

MARIA LUISA CORTON
Associate Professor of Economics
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida	2008
Fields: Industrial Organization & Applied Econometrics	
M.A. in Economics, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida	2000
M.B.A. in International Business, Jacksonville University, Jacksonville, Florida	1996

RESEARCH FIELDS

Regulation and performance of public utilities; analysis and measurement of efficiency; cost modeling and estimation.
Industries: energy and water sectors.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

With Interamerican Development Bank/Public Utility Research Center; Leading analyst in <i>Benchmarking Water Utilities in Central America</i>	2007
With World Bank/Public Utilities Research Center; Analyst in <i>Survey of Benchmarking Methodologies</i>	2005

PROJECTS WITH THE COMMUNITY

Economic impact analysis of a foreign trade area in St. Petersburg, Florida	2014
Economic impact analysis of Dolphin Tale movie in Clearwater, Florida	2013
Economic impact of the arts and culture sector in St. Petersburg, Florida	2012

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed

Corton, M.L., (2025). Does political alignment across government tiers impact the provision of public services? A case from the water sector of Peru. *International Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 19(3):954–971.

Corton, M.L, Phillips M.A., and Zimmermann A. (2019). Aligning Quality Incentives and Tariff Adjustments: The case of The Brazilian Electricity Distribution Sector. *Review of Network Economics*, 18 (1):35–62.

Corton, M.L, Zimmermann A., and Phillips M.A. (2016). The low cost of quality improvements in the electricity Distribution sector of Brazil. *Energy Policy*, 97:485–493.

Corton, M.L., Ebrahimpour M. (2014). Research Note: Forecasting film-induced tourism: the Dolphin Tale case. *Tourism Economics*, 20(6): 1349–1356.

Corton, M.L., Ebrahimpour M. (2013). The Economic Impact of the Arts and Culture sector in the City of St. Petersburg, Florida. *Journal of Business and Management Landscapes*, 2(1):15–29.

Corton, M.L., (2011). Sector fragmentation and aggregation of service provision in the water industry. *Journal of Productivity Analysis*, 35(2):159–169.

Corton, M.L., Sanford, V.B. (2009). Benchmarking Water Utilities in Central America. *Utilities Policy*, 17:267–275.

Corton, M.L., (2003). Benchmarking in the Latin American Water Sector: The Case of Peru. *Utilities Policy*, 11(3):133–142.

Non-refereed

Corton, M.L., Molinary, A. (2008). Regulatory collaboration in the Americas: ADERASA, in *Water21*, 10(1):23–26.

Corton, M.L., Sanford, V.B. (2008). Benchmarking Water Utilities in Central America, in *Water21*, 10(1): 27–28.

Book Sections

Sanford, V.B., Corton, M.L. (2008). Water Utility Benchmarking for Managerial and Policy Decisions: Lessons from Developing Countries, in *Performance Assessment of Urban Infrastructure Services*, IWA pub., London, UK, pp. 307–320.

Sanford, V.B., Corton, M.L. (2002). Infrastructure Management: Applications to Latin America, in *Private Initiatives in Infrastructure: Priorities, Incentives and Performance*, Edward Elgar pub., N. Hampton, MA, pp.189–202.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

- Quality Incentives and Tariff Adjustments in the Brazilian electricity sector with Zimmermann and Phillips
- Public Engagement in Infrastructure Regulation with Zimmermann and Phillips
- Is the Distance from Bangkok to Boston the Same as the Distance from Boston to Bangkok? With Segrest

AD-HOC REVIEWER

Energy Policy, Economic Modelling, Utilities Policy, Water Policy, Water Resources Management, Water21, and Journal of Asia Business Studies. 2003-present

RESEARCH GRANT

USFSP (\$50,000). Economic impact analysis of a foreign trade area in St. Petersburg, Florida 2014

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor of Economics, University of South Florida	Aug 2017 – present
Assistant Professor of Economics, University of South Florida	Dec 2010 – Aug 2017
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, University of South Florida	Aug 2008 – Dec 2010
Instructor, University of Florida	Jan 2008 – Apr 2008
Research Associate, Public Utility Research Center (PURC), University of Florida	Aug 1998 – Aug 2008

TEACHING PORTFOLIO

Undergraduate courses in both modalities online and face-to-face Fall 2008- present
Business and Economics Statistics II (QMB3200), Intermediate Macroeconomics (ECO3203), International Economics (ECO3703), Economics of Latin America (ECS4430), Principles of Macroeconomics (ECO2013), Environmental Economics (ECP3302).
M.B.A. online course (ECO6705): International Economic Issues.

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATIONS

USF certification QM for the online MBA course International Economic Issues	Spring 2023
Quality Matters (QM) for–Statistics for Business and Economics II online attained	Dec 2019
USF Online Teaching Certification	Fall 2019

PRESENTATIONS

Southern Economic Association, 93 rd annual meeting, Atlanta. Chair, Discussant, Presenter: Does political alignment across government tiers imply higher efficiency in delivering public service?	2023
Southern Economic Association 89 rd annual meeting, Atlanta; Presenter: Integrating Quality Compliance, Productivity Growth, and Cost Efficiency in the X-Factor.	2019
Southern Economic Association Annual meeting, Atlanta; Chair and Discussant in Advance Topics in Econometrics.	2017
Southern Economic Association Annual meeting, Atlanta; Presenter: The role of political and jurisdictional factors in the provision of water service: an efficiency analysis.	2014
Agency of Sao Paulo (ARSESP), regulatory topics, Brazil; Presenter: Central America Water Sector Performance Indicators.	2008
Inter-American Development Bank/ Public Utility Research Center workshop on Benchmarking Water Utilities in Central America. Presenter: Water Sector Benchmarking Methodologies	2007
Association of Latin American Water Regulators (ADERASA), 3 rd Benchmarking Group workshop. Presenter: Survey of Benchmarking Methodologies.	2006
ADERASA, 5 th annual meeting. Presenter: Quality Indicators for the Regulatory Process	2005
PURC-World Bank training course, Gainesville. Group moderator for the Natural Gas section	2005
ADERASA 1 st annual meeting. Presenter: Alternative Measures of Efficiency in the Water Sector	2001
PURC-Sector Regulation System (SIRESE) Training Program Group moderator for Utility Regulation Strategy	2001

SERVICE

To USF and Economics department- College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) , as a member, summer 2020 – present

USF Senate	fall 2024-spring 2027
CAS Faculty council	fall 2022 – spring 2025
Econ Department- Governance and Evaluation (GE) committee	spring 2022
CAS Academic Integrity and Grievance Committee (as chair)	spring 2020-spring 2021

SERVICE

to USFSP KT-College of Business, as a member - spring 2009 – spring 2020

Standard Syllabus template for QMB3200 task force part of consolidation	spring-summer 2020
Tenure and Promotion committee	2019-2020
Faculty standards task force	2016-2018
Undergraduate Curricula and Assessment committee (UCAC)	2017-2018
Faculty Development committee (FDC)	fall 2015- spring 2017
Graduate Curricula and Assessment committee (GCAC)	2013-2019
Honor thesis student committee	spring 2011
USFSP General Education committee	2011-2013
Accounting Search committee	fall 2010 & fall 2013
Advisor professor for the class “small business management” (MAN 4804)	spring 2009