

Ben Ost

Contact Information

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Associate Professor of Economics
University of Illinois at Chicago
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Education

Cornell University, Ph.D., Economics (August, 2011)
Grinnell College BA, Math and Economics (May, 2006)

Publications and Forthcoming

- “Omitted variable bias in interacted models: A cautionary tale.” *Review of Economics and Statistics* (2023) (with Ben Feigenberg and Javaeria Qureshi)
- “Do EITC eligibility rules encourage college enrollment?” *Economic Inquiry* (2022) (with Shogher Ohannessian)
- “The Effect of Large-scale Performance-Based Funding in Higher Education” *Education Finance and Policy* (2021) 16(1), 92-124. (with Jason Ward)
- “The Role of Families in Student Sorting to Teachers” *Journal of Human Resources* (2020) 55(2), 470-503 (with Javaeria Qureshi)
- “Does Teacher-Family Experience Affect Test Scores?” *Contemporary Economic Policy* (2019) 37(3), 509-523 (with Javaeria Qureshi)
- “The Effect of Graduating with Honors on Earnings” *Labour Economics* (2018) 55, 149-162 (with Pauline Khoo)

“Academic Probation, Student Performance and Strategic Behavior” *Economic Inquiry* (2018) 56(3), 1646-1677 (with Marcus Casey, Jeffrey Cline and Javaeria Qureshi)

“The Returns to College for Marginal Students: Regression Discontinuity Evidence from University Dismissal Policies” *Journal of Labor Economics* (2018) 36(3), 779-805 (with Weixiang Pan and Doug Webber)

“The Impact of Layoff for Working College Students” *Labour Economics* (2018) 51, 1-12 (with Weixiang Pan and Doug Webber)

“Workload and Teacher Absence” *Economics of Education Review* (2017) 57, 20-30 (with Jeff Schiman)

“Comparing standard deviation effects across contexts” *Education Economics* (2017), 25(3), 251-265. (with Anuj Gangopadhyaya and Jeff Schiman)

“Gender preference and age at arrival among Asian immigrant mothers in the US” *Economic Letters* 2016, 145, 286-290. (with Eva Dziadula)

“Disruptive Peers and the Estimation of Teacher Value-Added” *Economics of Education Review* 2015, 49, 180-192 (with Irina Horoi)

“Grade-Specific Experience, Grade Reassignments, and Teacher Turnover” *Economics of Education Review* 2015, 46, 112-126 (with Jeff Schiman)

“The Impact of Parental Layoff on Higher Education Investment” *Economics of Education Review* 2014, 42, 53-63 (with Weixiang Pan)

“How do Teachers Improve? The Relative Importance of General and Specific Human Capital”, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2014, 6(2): 127-151.

“The Impact of Letter Grades on Student Effort, Course Selection, and Major Choice: A Regression-Discontinuity Analysis.” *The Journal of Economic Education*, 2014, 45(1), 1-10, (with Joyce Main).

“The Role of Peers and Grades in Determining Major Persistence in the Sciences.” *Economics of Education Review*, 2010, 29(6): 923-934.

Grants

Spencer Foundation Small
Grant (PI) \$47,000 OSSR
(PI) \$4000, \$9000.

Teaching

Teaching Awards

University of Illinois at Chicago TRP Award

Courses Taught

Graduate Microeconometrics *University of Illinois at Chicago* Graduate
Labor Economics *University of Illinois at Chicago*
Graduate Economics of Education *University of Illinois at Chicago*
Undergraduate Labor Economics *University of Illinois at Chicago*
Introduction to Macroeconomics *University of Illinois at Chicago*
Economics of Wages and Employment *Cornell University*
Introduction to Macroeconomics *Auburn Prison (Cornell Prison Education Program)*

Advising

Undergraduate Thesis Mentor: Sara Bollman; Marek Gal; Samana Walji

Undergraduate Research Experience Advisor: Rodrigo Garcia; Mark Lewicki; Maria Hartas;

Valentina Palmiotti; Danny Yoshiba; Akash Patel; Martin Gannon; Juan Morales; Kinjal Joshi

Graduate Advising: Kevin Callison (committee member); Thomas Walstrum (chair); Abeya Mokhtar (chair); Eva Dziadula (committee member); Naveen Singhal (committee member); Cuiping Long (committee member); Pavel Dramski (committee member); Weixiang Pan (committee member); Jeff Schiman (committee member); Irina Horoi (committee member); Yeong Jeong (chair); Nahleen Zahra (committee member); Minh Nguyen (committee member); Pauline Khoo (chair); Jeff Cline (chair); Anh Ngo (committee member); Chen Meng (committee member); Yuanrong Xu (committee member); Chia Chang (committee member); Chris Cruz (committee member); Hyunkyu Ko (committee member); Jason Ward (committee member); Jiajia Chen (committee member); Xuening Wang (committee member); Rui Yan (committee member); Shalise Ayromloo (committee member); Maciej Wachala (chair); Andrew Ruth (chair); Luis Faundez Chacon (chair);

Departmental Service

Placement Director (2015-2017) *University of Illinois at Chicago*

Graduate Curriculum Committee (2016-present) *University of Illinois at Chicago*

Seminar Organizer (2013-2018) *University of Illinois at Chicago*

Advisory Committee (2012-2016; 2018-present) *University of Illinois at Chicago*

Graduate Admissions Committee (2014, 2018, 2020, 2021,2022,2023) *University of Illinois at Chicago*

Presentations

Southern Illinois University (April 2023)

Association for Education Finance and Policy (March 2010, March 2012, March 2013, February 2015, March 2016, March 2018, March 2019, March 2021)

Marquette University (September 2022)

Depaul University (September 2019)

Milwaukee University (March 2016)

Lake Forest College (December 2015)

Notre Dame (December 2014)

Lehigh University (November 2013)

Institute for Governmental and Public Affairs (December 2012)

Cornell Higher Education Research Institute Conference (March 2010)

Professional Service

Referee for: *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *American Economic Review*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *American Economic Journal*, *Applied Economics*, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Economics of Education Review*, *ILR Review*, *Labour Economics*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Southern Economic Journal*, *Education Finance and Policy*, *Education Evaluation and Policy*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *PLOS One*

Grant reviewer for: *National Science Foundation*, *Israel Science Foundation*, *Smith Richardson Foundation*

Conference reviewer for: *American Educational Research Association*