

Julia Brown, Class of 2005



I am currently working for Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), an international research non-profit that seeks to discover and promote effective solutions to global poverty. IPA partners with academic and policy researchers (mostly economists) and service providers to conduct rigorous analysis and evaluation of poverty alleviation programs. I oversee the US Finance Initiative, which focuses on developing and testing financial products and services that meet the needs of low-income households in the United States. Prior to joining IPA, I worked to evaluate business training, microcredit, and microinsurance programs in San Francisco, New York City, Guayaquil, Ecuador, and Chiapas, Mexico. My economics degree from Williams was essential in getting me to where I am. It taught me the fundamentals in statistics and analysis that I use daily, and gave me an understanding of economic theory, which I use regularly when interacting with researchers and developing new research designs to test the effectiveness of programs.