Seyni Da, Ph.D.

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Research interests: International Finance, Geoeconomic Fragmentation, Development Economics, Monetary Economics, Capital Market Modeling and Econometrics.

EDUCATION

American University, Washington, DC *2020 – 2026*
Ph.D. in Economics
Thesis: Foreign Capital Flows, Risks and Development in Emerging Economies.
Advisors: Kara Reynolds (Chair), Gabriel Mathy, and Ralph Sonenshine
M.A. in Economics *2021*

University of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso *1999 – 2005*
Diploma for Advanced Studies, Economics (MPhil) *2003 – 2005*
Thesis: Optimality and Sustainability of the West African Monetary Zone.
M.A., Macroeconomics and Development Management *2002 – 2003*
B.A., Macroeconomics and Development Management *1999 – 2002*

PUBLICATIONS

Da, S., & Sonenshine, R. (2022). "The Impact of Vertical Theories of Harm on Investor Returns: An Event Study of US Vertical Mergers." *Journal of Risk and Financial Management*, 15(7), 315. https://doi.org/10.3390/jrfm15070315

WORKING PAPERS

Job Market Paper: "Hedging Political Risk: Currency Derivatives, Monetary Regimes, and FDI in Emerging Markets." *Under review*, *Journal of International Money and Finance* (review status).
"Absorptive Capacity and the Total Factor Productivity Effects of FDI."
"Resource Nationalism and Domestic Value Capture: Effects of Export Bans on FDI and Processing-Sector Employment in Resource-Rich Economies," with Craig Parsons.
"Does Trade Fragmentation Insulate Emerging Markets from U.S. Monetary Policy?"
"Tariffs and the Dollar: Does Trade Fragmentation Lead to Financial Fragmentation?"

WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Who Pays for Resource Nationalism? Critical Mineral Export Restrictions and Processed Mineral Import Prices," with Craig Parsons.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

American University, Washington, DC, USA
Adjunct Professor, School of International Service *Summer 2026– Present*
Design and deliver undergraduate curriculum in international economics.
Manage course integration and technical instruction via Achieve and Canvas.

Adjunct Faculty, Department of Finance, Kogod School of Business *Fall 2026– Present*
Instruct *Business Finance*, covering financial statement analysis, capital budgeting, and valuation.

Develop course materials bridging complex financial theories with practical business applications.

Ginnie Mae, Economic Modeling Division, Washington, DC, USA
Financial Economist *Jul 2022 – Dec 2022*
Produced metadata for 16 loan performance models for mortgage-backed securities (MBS) and contributed to Global Market Analysis reports.

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, DC, USA
Senior Economist *May 2014 – Jun 2017*
Collected and analyzed quantitative data on food security, poverty, agricultural potential, natural resources and nutrition in three Sub-Saharan African countries (Mali, Niger, Chad).
Led training sessions of farmer associations on the innovative techniques to enhance agricultural yields and increase their access to international markets.

National Committee for Economic Policy, Finance Ministry, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
Lead Economist (2010–2012); Economist (2007–2010) *2007 – 2012*
Managed technical teams to produce quarterly economic outlooks used for the Multilateral Surveillance Mechanism among Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to ensure sound macroeconomic foundations.
Implemented DSGE models for growth planning; Participated in multiple reviews of the country economic and financial performances conducted jointly by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank from 2009 to 2012.
Served as the spokesperson of Burkina Faso during ECOWAS regional meetings to discuss the economic and financial performances of each member state and efforts to meet the criteria of the Convergence and Stability Pact.

RESEARCH & TEACHING

Research Assistant, American University *2020 – 2022*
Collected data on 140 M&As; computed CARs using the Fama–French four-factor model.
Teaching Assistant, American University *2020 – 2024*
Supported instruction for Graduate and Undergraduate Microeconomics.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION & SERVICE

NBER Summer Institute: "Capital Markets and the Economy," Cambridge, MA *Jul 2026*
NBER Summer Institute: "Big Data and High-Performance Computing for Financial Economics," Cambridge, MA *2024, 2025*
NBER Conference: "Financial Market Frictions and Systemic Risks," Washington, DC *Sept. 2024*
WEAI Annual Conference: Presenter (2024, 2025, 2026); Discussant (2025, 2026).

CERTIFICATES, GRANTS, & SKILLS

Certificates: MIT Professional Education, Certificate of Completion, "No Code AI and Machine Learning: Building Data Science Solutions" *Feb 2026*
Grants: Graduate Scholarship (2020–22); Vollmer Foundation Scholarship (2020–21).
Skills: Python, Stata, MATLAB, R, RapidMiner, KNIME, LaTeX.
Languages: English (fluent), French (native speaker).
Citizenship: US citizen.

REFERENCES

All at the Department of Economics, American University, Washington, DC 20016, USA.

Kara Reynolds (Chair)
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Ralph Sonenshine
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Gabriel Mathy
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Erin George
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