

**Jamin D. Speer**  
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**Office Address:**

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**Employment:**

Associate Professor, University of Memphis, 2020-  
Assistant Professor, University of Memphis, 2014-2020  
Staff Economist, White House Council of Economic Advisers, 2010-2011

**Other Affiliations:**

IZA Research Fellow, 2020-

**Education:**

Ph.D., Economics, Yale University, 2014  
M.Phil., Economics, Yale University, 2011  
M.A., Economics, Yale University, 2009  
B.A., Economics, Vanderbilt University, 2007  
*Summa cum laude with High Honors in the Department of Economics*

**Publications:**

“Labor Market Returns to College Major Specificity” (with Margaret Leighton), *European Economic Review* 128, September 2020

“Where the Girls Are: Examining and Explaining the Gender Gap in the Nursing Major”, *Scottish Journal of Political Economy*, 67(3), p.322-343, July 2020

“Are Changes of Major Major Changes? The Roles of Grades, Gender, and Preferences in College Major Switching?” (with Carmen Astorne-Figari), *Economics of Education Review*, 70, p. 75-93, June 2019

“Drop Out, Switch Majors, or Persist?: The Contrasting Gender Gaps” (with Carmen Astorne-Figari), *Economics Letters*, 164, p. 82-85, March 2018

“The Gender Gap in College Major: Revisiting the Role of Pre-College Factors”, *Labour Economics* 44, p. 69-88, January 2017

“Pre-Market Skills, Occupational Choice, and Career Progression”, *Journal of Human Resources*, 52(1), p. 187-246, Winter 2017

"How Bad is Occupational Coding Error? A Task-Based Approach", *Economics Letters*, 141, p. 166-168, April 2016

“Cashier or Consultant? Entry Labor Market Conditions, Field of Study, and Career Success”, (with Joseph G. Altonji and Lisa B. Kahn), *Journal of Labor Economics*, 34(S1), p. S361-S401, January 2016

“Wages, Hours, and the School to Work Transition: The Consequences of Leaving School in a Recession for Less-Educated Men”, *The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy*, 16(1), p. 97-124, January 2016

“Trends in Earnings Differentials Across College Majors and the Changing Task Composition of Jobs” (with Joseph G. Altonji and Lisa B. Kahn), *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 104(5), p. 387-393, May 2014

#### **Working Papers:**

“Bye Bye Ms. American Sci: Women and the Leaky STEM Pipeline”

“STEM Occupations and the Gender Gap: What Can We Learn From Job Tasks?”

"Stigma and Selection into Social Programs: Evidence from a Job Training Recruitment Experiment" (with Adam Osman)

“Connections, Referrals, and Hiring Outcomes: Evidence from an Egyptian Establishment Survey” (with Adam Osman and Andrew Weaver)

“The Consequences of Promotion and Relegation in European Soccer Leagues: A Regression Discontinuity Approach”

#### **Work In Progress:**

"Skills and Vacancies in the Egyptian Labor Market" (with Adam Osman and Andrew Weaver)

"A Randomized Trial of Job Training in Egypt" (with Adam Osman)

"Worker Mismatch and the Specificity of Human Capital" (with Margaret Leighton)

#### **Grants:**

International Development Research Centre, 2015-2019, with Adam Osman and the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL), \$397,925  
Fogelman College 2015 New Faculty Summer Research Grant, \$15,000  
Fogelman College 2016 New Faculty Summer Research Grant, \$15,000  
Fogelman College 2017 Competitive Summer Research Grant, \$8,000  
Fogelman College 2018 Competitive Summer Research Grant, \$8,000  
Center for Healthcare Economics, 2019, \$12,000

**Presentations:**

2020: York University, Erasmus School of Economics (both cancelled due to Coronavirus), Advances in Field Experiments conference

2019: APPAM Conference

2018: University of Illinois, Tennessee Empirical Applied Microeconomics Festival, Vanderbilt University Undergraduate Honors Seminar, Southern Economic Association

2017: American Economic Association, Society of Labor Economists, Vanderbilt Empirical Applied Microeconomics Festival, Western Economic Association

2016: Vanderbilt University Law and Economics Seminar, Western Economic Association, Association for Education Finance and Policy, Society of Labor Economists, Southern Illinois University Seminar, Southern Economic Association

2014: Southern Economic Association

**Chaired Conference Sessions:**

Society of Labor Economists – “Higher Education Outcomes” May 2019

American Economic Association – “Labor Productivity” January 2016

**Courses taught:**

Quantitative Economic Analysis (Graduate/Undergraduate)

Labor Economics (Graduate)

Labor and Public Economics (Graduate)

Labor Economics (Undergraduate)

Public Economics (Undergraduate)

Economics of Poverty and Discrimination (Undergraduate)

Principles of Macroeconomics (Undergraduate)

**Fellowships, Honors and Awards:**

George Johnson Fellow for Teaching, University of Memphis, 2020-2023

Finalist, University of Memphis Distinguished Teaching Award, 2018-19

George Johnson Fellow for Research, University of Memphis, 2017-2020

Fogelman College Outstanding Paper Award (1<sup>st</sup> Place in Empirical Category), 2016  
*Awarded for “Cashier or Consultant? Entry Labor Market Conditions, Field of Study,  
and Career Success”*

Fogelman College Outstanding Paper Award (1<sup>st</sup> Place in Empirical Category), 2017  
*Awarded for “Pre-Market Skills, Occupational Choice, and Career Progression”*

**Department Service:**

Economics Graduate Program Committee (Member), 2014-present

Department of Economics Seminar Coordinator, 2016-present

Hiring Committee Member, 2016-17

Hiring Committee Chair, 2018-19

Economics Masters Program Coordinator, 2019-present

**Referee Service:**

*Review of Economic Studies, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Human Resources,  
Economics of Education Review, European Economic Review, Journal of Labor Research,  
Economics Letters, Oxford Economic Papers, IZA Journal of Labor Economics, IZA World  
of Labor, Research in Labor Economics, Southern Economic Journal, Labour Economics,  
Journal of Economic Surveys, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Education  
Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, ILR Review,  
Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Economic  
Inquiry, Contemporary Economic Policy, Journal of the European Economic Association*

**Other public appearances:**

Contestant on *Jeopardy!*, November 2019