

# Salvador Contreras

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
Department of Economics and Finance  
(956) 665- 2827  
Email: [salvador.contreras@utrgv.edu](mailto:salvador.contreras@utrgv.edu)

## EDUCATION

- PhD, Claremont Graduate University, 2007  
Major: Economics  
Dissertation Title: Human Capital Accumulation, Heterogeneous Households, and Economic Development
- MA, Claremont Graduate University, 2002  
Major: Politics, Economics, and Business
- BA, University of La Verne, 2000  
Major: Political Science

## EMPLOYMENT

### Academic - Administrative Assignments

- Director, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley ( 2015)
- ADVANCE Administrative Fellow, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (September 2017 - May 2018)

### Academic - Post-Secondary

- Associate Professor, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley ( 2015)
- Director, University of Texas Pan American (2012 - 2015)
- Assistant Professor of Economics, The University of Texas - Pan American (August 2009 - August 2015)
- Assistant Professor of Economics, McNeese State University (August 2007 - June 2009)
- Lecturer, University of Redlands (September 2006 - May 2007)
- Lecturer, California State University (August 2005 - December 2006)

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles

Salvador Contreras. Looking for status appeal? Act interested in your child's education. *International Journal of Social Economics*. no. 3 (2017)

Salvador Contreras. For Economic Advantage or Something Else? A Case for Racial Identification

Switching. *The Review of Black Political Economy*. (December 2016)

Salvador Contreras. An alternative view to the cause of market failures: a dynamic approach. *Theoretical Economics Letters*. (2014)

Suzanne Gonzalez, Chun Xu, Mercedes Ramirez, Juan Zavala, Regina Armas, Salvador Contreras, Javier Contreras, Albana Dassori, Robin Leach, Deborah Flores, Suggestive evidence for association between L-type voltage-gated calcium channel (CACNA1C) gene haplotypes and bipolar disorder in Latinos: a family-based association study. *Bipolar disorders*. 15, no. 2 (2013): 206–214.  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3781018/>

Salvador Contreras. The Influence of Migration on Human Capital Development. *International Economic Journal*. 27, no. 3 (July (3rd Quarter/Summer) 2013)  
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10168737.2012.659277>

Salvador Contreras, Francisco Badua, and Mitchell Adrian. Peer Effects on Undergraduate Business Student Performance. *International Review of Economic Education*. 11, no. 1 (2012)

Salvador Contreras, Francisco Badua, Jim Chen, and Mitchell Adrian. Documenting and Explaining Major Field Test Results Among Undergraduate Students. *Journal of Education for Business*. 86, no. 2 (2011): 6. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08832323.2010.480987>

Salvador Contreras. A theoretical exposition of migration enforcement on existing migrant and domestic households. *Journal of Regional Science*. 51, no. 3 (October (4th Quarter/Autumn) 2011): 821-835.

Salvador Contreras. Parental Quality Investment, Child Effort, and Human Capital Accumulation. *International Economic Journal*. 25, no. 3 (September 2011): 387-417.

Salvador Contreras and Francisco Badua. A Major Choice: Differential Effects of Academics, Demographics, and Effort-Tolerance on Major Selection. *The Journal of Academic Administration in Higher Education*. v.4, (2008): pp. 41-48.

Salvador Contreras. Child Labor Participation, Human Capital Accumulation, and Economic Development. *Journal of Macroeconomics*. v.30, (2008): pp. 499–512.

Abdelhamid Riani, Salvador Contreras, and Nathaniel Karp. Texas border MSAs and their reliance on Mexican Tourist. *Regional Science & Urban Economics*.

## Other

Salvador Contreras. Trade, Trade War, Texas, and the Border Region. *Border Business Briefs*. (April (2nd Quarter/Spring) 2018)

Salvador Contreras. The coveted high skill millennials: An analysis of the Border/South Texas stock. *Border Business Briefs*. (January (1st Quarter/Winter) 2018)

Salvador Contreras. The Rio Grande Valley's four millimeter foe: citrus industry in fight for survival. (October (4th Quarter/Autumn) 2017)

Ruth Cano and Salvador Contreras. Quality and Access to Medical Care in the Border/South Texas Region. *Border Business Briefs: A Publication of the Center for Border Economic Studies*. (September 2017) [www.utrgv.edu/cbest/publications/index.htm#item5](http://www.utrgv.edu/cbest/publications/index.htm#item5)

Salvador Contreras and Emmanuel Torres. Economic pulse of Texas Border Region: Entrepreneurial Activity 2014-2015. *Border Business Briefs*. (2016)

Salvador Contreras. K-12 Education outlook of Border/South Texas region. *Border Business Briefs*.

(2016)

Salvador Contreras, Ruth Cano, and Amirhossein Fard. Trade flows through Border/South Texas ports. *Border Business Briefs* . (2016)

Ruth Cano, Salvador Contreras, and Amirhossein Fard. Trade flows through Border/South Texas ports. *Border Business Briefs: A Publication of the Center for Border Economic Studies*. (July (3rd Quarter/Summer) 2016) [www.utrgv.edu/cbest/publications/index.htm#item10](http://www.utrgv.edu/cbest/publications/index.htm#item10)

Salvador Contreras and Jose Clemente. Local Municipalities See Upward Trend in Sales and Use Tax Revenues. *Border Business Briefs* . (2015)

Salvador Contreras and Abdelhamid Riani. Revenues are up at RGV cities. *Border Business Briefs* . (2015)

Salvador Contreras and Abdelhamid Riani. South Texas keeps pushing ahead. *Border Business Briefs* . (2015)

Salvador Contreras and Jose Clemente. Where the jobs are in South Texas. *Border Business Briefs* . (2015)

Salvador Contreras and Armando Valero. The Ups and Downs of Entrepreneurial Activity in South Texas. *Border Business Briefs* . (2014)

## **Under Submission**

### **Journal Articles**

Abdelhamid Riani, Salvador Contreras, and Nathaniel Karp. Texas border MSAs and their reliance on Mexican Tourist. *Regional Science & Urban Economics*.

### **Media Contributions**

#### **Internet**

YourValleyVoice.com. (November 22, 2017)

#### **Newspaper**

McAllen Monitor. (July 31, 2018)

Valley Morning Star. (April 09, 2018)

Brownsville Herald. (April 09, 2018)

Brownsville Herald. (November 18, 2017)

McAllen Monitor. (November 18, 2017)

Valley Morning Star. (November 18, 2017)

McAllen Monitor. (October 05, 2017)

Brownsville Herald. (October 04, 2017)

San Antonio Express. (September 07, 2017)

The Monitor. (March 05, 2017)

#### **TV**

KRGV. (October 30, 2017)

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

Undergraduate Research Initiative (Charles Danso), University of Texas Pan American (2011)

Undergraduate Research Initiative (Sara Ray), University of Texas Pan American (2011)

Emerging Scholars Interdisciplinary Network (ESIN) Summer Fellowship Program 2010, University of Michigan (2010)

Future of Minority Studies (FMS), Mellon, Cornell University (2010)

New Connections Research and Coaching Clinic, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (2008)

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Salvador Contreras. "Local financial shocks and its effect crime." Freedom and Justice Conference, Pablo, Montana. (June 2018)

Salvador Contreras and Jorge Gonzalez. "The Role of Organizational Change on Stress, Work Attitudes, and Cognitive Load Utilization: Evidence from a Natural Experiment. ." Western Economic Association Meeting, (2017)

Salvador Contreras. "Education environment context switching and its effects on performance and instructor evaluation," ASSA meetings, NEA, San Francisco. (2016)

Salvador Contreras. "A theoretical exposition of migration enforcement on existing migrant and domestic." ASSA meetings, Atlanta, Georgia. (January 2010)

Salvador Contreras. "Explaining the generational gap of migrant households.." ASSA meetings, Atlanta, Georgia. (January 2010)

Salvador Contreras. "An alternative view to the cause of market failures: a dynamic approach." Southern Economics Association, San Antonio, Texas. (November 2009)

Salvador Contreras. "A theoretical exposition of migration enforcement on existing migrant and domestic," Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana,. (February 16, 2009)

Salvador Contreras. "The Influence of Migration on Human Capital Development.." ASSA meetings, San Francisco, California. (January 3, 2009)

Salvador Contreras, Daryl Burckel, and Mike Kurth. "The Obama Promise: Election Analysis and Policy Implications," The Republican Round Table of Lake Charles, Lake Charles, Louisiana. (November 2008)

Salvador Contreras, Daryl Burckel, and Mike Kurth. "The collateral damage of the 2008 financial crisis: a brief summary?," Kiwanis Club of South Lake Charles,, Lake Charles, Louisiana. (October 2008)

Salvador Contreras. "The Influence of Migration on Human Capital Development.," DITE, UCSB, Santa Barbara, California. (July 2008)

Salvador Contreras. "The Influence of Migration on Human Capital Development.," Southwestern Society of Economists, Houston, Texas. (March 7, 2008)

Salvador Contreras. "The demise of the Dollar?," Kiwanis Club of Lake Charles, Lake Charles,

Louisiana. (November 2007)

Salvador Contreras. "The Influence of Migration on Human Capital Development.," MBA Presentation Series, McNeese State University, Lake Charles, Louisiana. (October 2007)

Salvador Contreras. "Parental Quality Investment, Child Effort, and Human Capital Accumulation.," Western Economic Association, San Diego, California. (July 3, 2006)

## **TEACHING**

### **Courses Taught**

Development Economics

Internship in Economics

Managerial Economics

Microeconomic Theory

Principles of Economics

Principles of Macroecon

Principles of Macroeconomics

Principles of Microecon

Principles of Microeconomics

Sem in Economics Topics

Thesis

### **Directed Student Learning**

Dissertation Committee Member. Klaus Beckmann, , Economics and Finance (UTPA). (January 1, 2014 - May 31, 2016)

Dissertation Committee Member. Weifang Yang, , Economics and Finance (UTPA). ( 2013)

Dissertation Committee Member. William Pratt, , Economics and Finance (UTPA). ( 2012)

Dissertation Committee Member. Yongli Luo, , Economics and Finance (UTPA). ( 2012)

Master's Thesis Committee Member. Pooja Chopra, ( 2011)

## **SERVICE**

### **Department Service**

### **University Service**

Committee Member, Faculty Senate (McNeese State University). (2008 - 2009)

Committee Member, Write to Excellence Faculty Advisory Group (McNeese State University). (2008 - 2009)

Committee Member, AACSB assessment of faculty qualifications. (2007 - 2009)

Other, AACSB assurance of learning (AOL) committee (McNeese State University). (2007 - 2009)  
Committee Member, Freshman foundations (McNeese State University). (2007 - 2009)  
Faculty Advisor, International Business Club (McNeese State University). (2007 - 2009)  
Committee Member, Student writing in business (McNeese State University). (2007 - 2009)  
Committee Member, MBA Director search committee (McNeese State University). (2007 - 2008)

### **Development Activities Attended**

Workshop, "Faculty Development Workshop," UTPA. (February 19, 2010)

### **Professional Service**

Reviewer, Journal Article , International Journal of Social Economics (2016 - 2016)  
Reviewer, Journal Article , Migration Studies (2016 - 2016)  
Reviewer, Journal Article , Review of Black Political Economy (2016 - 2016)  
Reviewer, Journal Article , International Review of Economics Education (2014 - 2014)

### **Professional Memberships**

Western Economic Association  
The Econometric Society (2008 - Present)  
American Society of Hispanic Economists (2007 - Present)  
American Economic Association (2005 - Present)

### **Public Service**

- Attendee, Meeting , RGV Hispanic Chamber . (2014 - 2016)