

**Application to NBER's Digitization Workshop  
Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research  
March 2-4, 2016**

**Contact Information:**

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**Course of Study:**

- Undergraduate coursework including Princeton University's pre-Ph.D. Economics course track in microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics.
- Coursework in public policy and management within the London School of Economics' MPA Program, with a specialization in Public and Economic Policy.
- Introductory coursework at UCSC in microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics sequences, including applied econometrics and time series analyses.
- Elective work in development, finance, international trade, and applied microeconomics.
- External coursework in applied mathematics and statistics and computer science including Bayesian modeling, probability theory, programming in Java and Python, object-oriented programming, and data structures.

**Research Fellowships:**

- Research positions with Robert Fairlie, UCSC Economics Department Chair, in the fields of education, human capital development, and entrepreneurship (2012-2015)
- NSF-funded research position with Rodney Ogawa, former UCSC Education Department Chair and Director of the Center for Educational Research in the Interest of Underserved Students, on educational data collection and organization across governmental and non-governmental agencies (2012-2015).

**Teaching Fellowships:**

- Graduate Student Instructor teaching experience at UCSC in microeconomics, business strategy, managerial economics, and communication.

**Research Focus:**

- Major area of research: Applied Microeconomics and Econometrics
- Specializations in human capital development among at-risk youth, economics of education, health economics, and public economics.

**Projects:**

- Princeton Undergraduate Thesis on transatlantic competition policy, with a focus on merger enforcement and the effect of variations in merger notification thresholds on merger activity and competition.
- MPA Thesis on the French labor market effects of immigration to France from Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia.
- Current team member on NSF-funded grant to study the availability and potential use of “Big Data” in education, and to construct a cross-agency educational, health and social services database for the Silicon Valley area.

**Date of Advancement to Candidacy:** March 2013.

**Thesis Committee:** Carlos Dobkin (advisor, UCSC), Robert Fairlie (Economics Department Chair, UCSC), Justin Marion (UCSC)

**Expected Graduation Date:** June 2017

**Dissertation**

- Microeconomic and policy-oriented research in the areas of Education and Labor Economics.
- Evaluation of the effects of English Language Learner policies and programs on short- and long-term student outcomes in California’s South Bay school districts.
- Analysis school- and class- level interventions targeting non-cognitive human capital and skill development.
- Assessment of factors affecting California Community College enrollment among at-risk youth.
- Analysis of policy factors contributing to non-academic risky behavior and health outcomes among youth.

**Motivation:**

- I am a current team member on an NSF-funded grant to establish a Silicon Valley Regional Data Trust to support data-intensive research in education, social and behavioral, and data sciences. Data in these areas lacks organization, digitization, and integration across educational, health and human services, and juvenile justice agencies. Effective research and policy analysis in this field requires cross-agency collaboration to generate the technical and institutional infrastructure to support digitized, integrated, and secure data.
- I work as a data analyst with a Santa Clara-based educational non-profit that targets non-cognitive development. This organization lacks the resources to systematically collect data, creating a significant barrier to effective program evaluation.
- My motivation in applying for the NBER Digitization Tutorial is to gain the skills necessary to contribute to addressing the data challenges we face on these collaborative projects, and to apply these same skills and solutions to my ongoing independent research in analyzing human capital development and educational policy.