



# Aaron Cooke

## *Curriculum Vitae*

### Education

- 2015–Present **Ph.D. in Economics**, *The University of Connecticut*, Storrs, CT.  
2013–2015 **M.A. in Economics**, *The University of Connecticut*, Storrs, CT.  
2007–2011 **B.A. in Economics**, *Westmont College*, Santa Barbara, CA.

### Experience

#### 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:

- 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

## 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

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## Research

Title *Taxing the Dead: an empirical and theoretical analysis of bequest, taxes and life-cycle savings*

Supervisors Professors Kai Zhao, Hyun Lee, Francis Ahking

Description This is an extension to my earlier paper, incorporating additional model richness and an empirical exploration of the effect of bequests on life cycle savings using the Survey of Consumer Finances.

Title *Intergenerational Transfers and Wealth Inequality: an overlapping generations model*

Supervisors Professors Kai Zhao, Hyun Lee, Francis Ahking

Description This paper combines two major engines of inequality: inheritance of ability and bequests across generations to explain the wealth-income paradox. It uniquely combines endogenous fertility and educational investments to explain the lack of low income bequests.

Title *Killing for Profit: a model of intrastate conflict*

Supervisors Professor Richard Suen

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*

Supervisors Professors Steve Ross, Eric Brunner, Delia Furtado

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.

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## Awards

2017 Timothy A. and Beverly C. Holt Fellowship

2016 Abraham Ribicoff Fellowship

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- 2014 Economics Department Graduate Fellowship
- 2011 Westmont Economics Essay Contest: First Place
- 2009 Golden Eagle Student Athlete of the Year

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## Programming experience

Languages PYTHON, STATA, R, FORTRAN,  $\text{\LaTeX}$

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