans, I examine the role of the resource wealth on the access of non-elite members to the credit markets with subsequent effects on the overall economy and political institutions.

- “The Shining Path of Peru: A Rationale for Rebellion”

Abstract: Most violent political insurgencies display resilient structures that allow their growth, control of their members, and effective engagement in coordinated violence. Violent political organizations have to provide incentives to avoid internal rent-seeking and, at the same time, discourage potential competition that could undermine the direction and success of the insurgency. I study how insurgencies’ response to this trade-off determines their political and military structures. A vertical and centralized hierarchy will predominate in the political arm and will have loyalty-based promotion rules. By contrast, a horizontal hierarchy will prevail in the military arm of the organization and will have up-or-out promotion arrangements. The evidence rests on the analysis of the Shining Path, the most radical face of the Communist revolution in the Western Hemisphere, and a pioneer organization for most recent insurgencies. The variation of its internal hierarchy, I argue, played a significant role in its dramatic growth from a small group of students to a terrorist organization with international outreach.

Published Policy Pieces

- Peru: President Humala Should Push for More Economic Freedom (with James Roberts), Report Americas, The Heritage Foundation, 2014.
- La mano invisible del Estado, Revista Perspectiva, Colombia, 2012.
- Narco-Terrorism in Peru: The Return of Shining Path (with James Roberts), Report Americas, The Heritage Foundation, 2009.
- Fighting for Freedom in Rural Peru: “ALBA Houses” Threaten Democracy (with James Roberts), Report Americas, The Heritage Foundation, 2008.
- Populism Clouds Peru’s Presidential Race (with Stephen Johnson), Report Americas, The Heritage Foundation, 2006.

Teaching Experience

- **As a Professor (at Norris-Vincent College of Business at Angelo State University):**
Principles of Microeconomics, ECON 2302
Principle of Macroeconomics, ECON 2301
International Economics, ECON 4307
Economic Development, ECON 4381
- **As a Graduate Instructor (at Texas Tech University):**
Applied Business Economics, BECO 4310-004, **Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University** Fall 2017, Spring 2018
- **As a Visiting Instructor in Guatemala (Universidad Francisco Marroquin):**
Advanced Seminar on Economics, Economics Department, **Universidad Francisco Marroquin, UFM** Guatemala, Spring 2017

- As a Lecturer in Peru at Universidad Nacional de San Antonio Abad (SAA)- Andes Libres Institute (AL):

Note: Universidad Nacional San Antonio Abad is the third oldest in the American continent and one of the greatest public universities in Peru.

Development Economics (at SAA)
 Neo-Institutional Economics (at SAA)
 Innovation and Entrepreneurship (at AL)
 Governance and Policy-making (at AL)

Grants & Funding

- Fellowship, Free Market Institute at Texas Tech University 2015-18
- Institute of Humane Studies, PhD Fellowship 2016-19
(US\$1,500, US\$5,000)
- Institutional Grants, Atlas Economic Research Foundation Partner 2011-15
(US\$200,000)

Awards

- Hayek Fund, Institute of Humane Studies (IHS) 2018
- Young Scholar Award, Association of Private Enterprise Education 2016-17
- Francisco Marroquin for Student Outreach, 2013
Note: This Award is given to Andes Libres Institute under Edwar Escalante's Direction for "its exceptional work with student groups in the most difficult areas of Peru" from Atlas Network Foundation, based in Washington, DC.

Past Professional Activities

- Executive Director and Founder, Andes Libres Public Policy Institute 2008-2015
Andes Libres is an educational think tank based in Cusco, Peru
 - Educational Programs
 - Fundraising
 - Local Policy
 - External Relations
 - Partnered with Universidad Nacional de San Antonio Abad de Cusco, Peru.

Skills

- **Data management:** Stata, Python.
- **Languages:** Quechua, Spanish, English, French (Intermediate).
- **Online Teaching:** Training eLearning Workshops Blackboard.

Invited Talks

“Governing the Commons against Terrorism”

Invited Speaker, Economics Department, New Orleans University, (2018)

“Public Choice Economics”

Invited Speaker, State University of San Marcos, Lima -Peru, (2018)

“Economics of Terrorism”

Invited Speaker, Economics Department, Universidad Francisco Marroquin, UFM, Guatemala (2017)

“Governing the Commons against Terrorism”

Invited Speaker, Center Henry Hazlitt, Universidad Francisco Marroquin, UFM, Guatemala (2017)

“Synthetic Controls”

Visiting Professor, Economics Department, Universidad Francisco Marroquin, UFM, Guatemala (2017)

“Running a Think Tank in the Andes”

Invited Speaker, Atlas Network, Washington D.C., USA (2008)

- **Referee Reports:**

Journal of Private Enterprise

Journal of Institutional Economics

- **Affiliations:**

Ostrom Workshop, Indiana University

2018-Present

Public Choice Society

2016-Present

Southern Economic Association

2016-Present