

# MATTHEW F. LARSEN

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Economics  
Lafayette College  
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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015 - Present      Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Lafayette College  
2012 - 2015        Postdoctoral Fellow, Education Research Alliance for New Orleans and The Murphy Institute, Tulane University

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, University of California, Davis, 2012  
Dissertation Title: "The Economic Externalities of Education Policy"  
Dissertation Committee: Marianne Page (Chair), Scott Carrell, Hilary Hoynes  
M.A., Economics, University of California, Davis, 2007  
B.A., Economics & Mathematics, University of California, San Diego, 2006

## RESEARCH FIELDS

Economics of Education, Labor Economics, Public Economics

## PUBLICATIONS

"What Schools Do Families Want (and Why)? Evidence on Revealed Preferences from New Orleans," (with Douglas N. Harris), (forthcoming) *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*

"Fuzzy Difference-in-Discontinuities When the Confounding Variation is Sharp: Evidence from Grade Retention Policies" (with Jon Valant), (forthcoming) *Applied Economics Letters*

"Taken by Storm: The Effects of Hurricane Katrina on Medium-Term Student Outcomes in New Orleans," (with Douglas N. Harris), (forthcoming) *Journal of Human Resources*

"High Bars or Behind Bars? The Effect of Graduation Requirements on Arrest Rates," *Education Finance and Policy*, 16(2), April 2021

"Does Closing Schools Close Doors? The Effect of High School Closures on Achievement and Attainment", *Economics of Education Review*, 76, June 2020

"War and Marriage: Assortative Mating and the World War II GI Bill" (with TJ McCarthy, Jeremy Moulton, Marianne Page, and Ankur Patel), *Demography*, 52(5), October 2015

"K-12 and Postsecondary Alignment: Racial/Ethnic Differences in Freshman Course-taking and Performance at California's Community Colleges," (with Michal Kurlaender), *Education Policy Analysis Archives*, North America, 21(16), February 2013

## WORKING PAPERS

"The Long-Term Effects of Grade Retention: Evidence on Persistence Through High School and College" (with Jon Valant), Conditionally Accepted at *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness*

"The Effect of Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility on Academic Achievement and Achievement Gaps"

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

"Effects of Public Quality Ratings on Parents' Early Childhood Program Preferences" (with Lindsay Weixler, Jane Arnold Lincove, and Catherine Balfe)

"The Effect of Opioid Reduction Policies on Student Achievement"

“Peer Effects of Retention Policies: Evidence from Louisiana”

**OTHER  
PUBLICATIONS**

“Finding a Great Fit: Improving the School Choice Process for Students with Disabilities”(with Layne McKittrick, Robin Lake, Sivan Tuchman, Travis Pillow Roohi Sharma, and Jon Valant), Center for Reinventing Public Education Report (March, 2020)

“End-of-Course Exams and Student Outcomes” (with Adam Tyner), Washington, DC: Thomas B. Fordham Institute (August 27, 2019)

“Experiments and Quasi-Experiments,” (with Douglas Harris) in Brewer, D.J. & Picus, L.O., eds. *Encyclopedia of Education Economics and Finance*, SAGE Publications, 2014

**MEDIA**

“High School Exit Exams are Tough on Crime,” Summer 2020, *EducationNext*, Vol 20. No.3  
“College Ready in California,” February 2013, *Inside Higher Ed*

**GRANTS**

“The Effect of Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility on Academic Achievement and Achievement Gaps”, PI Matthew Larsen (Russell Sage Foundation and William T. Grant Foundation, \$14,496, 2018)

**TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE**

**Lafayette College**

ECON 101: Principles of Economics (Fall 2015, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018)

ECON 251: Intermediate Microeconomics (Spring 2016, Fall 2016)

ECON 253: Fundamentals of Econometrics (Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022)

ECON 328: Labor Economics (Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2019, Spring 2021)

ECON 402: Economics of Education (Fall 2017, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Fall 2021)

**Tulane University**

Economics of Education (Spring 2013, Spring 2014)

**University of California, Davis**

Financial Economics, Instructor (Spring 2011)

**SENIOR HONORS  
THESIS**

**Zixuan Jin** ('21): “The One Child Policy and Female Labor Supply in China”

**Maggie Briggs** ('20): “The Effects of Federally Funded After-School Programming on Standardized Test Scores: Evidence from Ohio”

**Emily Emick** ('20): “The Impact of an EBT System on WIC Coverage and Birth Weight Outcomes”

**Joshua Radack** ('18): “Improving Baseball Lineups with Markov Chain Monte Carlo” (Outside Department Reader)

**Nathan Arnold** (Moravian College) ('18): “Does the Minimum Wage Affect the High School Graduation Rate? An Examination of Eastern Pennsylvania and Western New Jersey” (Outside College Reader)

**Tamerlane Asher** ('17): “What Have You Done for Me Lately? A Model of Past Performance on Major League Baseball Player Compensation” (co-advisor with Susan Averett)

**Joshua Silver** ('17): “The Effects of Immigration on the Low-Skilled Labor Force in the US” (co-advisor with James DeVault)

**Nicole Crilley** ('17): “An Evaluation of the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) on Health Outcomes” (Internal Department Reader)

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- EXCEL SCHOLARS** Nick Hatala, Summer 2022  
Maha Alaoui Hijazi, Summer 2021, AY 2020-21  
Konstantine Jalagonia, Summer 2020  
Emily Emick, Summer 2018  
Jacob Luster, Summer 2017  
Robert King, Summer 2016
- AWARDS** *Military Family Research Institute's Annual Award for Excellence in Research on Military and Veteran Families* - "War and Marriage: Assortative Mating and the World War II GI Bill"
- COLLEGE SERVICE** Common Course of Study Assessment Committee, Social Sciences representative (2020-Present)  
Student Life Committee (2016-2021)  
Visiting assistant professor of Math search committee (2021)  
Fraternity recognition committee (2017)
- DEPARTMENT SERVICE** Math/Econ assessment committee (2019-Present)  
Co-organizer department seminar series (2021-22)  
Co-organizer department honors program (2016-17)  
Assistant professor search committee (2016-17)
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICE** Referee: *Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Economics of Education Review, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Applied Economics, Public Finance Review, Education Finance and Policy, Educational Policy, Education Economics, Economic Inquiry, Contemporary Economic Policy, Health Affairs, Journal of Marriage and Family, International Journal of Knowledge and Learning*
- Served as a discussant or chair at several annual conferences
- SELECTED PRESENTATIONS** **(2022)** Association of Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Annual Meeting **(2021)** Association of Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Annual Meeting **(2020)** The Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM) Annual Meeting **(2019)** Association of Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Annual Meeting; Western Economic Association (WEAI) Annual Meeting; Southern Economic Association Annual (SEA) Meeting; Russell Sage Foundation "Improving Education and Reducing Education Inequality in the United States; UC Davis Economics Alumni Conference **(2018)** Association of Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Annual Meeting; Western Economic Association (WEAI) Annual Meeting; Southern Economic Association Annual (SEA) Meeting **(2017)** Association of Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Annual Meeting; UC Davis Economics Alumni Conference **(2016)** Arizona State University; Lehigh University; The Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting; Association of Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Annual Meeting **(2015 & Prior)** The Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting; The Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM) Annual Meeting; The Association of Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Annual Meeting; Lafayette College; Vassar College; Mathematica Policy Research; Brookings Institute; Tulane University Economics Seminar; Public Policy Institute of California; Value Added Research Center, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Food and Drug Administration; Sacramento State University