

ALEXANDER A. SMITH

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CURRENT POSITION

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY, Department of Social Sciences – West Point, NY
Assistant Professor of Economics (July 2015-Present)

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, Department of Economics – Charlottesville, VA
Doctor of Philosophy, Economics (May 2015)
Master of Arts, Economics (May 2011)

Course Sequences: Labor Economics, Public Economics, and Industrial Organization
Dissertation: “Essays on the Economics of Education”
Committee: Professors Sarah Turner (Chair), James Wyckoff, and Leora Friedberg

WILLIAMS COLLEGE – Williamstown, MA
Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics and Economics (May 2006)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Barr, Andrew C., Jonathan Eggleston, and Alexander A. Smith. [“Investing in Infants: The Lasting Effects of Cash Transfers to New Families.”](#) *Accepted, Quarterly Journal of Economics*

Anders, John, Andrew C. Barr, and Alexander A. Smith. [“The Effect of Early Childhood Education on Adult Criminality: Evidence from the 1960s through 1990s.”](#) *In press, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy.* ([Free Access](#))

Barr, Andrew C. and Alexander A. Smith. "[Fighting crime in the cradle: The effects of early childhood access to nutritional assistance.](#)" *Journal of Human Resources* (2021): 0619-10276R2. ([Free Access](#))

Smith, Alexander A. "[The Minimum Wage and Teen Educational Attainment.](#)" *Labour Economics* 73 (2021): 102061.

Carter, Susan Payne, Alexander A. Smith, and Carl Wojtaszek. "[Who Will Fight? The All-Volunteer Army after 9/11.](#)" *AER Papers and Proceedings* (2017): 415-19.

WORKING PAPERS

["The Long-Run Effects of Universal Pre-K on Criminal Activity"](#) (*Revise and Resubmit at Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*)

["Predicting Unemployment Insurance Duration for Veterans"](#) with Bill Skimmyhorn and Susan Carter (*Under Review*)

["In-kind Benefits: Evidence from Puerto Rico"](#) with Andrew Barr and Adam Roberts

"Pre-Analysis Plan: The Effects of (Free) College on Earnings and Health Across the Life Cycle" with Andrew Barr, Adam Roberts, and Jonathan Eggleston (*Currently Embargoed*)

["Veteran Treatment Courts: Impact on Long-Term Recidivism"](#) with MAJ Chris Calway

["The Effects of Performance-Based Compensation: Evidence from Oregon's Teacher Incentive Fund"](#) with Thomas Dee and Jim Wyckoff

WHITE PAPERS

"An Analysis of Travel Risk Posed by COVID-19" for LTG Brito, with LTC Jason Barnhill, CPT Charlene Hoadwonic, Dr. Ryan Limbocker, Dr. Scott Limbocker, MAJ Alexander Saul, CPT Simratpal Singh, LTC Michael Washington, and CPT Hazumu Yano, September 2020

PRESENTATIONS

2022: Alliance for Early Success (*Invited General Audience Webinar*)

2021: National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute Public Economics Program, SUNY Binghamton (*Invited Seminar Postponed due to Covid-19*), National Bureau of

Research Economics of Mobility Conference, National Tax Association Annual Conference on Taxation

2020: National Bureau of Economic Research Children's Program Meeting (*Presented by Co-author*), Texas A&M University (*Invited Seminar Cancelled due to Covid-19*)

2019: National Bureau of Economic Research Children's Program Meeting (*Presented by Co-author*), Institute for Research on Poverty Annual Summer Research Workshop, Williams College (*Invited Seminar*), Association for Education Finance and Policy

2018: Northeast Economics of Education Workshop

2017: American Economic Association Conference, Southern Economic Association Fall Research Conference

2016: Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting, The Association for Education Finance and Policy Spring Conference

2015: McCourt School of Public Policy Georgetown University (*Invited Seminar*), The Association for Education Finance and Policy Spring Conference, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, University of Connecticut - Northeast Economics of Education Workshop, Southern Economic Association Fall Research Conference

2014: The Association for Education Finance and Policy Spring Conference, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference (*2 sessions*), University of Virginia Department of Economics Graduate Student Brown Bag, University of Virginia Curry School of Education Policy Lab

AWARDS

Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award Honorable Mention, Association for Education Finance and Policy, 2016

Dissertation Award Honorable Mention, Association for Public Policy and Management, 2015

New Scholar Award, Association for Education Finance and Policy, 2015

IPUMS Research Award, Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota, 2014

U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences, Pre-doctoral Interdisciplinary Research Training Program in the Educational Sciences Fellowship, 2012-2014

GRANTS

Spencer Foundation, Principal Investigator *with Andrew Barr* (\$50,000), 2021-2022, “Evaluating the Spillover Effects of Higher Education: Evidence from the End of the Student Benefit Program.”

The Smith Richardson Foundation, Co-Principle Investigator *with James Wyckoff and Thomas Dee* (\$165,000), 2013-2015, “The Effects of Performance-Based Compensation: Evidence from the Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF).”

TEACHING

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY:

SS498C Senior Thesis in Economics (AY2019-2, 2020-2, 2021-2)

SS489C Research Methods in Economics (AY2020-1, 2021-1, 2021-2)

SS387 Public Economics (AY2016-2, 2017-1, 2018-1, 2019-1, 2020-1, 2021-1, 2022-1)

SS382 Microeconomics (AY2019-2, 2020-2)

SS201 Principles of Economics (AY2016-1, 2017-2, 2018-2)

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA:

U.S. Education Policy *Co-Instructor* (Fall 2013)

Mathematical Microeconomics *Teaching Assistant* (Fall 2010)

Introduction Microeconomics *Teaching Assistant* (Spring 2010)

Introduction Microeconomics *Teaching Assistant* (Fall 2009)

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA – Charlottesville, VA

Research Assistant (2011-2015) for James Wyckoff

NERA ECONOMIC CONSULTING – New York, NY

Analyst (July 2008 – April 2009)

Associate Analyst (July 2007 – June 2008)

Research Associate (July 2006 – June 2007)

UNDERGRADUATE THESES

Thesis Advisor

“Analyzing the Effectiveness of Mission Command Style Policing in New York City” by Sam Polisini (2019)

“Short-Run Labor Supply Responses to Income Shocks: Evidence from Alaska’s Basic Income Program” by Blaise Paulo (2018)

“Can Writing a Check Reduce Recidivism? Evidence from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians’ Basic Income Program” by Bradley Torpey (2018)

“Estimating the Effect of Proximity to Legal Gambling on Marital and Performance Outcomes for Enlisted Soldiers” by Michael Wilyard (2017)

“Do Increases in Minimum Wage Affect Army Enlistment?” by Andrew Beckman (2016)

Thesis Program Director / Thesis Committee Member

2021: Eric Paar, Josh Thomas, Greg Brownell, Bennett Hellman, Sam Redman, Meeah Mazikowski, Logan Stansbury, Joe Kim, Chris Slosar, Andrew Bowlus

2020: Jack Kraus, Peter Kim, Michael Kleine, Braden Durian, Justin Grose

2019: Fred Kratz, Sam Polisini, Eva Gould

SERVICE

Executive Director of Economics Curriculum Advisory Committee (2021 - present)

Economics Curriculum Self-Study Committee Member (2021 - present)

Economics Faculty Search Committee Chair (2021), Committee Member (2018, 2020)

Economics Junior Military Faculty Hiring Committee Member (2019, 2021)

Thesis Program Director (2019 – present)

Economics Liaison for the SOSH Research Lab (2019 - present)

Assistant Director of Economics Curriculum Assessment (2016 - present)

Thomson Memorial Award (for undergraduate writing) Committee Member (2016 - present)

Dean's Faculty Scholarship Award Committee Member (2016 - present)

Referee Service: Review of Economics and Statistics, Labour Economics, Economic Inquiry, Economics of Education Review

Other Activities

Re-designed West Point Economics website, 2022

Cultural Affairs Seminar Series Lecture "Economics of Social Mobility", 2021

CH291 Health Professions Seminar Guest Lecture "Overview of Healthcare Economics", 2021

Created "Cadet Perspective: Economics at West Point" video *with Dr. Matt Gudgeon*, 2020

Independent Study Advisor for Bennett Hellman, 2020

Assistant "Officer-in-Charge" for Men's Volleyball Club, 2016-2018

Summer Leader Experience Instructor, 2016-2018

Military Leadership (PL300) Mentor for David Reeves, 2017

Organizer and Leader of 3-week AIAD volunteering trip to Ghana, 2016