

JAMES E. WEST

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

PhD, Economics, The University of Michigan, 1994
MA, Economics, The University of Michigan, 1989
BA (Cum Laude), Economics, The University of Denver, 1987
Unawarded Double Major in Computer Science

SPECIALIZATIONS

PhD Fields: Econometric Theory and Public Finance
Research Interests: Economics of Higher Education, Peer Effects, Applied
Econometrics, Public Finance, Public Choice

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

W.H. Smith Professor, Baylor University, August 2011 - Present
Professor, United States Air Force Academy, 2007 - 2011
Associate Professor, United States Air Force Academy, 2003 - 2007
Assistant Professor, United States Air Force Academy, 1997 - 2002
Assistant Professor, Seattle University, 1994 - 1997
Visiting Lecturer, The University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), 1993 - 1994

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2014 - Present

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

The Impact of Chief Diversity Officers on Diverse Faculty Hiring. *Southern Economic Journal*, pages 3–36, May 2022. Steven W. Bradley, James R. Garven, Wilson Law, and James E. West.
Dishonest Behavior: Sin Big or Go Home. *Economics Letters*, 186:108779, 2020. Jason A Aimone, Brittany Ward, and James E West.
The Impact of College Diversity on Behavior Toward Minorities. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 11(4):159–82, 2019. Scott E. Carrell, Mark Hoekstra, and James E. West.

- From Natural Variation to Optimal Policy? The Importance of Endogenous Peer Group Formation. *Econometrica*, 81(3):855–882, May 2013. Scott E. Carrell, Bruce I. Sacerdote, and James E. West.
- A’s from Zzzz’s? The Causal Effect of School Start Time on the Academic Achievement of Adolescents. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 3(3):62–81, 2011. Scott E. Carrell, Teny Maghakian, and James E. West.
- Is Poor Fitness Contagious? Evidence from Randomly Assigned Friends. *Journal of Public Economics*, 95(7-8):657–663, 2011. Scott E. Carrell, Mark Hoekstra, and James E. West.
- Does Drinking Impair College Performance? Evidence from a Regression Discontinuity Approach. *Journal of Public Economics*, 95(1-2):54–62, 2011. Scott E. Carrell, Mark Hoekstra, and James E. West.
- Sex and Science: How Professor Gender Perpetuates the Gender Gap. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 125(3):1101–1144, 2010. Scott E. Carrell, Marianne E. Page, and James E. West.
- Does Professor Quality Matter? Evidence from Random Assignment of Students to Professors. *Journal of Political Economy*, 118(3):409–432, 2010. Scott E. Carrell and James E. West.
- Does Your Cohort Matter? Estimating Peer Effects in College Achievement. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 27(3):439–464, 2009. Scott E. Carrell, Richard L. Fullerton, and James E. West.
- Peer Effects in Academic Cheating. *Journal of Human Resources*, 43(1):173–207, 2008. Scott E. Carrell, Frederick V. Malmstrom, and James E. West.
- A Sequential Equilibrium for the Army’s Targeted Selective Reenlistment Bonus Program. *Human Resource Management*, 46(1):21–34, 2007. Scott E. Carrell and James E. West.
- Optimal Compensating Wages for Military Personnel. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 24(4):803–822, 2005. Scott E. Carrell and James E. West.
- Class Action Extraction? *Public Choice*, 116(1):91–108, 2003. Jeffrey. Haymond and James E. West.
- The Evolution of Fuzzy Rules as Strategies in Two-Player Games. *Southern Economic Journal*, 69(3):705–717, 2003. James E. West and Bruce Linster.
- Functional Form in Regression Models of Okun’s Law. *Applied Economics Letters*, 3(9):607–609, 1996. Christian E. Weber and James E. West.

WORKING
PAPERS

- Should We Trust Clustered Standard Errors? A Comparison with Randomization-Based Methods. Working Paper 25926, National Bureau of Economic Research, June 2019. Lourenço S Paz and James E West.
- Can Exports Crack the Glass Ceiling? An Examination using Administrative Data. Lourenço S Paz and James E West.
- Macro-level Institutions and Micro-level Economic Behavior: A Surprising Meta-Analysis of 1259 Experimental Studies. Jason A. Aimone, Sheryl Ball, Esha Dwibedi, Jeremy J. Jackson, and James E. West.

- RESEARCH IN PROGRESS State-Level Taxes and Economic Activity using Paired Counties. Garrett Taylor and James E. West.
- OTHER PUBLICATIONS *Test-Item File for Intermediate Microeconomics*. W. W. Norton and Sons, 2009. Hal R. Varian, Theodore C. Bergstrom, and James E. West.
Test-Item File for Intermediate Microeconomics. W. W. Norton and Sons, 2006. Hal R. Varian, Theodore C. Bergstrom, and James E. West.
Test-Item File for Intermediate Microeconomics. W. W. Norton and Sons, 2003. Hal R. Varian, Theodore C. Bergstrom, and James E. West.
 Explanations for problems contained in *Workouts in Intermediate Microeconomics*. www.aplia.com, 2003. Debbie Mullin, R. David Mullin, and James E. West.
- GRANTS Network Formation and Peer Effects in the USAFA. National Science Foundation, 2010-2013. Guido Imbens, Scott E. Carrell, Nicholas Christakis, and James E. West. \$250,951.
- PRESENTATIONS The Impact of Chief Diversity Officers on Diverse Faculty Hiring. Lehigh University Research Seminar, April 2021. Steven W. Bradley, James R. Garven, Wilson Law, and James E. West.
 The Impact of Intergroup Contact on Racial Attitudes and Revealed Preferences. STATA Texas Empirical Micro Conference, October 2015. James E. West, Scott E. Carrell, and Mark Hoekstra.
 The Impact of Intergroup Contact on Racial Attitudes and Revealed Preferences. NBER Summer Institute, July 2015. James E. West, Scott E. Carrell, and Mark Hoekstra.
 The Impact of Intergroup Contact on Racial Attitudes and Revealed Preferences. University of Missouri Research Seminar, March 2015. James E. West, Scott E. Carrell, and Mark Hoekstra.
 Department of Defense Retirement. NBER Conference on State and Local Pensions, August 2012. Jeffrey S. Smith and James E. West.
 Effects of Peers and Professors: Using Air Force Academy Data. Baylor University, No Free Lunch Series, November 2011. James E. West.
 From Natural Variation to Optimal Policy: A Cautionary Tale in How Not to Improve Student Outcomes. Baylor University, January 2011. James E. West, Scott E. Carrell, and Bruce I. Sacerdote.
 From Natural Variation to Optimal Policy: A Cautionary Tale in How Not to Improve Student Outcomes. Colorado College, December 2010. James E. West, Scott E. Carrell, and Bruce I. Sacerdote.
 Does Professor Quality Matter? Evidence from Random Assignment of Students to Professors. Trinity University, November 2010. James E. West and Scott E. Carrell.
 Beware of Economists Bearing Reduced Forms: An Experiment in How Not To Improve Student Outcomes. Colorado State University, August 2010. James E. West, Scott E. Carrell, and Bruce I. Sacerdote.

- Beware of Economists Bearing Reduced Forms: An Experiment in How Not To Improve Student Outcomes. NBER Summer Institute, July 2010. Scott E. Carrell, Bruce I. Sacerdote, and James E. West.
- Sex and Science: How Professor Gender Perpetuates the Gender Gap. The University of Colorado, April 2010. James E. West, Scott E. Carrell, and Marianne E. Page.
- Does Professor Quality Matter? Evidence from Random Assignment of Students to Professors. NBER Higher Education Working Group, May 2008. Scott E. Carrell and James E. West.
- Peer and Leadership Effects in Academic and Athletic Performance. NBER Summer Institute, July 2006. Scott E. Carrell, Richard L. Fullerton, Robert N. Gilchrist, and James E. West.
- Peer Effects in Academic Cheating. NBER Higher Education Working Group, November 2005. Scott E. Carrell, Frederick V. Malmstrom, and James E. West.
- Peer Effects in Academic Cheating. Western Economic Association International Annual Meetings, July 2005. Scott E. Carrell, Frederick V. Malmstrom, and James E. West.
- A Sequential Equilibrium for the Army's Targeted Selective Reenlistment Bonus Program. Western Economic Association International Annual Meetings, July 2005. James E. West and Scott E. Carrell.
- Trends in Honesty and the Service Academy Honor Codes. Western Economic Association International Annual Meetings, July 2003. James E. West and Frederick V. Malmstrom.
- Producer Participation in Wheat Subsidy Programs: 1985-2000. Western Economic Association International Annual Meetings, July 2002. James E. West.
- Service Academy Honor Codes as a Public Good. Western Economic Association International Annual Meetings, July 2001. James E. West and Frederick V. Malmstrom.
- Developing a Model of the Service Academy Honor Systems. Western Economic Association International Annual Meetings, July 2000. James E. West and Frederick V. Malmstrom.
- The Evolution of Stopping Rules and Bidding Functions in Research Tournaments. Western Economic Association International Annual Meetings, July 2000. James E. West and Bruce G. Linster.
- The Evolution of Stopping Rules and Bidding Functions in Research Tournaments. Southern Economic Association Annual Meetings, November 1999. James E. West and Bruce G. Linster.
- Competing Strategy Types in Repeated Duopoly Games. Economic Science Association Annual Meetings, October 1998. James E. West and Bruce G. Linster.
- The Evolution of Fuzzy Rules as Duopoly Strategies. Economic Science Association Annual Meetings, October 1997. James E. West and Bruce G. Linster.

MEDIA

- “This may be the way to eliminate the biases white students don’t even know they have”, Wonkblog, *The Washington Post*, February 12, 2015
- “Air Force Academy Squadrons Test Peer-Effect Assumptions”, Morning Edition, *NPR*, March 26, 2014
- “Students Confuse Grades with Long-Term Learning”, Room for Debate, *The New York Times*, September 17, 2012
- “One Measure of a Professor: Students’ Grades in Later Courses”, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 9, 2011
- “Your Friends are Making You Fat and Lazy”, Economix, *The New York Times*, November 9, 2010
- “Less-Fit Peers Can Drag You Down”, Real Time Economics, *The Wall Street Journal*, November 8, 2010
- “Does Drinking in College Affect Your Grades?”, *The New York Times*, September 10, 2010
- “Monday NBER Round-up”, *The Washington Post*, September 7, 2010
- “Student Evaluations, Grade Inflation, and Declining Student Work Effort”, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 19, 2010
- “Study: Highly Rated Professors are ... Overrated”, *The Washington Post*, June 11, 2010
- “Teaching to the Test”, *Mother Jones*, June 10, 2010
- “Does Professor Quality Matter?”, *Marginal Revolution*, June 10, 2010
- “Hot Off the Presses: Student Evaluations Reward Ineffective Teaching”, *USA Today*, June 9, 2010
- “The Year’s Biggest Ideas in Economics”, *The New Republic*, December 30, 2009
- “A Formula for Success: Want more women to study science? Hire more female professors”, The Dismal Science, *Slate*, June 5, 2009
- “The Glass Ceiling’s Math Problem”, The Big Idea, *The Washington Post*, Sunday, May 31, 2009
- “New Study Ponders the Effect of Professors’ Gender on Students’ Success”, News Blog, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, May 18, 2009

SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION

Chair of Performance Standards Committee, 2019-2020

- Drafted major revision of Performance Standards Document

Chair of Strategic Planning Committee, 2016-2017, Member 2015-2016

- Consider and develop long term plans for department initiatives.

Chair of Faculty Search Committee, 2014-2015

- Directed search for 4 faculty positions, responsible for advertisements, chaired committee to narrow applicant pool, interviewed candidates at ASSA meetings, responsible for flybacks to Baylor campus.

Performance Standards Committee, 2018-2021, 2012 - 2015

- Update “Standards for Annual Performance Evaluation, Tenure, and Promotion”, including academic journal ranking list.

Faculty Search Committee, 2021-2022, 2013-2014, 2011-2012

- Reviewed vitae, participated in interviews, made recommendations for flybacks.

Faculty Supervisor, 2005-2007

- Developed performance plans and wrote annual appraisals for 9 faculty members over 3 performance cycles.

Institutional Review Board, Alternate Scientist, 2008 – 2011

- Reviewed Human Subject Research Protocols at one third of monthly meetings.

Internal Statistical Consultant

- Superintendent (President) Committee to Assess Freshman Grade Trends, 2007
- Faculty Forum (Senate) Report on Grade Inflation, 2006
- Center for Character Development, Analysis of Honor Code Violation Data, 2000 - 2011

Research Director, Department of Economics and Geosciences, 2005 - 2011

- Oversee research projects of all economics and geosciences faculty and author annual departmental research report

Operations Research Working Group, Chair 2000-2001, 2005-2006, Member 1999-2006, 2008-2009

- Administer multidisciplinary major between four member departments
- Negotiate curriculum issues between member departments
- Responsible for banquets and parent’s receptions

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

Baylor University

- Graduate Econometrics
- Undergraduate Econometrics
- Economics of Government (Graduate and Undergraduate)
- Intermediate Microeconomics

USAF Academy

- Introductory Econometrics
- Forecasting and Model Building
- Public Finance
- Managerial Economics
- Law and Economics

- Intermediate Microeconomics
- Senior Seminar in Operations Research
- Introductory Microeconomics

Seattle University

- Quantitative Methods and Analysis (Undergraduate and MBA)
- Intermediate Price Theory
- Managerial Economics

The University of Michigan (Visiting Lecturer)

- Public Finance
- Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
- Government Revenues
- Government Expenditures

The University of Michigan (Graduate Teaching Assistant)

- Introductory Microeconomic Theory
- Introductory Macroeconomic Theory
- Research Seminar in Industrial Organization
- Research Seminar in Law and Economics
- Advanced Econometric Theory (Ph.D. field level)

PROFESSIONAL
MEMBERSHIPS

National Bureau of Economic Research, 2014 - Present.
American Economic Association, 1994 – Present.
Southern Economic Association, 2020 – Present.