

**KATHRYN BENDER**  
**University of Delaware**

Assistant Professor  
kebender@udel.edu  
1.302.831.1909

Department of Economics  
Purnell Hall 333C  
Newark, Delaware 19716

**EDUCATION**

---

**Ph.D., Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics**  
**The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, August 2019**

Fields: Resource & Environmental Economics, Experimental Economics, Development Economics, Applied Econometrics  
Committee: Brian Roe (chair), Zoë Plakias, Wuyang Hu

**M.S., Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics**  
**The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, August 2016**

**B.S., Economics**  
**Centre College, Danville, Kentucky, May 2011**

**ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

---

August 2021–present	<b>Assistant Professor</b> , University of Delaware ECON 100: Economic Issues and Policies ECON 101: Introduction to Microeconomics ECON 103: Introduction to Macroeconomics ECON 306: Introduction to Econometrics ECON 626: Generative AI for Data Visualization (Fall 2024)
August 2019–August 2021	<b>Assistant Professor</b> , Allegheny College ECON 100: Introduction to Microeconomics ECON 191: Skills for a Data-Driven World ECON 203: Economic Statistics II (econometrics) ECON 231: Environmental Economics and Policy ECON 421: Strategic Environmental Management ECON 578: Topics in Economic Development EXL 591: Group Study–Gender and Economics FSECON 201: Food Security–Local & Global Challenges in the Food Supply Chain LS 191: Economics of Discrimination
Autumn 2017–Spring 2018	<b>Adjunct Professor</b> , Otterbein University ECON 2100: Principles of Microeconomics ECON 2200: Principles of Macroeconomics
Autumn 2016	<b>Instructor</b> , The Ohio State University AEDECON 4532: Food Security and Globalization

**GRANTS AND AWARDS**

---

2024 Outstanding Teacher, Lerner College of Business and Economics, University of Delaware.  
2024 Outstanding Teacher, Economics Department, University of Delaware.

# KATHRYN BENDER

Faculty and Staff Career Innovation Grant, Career Center, University of Delaware. \$2,500

2023 Paul J. Rickards, Jr. Teaching Innovation Grant, IT Academic Technology Services, University of Delaware. \$5,000

Fall 2022 UD Football Most Valuable Professor, University of Delaware.

2017/18 George and Florence McGhee Memorial Scholarship Fund. \$1,250

## PUBLICATIONS

---

Li, R., Shu, Y., **Bender, K.E.**, Roe, B.E. (2023). Household Food Waste Trending Upwards in the United States: Insights from a National Tracking Survey. *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics Association*. [DOI](#)

**Bender, K.E.**, Badiger, A., Roe, B.E., Shu, Y., & Qi, D. (2022). Consumer Behavior during the COVID-19 Pandemic: An analysis of food purchasing and management behaviors in U.S. households through the lens of food system resilience. *Socio-Economic Planning Sciences*, 82, 101107. [DOI](#)

Shu, Y., Roe, B.E., & **Bender, K.** (2021). Adapting, refining, and expanding a validated questionnaire to measure food waste in U.S. households. *MethodsX*, 8, 101377. [DOI](#)

Roe, B.E., **Bender, K.**, & Qi, D. (2021). The Impact of COVID-19 on Consumer Food Waste. *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 43(1), 401-411. [DOI](#)

Roe, B.E., Qi, D., & **Bender, K.** (2020). Some Issues in the Ethics of Food Waste. *Physiology & Behavior*, 219, 112860. [DOI](#)

**Bender, K.**, & Stowe, C.J. (2020). Home off the Range: The Role of Wild Horse Internet Adoptions in Informing Sustainable Western United States Rangeland Management. *Sustainability*, 12(1), 279. [DOI](#)

Roe, B.E., Qi, D., **Bender, K.E.**, & Hilty, J. (2019). Industry versus Government Regulation of Food Date Labels: Observed Adherence to Industry-Endorsed Phrases. *Sustainability*, 11(24), 7183. [DOI](#)

Roe, B.E., Phinney, D.M., Simons, C.T., Badiger, A.S., **Bender, K.E.**, & Heldman, D.R. (2018). Discard Intentions are Lower for Milk Presented in Containers without Date Labels. *Food Quality and Preference*, 66, 13-18. [DOI](#)

## WORKING PAPERS

---

Adjapong, E., Schaefer, S., **Bender, K.**, Roe, B. School and Meal Characteristics Correlated with the Amount of Food Wasted in K-12 Cafeterias in the United States. (under review)

**Bender, K.** Data Enchanted: Utilizing Taylor Swift to pique student interest in data visualization and analysis.

**Bender, K.**, Badiger, A., Roe, B. Consumer Perception of Phrase-Date Combinations on Food Packages.

Badiger, A., **Bender, K.**, Simons, C., Roe, B., Phinney, D., Paravisini, L., Peterson, D., & Heldman, D. Time Temperature Indicators Influence Consumer Discard Decisions Cause Less Food Waste than Date Labels.

**Bender, K.**, Badiger, Aishwarya, & Roe, B.E. Consumer Food Waste and Date Labeling: Combining sensory and choice experiments to assess novel and standard shelf-life indicators.

# KATHRYN BENDER

## TECHNICAL REPORTS

---

**Bender, K.,** Shu, Y., Badiger, A., Heldman, D., Qi, D., & Roe, B.E. (2020). The State of the American Refrigerator: July 2020 Survey. Technical Report. ([link to report](#))

Roe, B.E., & **Bender, K.** (2016). A Cost-Benefit Analysis of the 4R Nutrient Stewardship Certification Program. ([link to report](#))

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

---

“Data Enchanted: Transforming Numbers Into Knowledge,” JET Symposium on Economics Teaching. Blacksburg, Virginia. August 1-3, 2024. (scheduled)

“Standardizing Date Labels on Food Packaging: The effect on retail sales and food waste in the United States,” Eastern Economic Association Annual Conference. Montego Bay, Jamaica. May 7, 2022.

“Food Packaging and Date Labels: An analysis of phrase-date combinations on consumer perception of product quality measures,” Southern Economic Association Annual Conference. Hybrid due to COVID-19 pandemic. November 22, 2021.

“Recent Work on U.S. Consumer Response to Food Date Labeling Approaches,” Panel presentation, Webinar on Environmental, Social, and Financial Concerns in the Fields of Food Loss and Waste Minimization: American and European experiences. November 18, 2021.

“Consumer Perception of Date Labeling in the United States: Results from a sensory laboratory experiment and replicated online experiments,” Western Economic Association International Annual Conference. Virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic. July 1, 2021.

“Standardized Date Labels, Information Campaigns, and Consumer Food Waste: Research and Response,” Panel presentation, WasteExpo. Las Vegas, Nevada, June 28, 2021.

“Consumer Behavior during the COVID-19 Pandemic: An analysis of food purchasing and management behaviors in U.S. households through the lens of food system resilience,” RETASTE Conference. Virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic. May 6, 2021.

“Consumer Perception of Date Labels: An Analysis of Consumer Discard Behavior by Phrase-date Combination on Food Packaging,” RETASTE Conference. Virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic. May 6, 2021.

“Consumer Perception of Date Labels: An Analysis of Consumer Discard Behavior by Phrase-date Combination on Food Packaging,” Midwest Economics Association Annual Conference. Virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic. March 25, 2021.

“COVID-19 and Food Waste,” All Family and Consumer Sciences Virtual Conference. October 29, 2020.

“Consumer Willingness to Pay for Novel Date Label,” OSU Food Waste Conference. Columbus, Ohio, October 11, 2018.

“The Effect of Training on Adoption of Wild Horses,” RSAI 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Graduate Student Summit on Applied Economics and Regional Science. Columbus, Ohio, April 21, 2017.

# KATHRYN BENDER

## INVITED OUTREACH PRESENTATIONS

---

“Data Enchanted: Transforming Numbers into Knowledge,” Tech Talk Tuesdays. Academic Technology Services, University of Delaware. April 16, 2024.

“School and Meal Characteristics Correlated with Plate Waste in K-12 Cafeterias,” Reducing Waste in K-12 School Lunch. World Wildlife Fund and RECIPES. October 16, 2023.

“Economic Principles for Today's Leaders: Key Concepts for Effective Decision Making and Strategic Action,” Study of U.S. Institutes, U.S. Department of State. University of Delaware. July 21, 2023.

“Equine-omics, Equi-nomics, and Econom-Icky Foods,” Siegfried Youth Leadership Program Economics Summer Camp. Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship. University of Delaware. June 20, 2023.

“National Food Waste Survey,” The Leading Voices in Food podcast. World Food Policy Center, Duke University. June 1, 2023.

“The Food Waste Pandemic,” Columbus Science Pub. Virtual due to COVID-19 pandemic. November 5, 2020.

“Food Waste in America: Community Action,” Sunbury Rotary Club. Sunbury, Ohio. December 11, 2018.

## MEDIA MENTIONS AND RESEARCH IN POPULAR PRESS

---

Kelly, Lauren. (2024, March 25). The Paul J. Rickards, Jr. Teaching Innovation Grant Program: Dr. Katy Bender. *On Cultivating Student Engagement in Higher Ed.* ([link to podcast](#))

West, Bryan. (2024, March 8). Fans split over hefty price tag to hear all of Taylor Swift’s new music. *USA TODAY.* ([link to article](#))

Shawnette Wilson. (2024, February 21). Taylor Swift inspired workshop at University of Delaware helping students learn data analytics. *Fox29 Philadelphia.* ([link to video](#))

McKinnon, Kyle. (2024, January 12). 'Swiftonomics' and how the University of Delaware is using Taylor Swift to teach economics. *Delaware Public Media.* ([link to article](#)).

Leon, Matthew. (2024, January 4). It’s the economy, Swifties! *KYW Newsradio In Depth.* ([link to podcast](#))

Forman, Beatrice. (2024, January 2). Yes, you can study Swiftonomics thanks to a new University of Delaware workshop. *The Philadelphia Inquirer.* ([link to article](#))

Rutz, Jarek. (2023, December 28). Taylor Swift economics workshop launched at UD. *Delaware Live.* ([link to article](#))

Powers, Kelly. (2023, December 15). Swiftonomics: University of Delaware brings Taylor Swift economics course to campus. *Delaware News Journal.* ([link to article](#))

Casey, Michael. (2023, November 25). Tackling climate change and alleviating hunger: States recycle and donate food headed to landfills. *AP News.* ([link to article](#))

Quynh, Jacqueline. (2023, November 23). Too Good to Go is new food app that aims to curb food waste, offer lower costs for some. *CBS News Miami.* ([link to article](#))

# KATHRYN BENDER

Graham, Max. (2023, October 26). Community fridges don't just fight hunger. They're also a climate solution. *Grist*. ([link to article](#))

Wagoner, Rachel. (2021, March 30). Lawmakers want to extend shelf life of Pa. milk. *Farm and Dairy*. ([link to article](#))

Finnerty, John. (2020, October 13). State could allow milk to remain on grocers' shelves longer. *CNHI News*. ([link to article](#))

Jackson, Rachael. (2020, August 31). Pandemic-related cooking and eating habits could help curb food waste – if consumers stick to them. *The Washington Post*. ([link to article](#))

Jackson, Rachael. (2019, April 24). Most people waste more food than they think—here's how to fix it. *National Geographic*. ([link to article](#))

## PROFESSIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

---

Creator and Instructor	Data Enchanted: Transforming Numbers Into Knowledge Workshop Series, Academic Year 2023/24
Faculty Advisor	University of Delaware Economic Analysis Club, 2023-present The Econ Games 2024, 2023, & 2022  Allegheny College Women in Business and Economics Club, 2020–2021 The Econ Games 2021
Co-director	<b>SUSI Madeleine K. Albright Young Women Leaders Program</b> , U.S. Department of State, 2024
Committee Chair	<b>Undergraduate Recruitment and Retention Committee</b> , Department of Economics, 2023-present
Committee Member	<b>Lerner College Strategic Planning Steering Committee</b> , Lerner College of Business and Economics, 2024-present <b>Lerner Diversity Council</b> , Lerner College of Business, 2023-present <b>Econometrics Core Curriculum Committee</b> , Department of Economics, 2023-present <b>Undergraduate Recruitment and Retention Committee</b> , Department of Economics, 2022-2023 <b>Undergraduate Curriculum Committee</b> , Department of Economics, 2022/23 <b>Search Committee</b> - Continuing Track Position, Department of Economics, 2022/23
Reviewer	Journal of Economics Teaching, Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics, W.W. Norton (book), Food Policy, Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems, Sustainability
Co-organizer	RSAI 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Graduate Student Summit on Applied Economics and Regional Science held at The Ohio State University, April 21 & 22, 2017

# KATHRYN BENDER

## SKILLS

---

Proficient            Stata, SAS, Qualtrics, Microsoft Office

Basic                 MATLAB, R, ArcGIS