

JOE MITCHELL-NELSON

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FIELDS OF EXPERTISE

Development economics, stated preference research methods, applied econometrics, microeconomic theory

EDUCATION

University of Oregon

Ph.D. in Economics

Expected 2021

M.S. in Economics

2018

Portland State University

B.S. in Economics

2015

B.S. in Philosophy

2012

PUBLICATIONS

“Subreption, radical institutionalism, and economic evolution” (with John Hall and Alexander Dunlap) in Panoeconomicus, 2016

WORKING PAPERS

“Cultural insiders and foreign aid: How the cultural background of World Bank project managers affects project success” (job market paper)

- I use a relatively new measure of cultural proximity between countries, based on the genetic distance measure compiled by Spolaore and Wacziarg (2018) and data from the World Bank, to quantify how much cultural overlap likely exists between project leaders and the countries where these projects take place. To address possible endogeneity arising from assignment of managers to projects, I instrument for cultural proximity with the average cultural proximity of other available project leaders. Where institutions are strong, culturally similar project managers outperform those who are more culturally distant, but this relationship is not present in countries with poor institutions.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

“Willingness to bear the costs of pandemic restrictions” (with Trudy Ann Cameron)

- We develop and field a stated preference survey about pandemic restrictions to a representative sample of Oregonians. Our results will allow us to identify the tradeoffs Oregonians are willing to make between, on the one hand, the economic burden and inconvenience of pandemic restrictions and, on the other, the avoided illnesses and deaths those restrictions are likely to achieve.

“Differential attention to attributes in stated preference research: evidence from Mouselab” (with Trudy Ann Cameron)

- In typical stated preference surveys, respondents are required to make cognitively taxing choices among a set of alternatives. We build a model of attention allocation that assumes subjects gain utility from accurately representing their preferences in incentive compatible surveys but that subject attention is finite and costly. We validate our model using data from mouse-tracking software, collected while subjects work through a stated preference survey about health outcomes.

TEACHING

Independent instructor

EC 201: Principles of Microeconomics
EC 311: Intermediate Microeconomic Theory

*Fall 2019 & Spring, Summer, Fall 2020
Spring, Summer 2019*

Teaching assistant

EC 320: Introduction to Econometrics I
EC 607: Advanced Microeconomic Theory
EC 201: Principles of Microeconomics

*Spring 2018
Winter 2017
Fall 2017*

HONORS, AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020 Department of Economics Graduate Teaching Award
- 2018 Kleinsorge Summer Fellowship from University of Oregon Department of Economics
- 2016 Kleinsorge First-year Fellowship from University of Oregon Department of Economics
- 2015 Harold Vatter Award for outstanding economics undergraduates from Portland State University
- 2007 National Merit Finalist

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Software & Tools

R, Stata, julia, Shiny, Excel

WORK EXPERIENCE

English teacher

Jonathan Education Center (Portland, OR)

2012-2015

English and Math teacher

Kaplan Test Prep (Washington, D.C.)

2009-2011

REFERENCES

Trudy Ann Cameron (doctoral committee chair)
R. F. Mikesell Professor of Economics
cameron@uoregon.edu

Alfredo Burlando (doctoral committee member)
Associate Professor of Economics
burlando@uoregon.edu

Shankha Chakraborty (doctoral committee member)
Professor of Economics
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