

Brian M. Murphy

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Education

University of Houston, Houston, TX	Aug 2023 – Present
Ph.D. in Economics	
University of Houston, Houston, TX	Aug 2023 – May 2025
M.A. in Economics	
La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA	Aug 2019 – May 2023
B.A. in Economics & B.S. in Mathematics	

Research Interests

Economics of Education, Labor Economics, Gender Economics, and the Economics of Crime

Working Papers

1. "[Neighborhood Impacts on STEM Major Choice](#)" with Jeonghyeok Kim and Rohit Munshi
2. "[Capital Expenditure by School Districts: Driven by Enrollment, or Administrative Convenience?](#)" with Eva Loaeza Albino, Steven Craig, Sameer Malik, Md Abdullah Al Mashrur, Ryan McGregor and Bent Sorensen

Work in Progress

1. "Classification and Confidence: Long Run Impacts of Standardized Test Score Classifications"
2. "Teacher Quality and Workforce Reallocation in the Wake of School Closures"
3. "STEM-Focused Charter Schools and Student Success: Evaluating the Impact of Harmony Public Schools on Students' Transitions to Adulthood" with Blake Heller and Jeonghyeok Kim

Research Experience

Research Assistant for Vikram Maheshri , University of Houston	November 2024 – Present
Project: Police Departments Use of Predictive Policing Technology and Effects on Crime	
Task: Received a grant to create a new dataset on policing tactics used by police department across the United States, with a particular focus on if police departments use predictive policing technology. I was in charge of two undergraduate students in creating, documenting, and maintaining an accurate dataset.	
Research Assistant for the Center for Civic and Public Policy Improvement (CCPPI), Houston, Texas	February 2025 – August 2025
Project: Data Collection for Socio-Economic Characteristics Across Texas	
Task: Tasked with creating and maintaining a database using micro data that describes counties across Texas.	
Research Assistant for Development Innovation Ventures, World Education, Building Tomorrow through USAID Funding , Kampala, Uganda	December 2024-March 2025
Project: Targeting the Learning Crisis Program in Uganda	
Task: Tasked with the evaluation of a project to expand and expand targeted instruction to all of Uganda. This includes understanding how to best teach children, improve enrollment, and develop teacher monitoring technology.	
Note: This project was canceled due to the discontinuation of funding to certain USAID programs.	
Data Scientist , WSFS Bank & NewLane Finance - Philadelphia, PA	May 2021 – June 2023

Project: Auto Decision Modeling, Auto Pre Qualifying Modeling, Default Modeling, CECL Stress Testing Validation, Portfolio Growth Modeling

Task: Using Python, SQL and Tableau, I was responsible for creating various models and presenting information in easily digestible ways. These models helped speed up loan application processes, understand which customers were more likely to default, and build and simulate our stress testing models to see how the bank would perform in recessionary environments. Additionally, I created dashboards to quickly view data that was easy to understand and could show country wide, or industry trends for executives.

Research Assistant for Richard Mshomba, La Salle University

August 2022 – May 2023

Project: [Africa and Preferential Trade: An Unpredictable Path for Development](#)

Task: Collected and analyzed economic data on countries in Africa for the purpose of analyzing their preferential trade agreements with the European Union and United States. Translated the data into tables featured within the book.

Research Assistant for Elizabeth (Beth) Paulin, La Salle University

August 2021 – May 2022

Task: Compiled data collected from the American Community Survey, conducted analysis and created data tables involving summary statistics, general trends and cross county comparisons.

Professional Service

Coordinator for University of Houston Brown Bag Seminar

Fall 2024 - Present

Student Chair of the University of Houston Social Committee

Fall 2023 - Present

Teaching Experience

Instructor for Intermediate Microeconomics, University of Houston

Spring 2026

Teaching Assistant for Principals of Macroeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Public Finance, the Social Economy and Enterprise Academy, and Microeconomic Theory (M.A), University of Houston

Fall 2023 - Fall 2025

Honors, Scholarships and Fellowships

Cullen Fellowship Travel Grant, University of Houston

2025

Geruson Award for Best Thesis, La Salle University

2023

Most Outstanding Student in College of Liberal Arts, La Salle University

2023

Flubacher Award for Commitment to Community Service, La Salle University

2022, 2023

Additional Information

Languages: English (native) and Spanish (limited working proficiency, B1 Level)

Software: Python, Stata, R, MATLAB, Mathematica, SQL, Tableau and \LaTeX

Citizenship: American