

Luke Walsh

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Profile

I am a PhD candidate in Economics at the University of Liverpool Management School. My research lies at the intersection of labour, education, and public economics, with a particular focus on how policy reforms shape individual outcomes such as human capital investment. My job market paper examines the impact of higher tuition costs on university participation, attainment, and subsequent labour market outcomes in the UK, using linked administrative microdata and a difference-in-discontinuities design. In my other work, I study the effects of pay-transparency laws, minimum-wage thresholds, as well as algorithmic pricing in rental housing markets.

Education

University of Liverpool , PhD in Economics	Sept 2022 – Sept 2026
• Supervisors: Prof. Ian Burn & Dr Patrick Bennett	
University of Liverpool , MSc in Economics	Sept 2021 – Sept 2022
• Grade: Merit classification	
University of Liverpool , BSc in Economics	Sept 2018 – May 2021
• Grade: First Class Honours Degree	

Working Papers

"Investing in Your Future? How the Cost of University Shapes Labour Market Outcomes"

- Job Market Paper, Available Upon Request

"The Effect of Pay Secrecy Bans on Wages and Discrimination Complaints"

- With Prof. Ian Burn & Dr Patrick Bennett, (submitted) – [Download Link](#)

Works in Progress

"Do Minimum Wages Protect Precarious Workers? Evidence from Zero-Hours Contracts"

Using a regression discontinuity design, I explore the effects of the minimum wage on workers with uncertain hours of employment to solve employer anticipatory effects

"The Antitrust Risks of Algorithmic Rent Pricing: Evidence from the RealPage Ban"

Using a difference-in-difference design, I explore the effects of banning a popular site used by landlords to set rent prices in the US

"Staying Longer, Going Further? The Impact of Education Reforms on University Participation"

Using a difference-in-discontinuities design, we examine how reforms that extended time in education affected educational attainment and labour market outcomes – with Jessica Botros

"Graduating in Hard Times: Recessions and the Graduate Wage Premium"

Using a pseudo difference-in-difference strategy, we explore the within-cohort effects of recessions by exploiting the erosion of the graduate premium – with Jessica Botros

Teaching Experience

Introductory Econometrics for Business and Economics – Undergraduate Level – Seminar Leader	Autumn 2023
Applied Microeconomics – Master's Level – Seminar Leader	Spring 2024
Advanced Econometric Methods – Undergraduate Level – Seminar Leader	

Mathematics for Economics and Business – Undergraduate Level – Seminar Leader	Autumn 2024
Applied Microeconomics – Master’s Level – Seminar Leader	Spring 2025
Introductory Econometrics for Business and Economics – Undergraduate Level – Seminar Leader	Autumn 2025

Presentations and Conferences

European Association of Labour Economists (EALE, Prague), Micro Applied Cluster (University of Liverpool), Internal Seminar Series (University of Liverpool), North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership (NWSSDTP, Liverpool)	2023
Administrative Data Workshop (University of Liverpool), North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership (NWSSDTP, Lancaster), Administrative Data Workshop (University of Liverpool), AMBS Alliance Conference (University of Manchester)	2024
North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership (NWSSDTP, Manchester), Internal Seminar Series (University of Liverpool)	2025

Skills and Datasets

Languages: STATA, R, SQL, ~~TeX~~

Datasets: Longitudinal Educational Outcomes (LEO, UK), Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE, UK), Labour Force Survey (LFS, UK), Current Population Survey (CPS, US), Zillow Observed Rent Index (ZORI, US)