



Aaron Cooke

Curriculum Vitae

Education

- 2013–Present **Ph.D. in Economics**, *The University of Connecticut*, Storrs, CT.
2007–2011 **B.A. in Economics**, *Westmont College*, Santa Barbara, CA.

Research

- Committee Advisor: Professor Kai Zhao
Members: Professor Hyun Lee, Professor Francis Ahking

Job Market Paper

- Title *Intergenerational Transfers and Wealth Inequality: an overlapping generations model*
- Coauthors Kai Zhao, Hyun Lee
- Description This paper contributes to the existing literature by studying the impact on wealth inequality from life-cycle savings, intergenerational transfers, and fertility differences between the rich and the poor. We find that bequests have a significant impact on the level of wealth inequality and that the fertility difference between the rich and the poor amplifies the effect of bequests.

Other Papers

- Title *Taxing the Dead: an analysis of intergenerational transfers and levies*
- Description The contribution of this paper is to analyze the impact of differing methods of taxing intergenerational transfers, in the context of a dynamic general equilibrium overlapping generations model with differential fertility. This paper is the first to consider the impact of switching from an estate to inheritance tax in the presence of differential fertility, and the fallout such a switch would have upon inequality and welfare.
- Title *Killing for Profit: a model of intrastate conflict*

Description The main question this paper attempts to answer is: would rational actors engage in violent behavior, and if so, why? At the core of this approach to conflict is the understanding that violence happens or does not happen as a result of two opposing forces. First is the additional economic power that a conflict group can obtain through violence. Second is the asset destruction caused by intrastate violence.

Title *Those Who Can: Teacher Quality and the Labor Market*

Description The central question of this paper is what impact labor market conditions have on marginal entrance to the teaching profession, and what ramifications this has on ultimate instructor quality. This paper's hypothesis is that in times of economic distress and high private sector unemployment, like the recent recession, the expected quality of individuals who are hired for teaching jobs increases.

Experience

Private Sector

2011–2013 **Application Specialist**, YARDI SYSTEMS, Valuation, Modeling and Forecasting Team.

Designed and implemented investment management software.

Responsibility:

- Attended conferences
- Met with development team
- Quality assurance
- Trained clients

Teaching

2014–Present **Instructor of Record**, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, Department of Economics. Built syllabus, taught classes, wrote exams, managed presentations, graded papers, held office hours.

Classes Taught:

- Fall 2017: Economic Writing and Research
- Summer 2017: History of European Economics
- Spring 2017: Economic Writing and Research
- Fall 2016: Economic Writing and Research
- Spring 2016: Intermediate Macroeconomics
- Fall 2015: Intermediate Macroeconomics
- Summer 2015: Intermediate Macroeconomics
- Spring 2015: Honors Introductory Microeconomics

2013–2014 **Teacher Assistant**, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, Department of Economics. Met with professors, taught classes, administered exams, graded papers, held office hours.

Classes Taught:

- Fall 2014: Introductory Macroeconomics
- Spring 2014: Introductory Microeconomics
- Fall 2013: Introductory Macroeconomics

Awards

- 2017 Timothy A. and Beverly C. Holt Fellowship
- 2016 Abraham Ribicoff Fellowship
- 2014 Economics Department Graduate Fellowship
- 2011 Westmont Economics Essay Contest: First Place
- 2009 Golden Eagle Student Athlete of the Year

Economics experience

- Conferences Midwest Macro, Spring 2017. ASSA Poster, Winter 2018
- Referee Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization
- Reports

Programming experience

- Languages PYTHON, STATA, R, FORTRAN, \LaTeX
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