

# Vivekananda Das (বিবেকানন্দ দাস)

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Department of Family and Consumer Studies

University of Utah

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84112

## EMPLOYMENT

- 2024 – **University of Utah**, Department of Family and Consumer Studies  
Assistant Professor
- 2020 – 2022 **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Department of Consumer Science  
Graduate Teaching Assistant
- 2018 – 2020 **Rochester Institute of Technology**, Golisano Institute for Sustainability  
Graduate Research Assistant

## EDUCATION

- 2024 Ph.D., Human Ecology  
**Specialization:** Consumer Behavior and Family Economics  
Department of Consumer Science, School of Human Ecology  
**Minor:** Public Affairs (La Follette School of Public Affairs)  
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI  
**Dissertation:** Safety Net Programs and Economic Hardship
- 2020 M.S., Sustainable Systems  
Golisano Institute for Sustainability  
Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
- 2016 B.Sc., Electrical and Electronic Engineering  
Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology, Rajshahi, Bangladesh

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Policy, Safety Net Programs, Economic Hardship, Financial Well-Being, Mental Health, Technology Adoption, Financial Literacy

## RESEARCH PAPERS

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- (1) **Das, V.** (2024). Public Health Insurance Expansion and Financial Well-Being Indicators Directly Evaluated by the Eligible: Evidence from the United States. *Social Indicators Research*, 1-27.  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11205-024-03475-9> IF=2.8
- (2) Collins, J. M., & **Das, V.** (2024). Self-reported mental health and the Dobbs decision: Variation by State abortion laws. *Contemporary Economic Policy*. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/coep.12678>  
IF=1.7

- (3) **Das, V.** (2024). Cash Assistance Through the Tax System and Financial Hardship Experienced by Lower-Income Households During the COVID-19 Pandemic: How Long Did the Association Last? *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 1-29. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10834-024-09960-0> IF=2.3
- (4) **Das, V.** (2022). The effect of state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) eligibility on food insufficiency during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Review of Economics of the Household*, 1-34. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11150-022-09637-3> IF= 4.1
- (5) **Das, V.** (2020). Does adoption of ridehailing result in more frequent sustainable mobility choices? An investigation based on the National Household Travel Survey (NHTS) 2017 Data. *Smart Cities*, 3(2), 385-400. <https://www.mdpi.com/2624-6511/3/2/20> IF=7.0
- (6) Williams, E., **Das, V.**, Fisher, A. (2020). Assessing the sustainability implications of autonomous vehicles: Recommendations for research community practice. *Sustainability*, 12(5), 1902. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12051902> IF=3.3

### Working Papers

- (7) **Das, V.** (2024). Exploring the Association Between Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) Usage and Perceived Financial Well-Being. Available at SSRN: [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=4957294](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4957294)
- (8) Collins, J. M., Urban, C., **Das, V.** (2022). WI22-Q1: Health, Disability and Financial Well-Being during the Pandemic. *Retirement & Disability Research Center*. <https://cfsrdrc.wisc.edu/publications/working-paper/wi22-q1>

### RESEARCH GRANTS

- (1) CSBS Mental Health Research Fund, College of Social and Behavioral Science, University of Utah, 2025 (\$7000)
- (2) American Council on Consumer Interests (ACCI) Small Grants Program, 2021 (\$2500)

### AWARDS

- (1) Consumer Movement Archives Applied Consumer Economics Award, American Council on Consumer Interests (ACCI) Annual Conference, 2024 (\$500)
- (2) CFP® Board's ACCI Financial Planning Paper Award, American Council on Consumer Interests (ACCI) Annual Conference, 2023 (\$500)
- (3) Summer Time Academic Research (STAR) Award, School of Human Ecology, UW-Madison, 2022 (\$2500)

### INVITED PEER REVIEWED ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- (1) Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansions and Financial Health Indicators Evaluated by the Eligible (2024). American Council on Consumer Interests (ACCI) Annual Conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- (2) Difficult Economic Times, Tax Credit Eligibility, and Financial Hardship (2023). American Council on Consumer Interests (ACCI) Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV.
- (3) Cash Assistance through the Tax System and Material Hardship: A Case Study of Early 2021 (2023). Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Annual Fall Research Conference, Atlanta, GA.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCES

### University of Utah

- (1) **FCS 3210:** Statistics in Family and Consumer Studies (Spring 2025)
- (2) **FCS 5530:** Income Tax Planning for Families (Spring 2025)
- (3) **FCS 3500:** Financial Skills for Life (Fall 2024)

### Online Course

- (1) **Survey Data Analysis in R: A Crash Course** ([Link](#))

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

### Graduate Admissions & Policy Committee

Department of Family and Consumer Studies, 2024 – 2026

### Graduate Student Committee

Taylor Joann Holladay, Human Development & Social Policy Master's Program, Department of Family and Consumer Studies. Committee Member. (Expected completion in Spring 2025)

### Activate Initiative Consultation

*Role:* Course Shepherd for FCS 3210: Statistics in Family and Consumer Studies, 2024 – 2025

*Goal:* Addressing courses with high failure, incomplete, and drop rates (DEWI)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### Refereeing Service

Journal of Financial Counseling and Planning

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

Discover Education

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

### Media Coverage

"Mental Health Worsened for Young Women in States with Abortion Bans—But for Young Men, It Was the Opposite" featured on **Fast Company**, November 20, 2024. <https://www.fastcompany.com/91232765/abortion-ban-states-mental-health-worse-for-young-women-better-for-young-men>

"Do Abortion Policy Changes Affect Young Women's Mental Health?" featured on **EurekAlert!** by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), November 20, 2024. <https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/1065120>

"Do Abortion Policy Changes Affect Young Women's Mental Health?" featured on **Medical Xpress**, November 20, 2024. <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2024-11-abortion-policy-affect-young-women.html>

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- (1) American Council on Consumer Interests (ACCI)
- (2) Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM)

## **SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- (1) Mora Himel Lincoln Trust, UW-Madison, 2023 – 2024 (\$2030)
- (2) McNulty Trust Fund, UW-Madison, 2023 (\$1000)
- (3) University Fellow (2 Academic Years), UW-Madison, 2022 – 2024 (\$48,000)
- (4) Graduate Research Fellow, Institute for Research on Poverty, UW-Madison, 2022 – 2023
- (5) Consumer Science Current Graduate Student Scholarship, School of Human Ecology, UW-Madison, 2022 – 2023 (\$1040)
- (6) Zuill Trust Fund Scholarship, UW-Madison, 2022 (\$750)
- (7) Steenbock Trust Fund Scholarship, UW-Madison, 2021 – 2023 (\$1990)