

## Austin C. Smith

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[Research Statement](#)

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### Current Positions

Associate Professor of Economics, Bates College, 2022-present  
Research Affiliate, Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), 2019-present

### Previous Positions

Director of Graduate Studies, Economics Department, 2021-2022  
Associate Professor of Economics (with tenure), Miami University, 2021-2022  
Assistant Professor of Economics, Miami University, 2015-2021

### Education

Ph.D., Economics, University of Colorado at Boulder, 2015  
M.A., Economics, University of Colorado at Boulder, 2012  
B.S., *summa cum laude*, Economics and Finance, and Global Perspectives, Bentley University, 2010

### Fields of Interest

Labor Economics; Economics of Education; Health Economics.

### Publications

“Performance Pay, Productivity, and Strategic Opt-Out: Evidence from a Community Health Center” (with Brian Cadena). *Journal of Public Economics*, Vol. 206, 2022.

“Greek Life, Academics, and Earnings” (with William Even). *Journal of Human Resources*, 57(3), pp. 998-1032, 2022.

“Occupational Licensing of Social Services and Nursing Home Quality: A Regression Discontinuity Approach” (with John R. Bowblis). *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 74(1), pp. 199-223, 2021.

“Nursing Home Social Service Departments and Post-Acute Care: Does More Qualified Staff Improve Behavioral Symptoms and Reduce Antipsychotic Drug Use?” (with John R. Bowblis and Amy Roberts). *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 21(3), pp. 388-394, 2020.

“All-In or Checked-Out? Disincentives and Selection in Income Share Agreements” (with Greg Madonia). *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 161, pp. 52-67, 2019.

“Legal Access to Alcohol and Academic Performance: Who is Affected?” (with Joung Yeob Ha (Miami '17, MA)). *Economics of Education Review*, 72, pp. 19-22, 2019.

“Spring Forward at Your Own Risk: Daylight Saving Time and Fatal Vehicle Crashes.” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 8(2), pp. 65-91, 2016.

## **Papers Under Review**

“Pirate and Chill: The Effect of Netflix on Illegal Streaming” (with Sarah J. Frick (Miami '20) and Deborah Fletcher). Revisions Requested at *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*.

## **Works in Progress**

“Professor Value Added and Student Labor Market Outcomes” (with William Even, Deborah Fletcher, and Greg Niemesh)

“Suspended from Work and School: Impacts of Layoff Events and Unemployment Insurance on Disciplinary Incidence” (with Riley Acton and Jo King (Miami '21, MA))

“Labor Market Externalities of Occupational Licensing” (with Michael Lipsitz)

“Occupational Licensing and Patient Outcomes: Do Qualified Social Workers Improve Post-Acute Care Discharge Outcomes?” (with John R. Bowblis and Amy Roberts)

## **Policy Briefs and Editorials**

“Occupational Licensing of Social Services and Nursing Home Quality.” Cato Research Briefs in Economic Policy, No. 193, December 2019. (with John Bowblis)

“Impact of Social Service Staffing on Nursing Home Quality and Resident Outcomes.” Scripps Gerontology Center. Miami University, 2019. (with John Bowblis and Amy Roberts).

## **Research Support**

RRF Grant #2017-168: “Measuring the Impact of Social Workers on Psychosocial Functioning and Post-Acute Care Discharge.” The Retirement Research Foundation, 2018-2019 (Statistical Consultant), \$49,321.

Farmer School of Business Summer Research Grant: “Professor Quality and Student Labor Market Outcomes.” Miami University, 2019, \$10,000.

## **Conference and Seminar Presentations**

“Professor Value Added and Student Labor Market Outcomes”  
Miami University (2019), Western Economic Association Annual Meeting (2020 – cancelled)

“Greek Life, Academics, and Earnings”  
Bates College (2021), University of Connecticut (2021), University of Dayton (2021), Wake Forest University (2020), Colby College (2020), University of South Florida (2020), University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2020), ASSA Annual Meeting (2019), University of Maine (2018), Miami University (2018)

“Performance Pay and Productivity in Health Care: Evidence from Community Health Centers”  
Western Economic Association Annual Meeting (2019), Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting (2017), Miami University (2017)

“All-In or Checked-Out? Disincentives and Selection in Income Share Agreements”  
West Virginia University (2018), Bentley University (2017), ASSA Annual Meeting (2017),  
Ohio University (2016), Xavier University (2016), Miami University (2015), Southern Economic  
Association Annual Meeting (2014)

“Scanning the Tables: Do Professional Online Poker Players Respond to Earning Conditions?”  
Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting (2015)

“Spring Forward at Your Own Risk: Daylight Saving Time and Fatal Vehicle Crashes”  
Purdue University (2015), The College of the Holy Cross (2015), Berry College (2015), Eastern  
Michigan University (2015), Miami University (2015), ASSA Annual Meeting (2015), UC  
Colorado Springs (2014), Colorado State University (2014), Colorado University Environmental  
Brown Bag (2014), Heartland Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop (2013), CU  
Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop (2013)

## Teaching

### Courses Taught

*Miami University:* Topics in Applied Econometrics (Graduate); Intermediate Microeconomics;  
Economics of Compensation

*University of Colorado, Boulder:* Intermediate Microeconomics; Principles of Microeconomics  
(TA); Principles of Macroeconomics (TA)

### Advising (\* denotes adviser)

M.A. Thesis Committees: Kien Dao Bui (2016); Joung Yeob Ha\* (2017); Alex Lust (2018);  
Jameson Foran (2018); Jack Fetick (2018); James Inlow (2018); Zach Sanderson (2018);  
Samantha Bosse (2019); Matthew Pesavento (2019); Haley Mull (2020); Eric Laub (2020);  
Jordan McMaster (2020); Timothy Kirby (2020); Yanqing Zhao (2021); Noah Tilton (2021);  
Elliott Crummer (2021); Jo King\* (2021); Gilbert Redman\* (2021); Sofiya Kryvoruchenko\*  
(2022); Jacob Pieniazek (2022); Emma LaGuardia (2022)

Honors Theses: Matt Runser\* (2018-2019); Sofiya Kryvoruchenko\* (2021-2022)

### Prior Teaching Roles

Graduate Instructor Mentor, University of Colorado, Fall 2015

*Conducted peer reviews for each TA and graduate instructor and developed a workshop series  
on overcoming common challenges in the classroom*

Lead Graduate Teacher, University of Colorado, Fall 2013-Spring 2014

*Provided training to new graduate instructors and TAs, served as a resource for teaching-  
related questions, organized monthly pedagogy workshops, and served as liaison between the  
department and the university's Graduate Teacher Program*

## Teaching Presentations

“Identifying Predictors of Student Success: An Analysis of Matched Student-Teacher Learning  
Styles,” *University of Colorado Boulder's Graduate Teacher Program Lead Graduate Teacher  
Capstone Poster Event* in Boulder, Colorado, April 2014.

“Applying Multiple Modes of Teaching and Learning in the Classroom,” *University of Colorado  
Boulder's Graduate Teacher Program Spring Conference* in Boulder, Colorado, January 2014.

## Honors and Awards

Outstanding Professor Awards Top 12: *University-wide teaching award selected by Miami University's Associated Student Government*, 2021  
Selected as an Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) Research Affiliate, 2019  
Reuben A. Zubrow Fellowship in Economics, University of Colorado, 2014  
Department of Economics Data Acquisition Grant, University of Colorado, 2014  
Department of Economics Travel Grant, University of Colorado, 2013 and 2014  
The Best Should Teach Silver Award, University of Colorado, 2013  
Academic Fellowship, University of Colorado, 2010

## Media Coverage of Research

Spring Forward at Your Own Risk: Daylight Saving Time and Fatal Vehicle Crashes

Press Coverage: [NBC](#), [CBS](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [Worcester Telegram & Gazette](#), [The Huffington Post](#), [The Verge](#), [Vox](#), [The Columbus Dispatch](#)

Greek Life, Academics, and Earnings

Press Coverage: [The Atlantic](#), [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#), [Inside Higher Ed](#), [Business Insider](#)

Nursing Home Social Service Departments and Post-Acute Care: Does More Qualified Staff Improve Behavioral Symptoms and Reduce Antipsychotic Drug Use?

Press Coverage: [McKnight's Long-Term Care News](#)

## Government Testimony

Ohio State Senate, General Government and Agency Review Committee, September 2019

## Referee Service

*American Economic Journal: Applied Economics; American Economic Journal: Economic Policy; American Journal of Health Economics (x2); Bulletin of Economic Research; Canadian Journal of Economics; Contemporary Economic Policy (x2); Economics and Human Biology; Economic Inquiry; Economic Modelling; Empirical Economics; European Economic Review (x2); Health Economics (x2); Journal of Economics and Finance Education; Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization; Journal of Environmental Economics and Management; Journal of Health Economics; Journal of Human Resources (x3); Journal of Population Economics; Journal of Public Economics; Labour Economics; Review of Economics and Statistics; Southern Economic Journal*

## Review of Grant Proposals

Czech Science Foundation

## Departmental Service

Economics Honors Program Coordinator, 2022  
Director of Graduate Studies (Economics), 2021-2022  
Research Committee, 2021-present  
Departmental Mentor for Junior Faculty, 2021-2022  
Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, Analytics Team Lead, 2020-present  
Department Chair Search Committee, 2021  
Interim Department Chair Search Committee, 2021

Program Review Committee, 2020-2021

Applied Microeconomics Search Committee, 2019-20

Strategy Committee, 2018-2020

Graduate Studies Committee, 2015-2022

Economics Club Main Advisor, 2016-2017

Economics Club Co-Advisor, 2015-2016; 2017-2018

Assisted with applied microeconomics search, ASSA meetings in San Francisco 2016

### **Divisional Service**

Graduate Studies Committee, 2021-2022

Research Committee, 2021-2022

Academic Appeals Committee, 2020-2022

### **Professional Affiliations**

American Economic Association

Society of Labor Economists

Western Economic Association International

**Citizenship:** United States