

Ahmed El Fatmaoui

Department of Economics
University of Oklahoma
308 Cate Center Drive, Room 235
Norman OK, 73072

Phone: (405) 325-2861

E-mail: aelfatmaoui@ou.edu

Homepage: ahmedelfatmaoui.github.io

EDUCATION

2024 Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, [University of Oklahoma](#), Norman, OK
2019 M.S. in Applied Mathematics, [University of Central Oklahoma](#), Edmond, OK
2015 M.B.A., [University of Central Oklahoma](#), Edmond, OK
2011 B.A. in Finance, [Knowledge Computer and Business Institute](#), Rabat, Morocco

RESEARCH FIELDS

Primary: Labor Economics, Economics of Education
Secondary: Health Economics, Public Economics

PUBLICATIONS

2024 “From High School to Higher Education: Is Recreational Marijuana a
Consumption Amenity for US College Students?” (Sole Author), [Economic Inquiry](#)
2019 “Persistence homology of networks: methods and applications” (with Aktas
Mehmet E., and Esra Akbas), [Applied Network Science](#)

JOB MARKET PAPER

[“Dollars and Degrees: The Asymmetric Impact of State Appropriations on STEM and Non-STEM Fields”](#) (Sole Author)

Abstract: This study examines the differential impact of state appropriations on STEM and non-STEM degree completion at U.S. public four-year institutions. Using a panel dataset from 2003 to 2019 and a Bartik-style instrumental variables approach, I find that state funding disproportionately affects STEM degree completion, with little to no impact on Non-STEM degrees. A 10% increase in state appropriations leads to a 3.4% increase in STEM degrees conferred, primarily four years after the funding change. This effect is concentrated among male students, science STEM majors, and non-selective institutions. Increased state support leads to higher institutional spending, and more STEM programs—factors that impact STEM degree completion more than non-STEM fields.

FORTHCOMING

2024 “Vaccine Production and Innovation: Insights from Tort Reform and Medicare Expansion” (with Myongjin Kim, Firat Demir, Qi Ge, Pallab Ghosh, and Junying Zhao), [Under review at Health Economics](#)

2024 “Impacts of Federal Recommendation on Neonatal Vaccination and Mortality: HBV Vaccine Evidence” (with Pallab Ghosh, and Junying Zhao), **Review and Resubmit to Pediatrics Open Science**

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“What is the Role of College Athletics? An Analysis of the Population of NCAA Athletes” (with Tyler Ransom)

Abstract: Admissions at elite private universities in the United States are becoming increasingly competitive. As competition increases, seats become more and more scarce. This paper analyzes the population of athletes at all Division I NCAA institutions. Using publicly available data from the US Department of Education, the NCAA, and institutions’ athletic rosters, we document several novel facts. First, elite institutions enroll more athletes and field more varsity teams than even the largest public institutions, despite having drastically smaller student bodies. To provide further context on the background of athletes at elite institutions, we supplement the institution-level analysis with individual-level data taken from publicly available athletic rosters. Finally, we analyze the effect of a hypothetical policy that would restrict student athletes at each universities to be less than a certain fraction of the overall student body.

“Balancing Tuition and Fees: Do the Growing College Fees Affect Student Outcomes?” (Sole Author)

Abstract: I investigate the relationship between tuition and fees at US public four-year universities, driven by tuition caps and freeze policies. I find that a one-dollar increase in tuition results in a 45 to 62 cent reduction in fees. This substitution effect arises from state-imposed tuition caps and freezes, which limit tuition increases and lead some institutions to raise or introduce new fees instead. Employing an instrumental variable approach with tuition restriction policies, state legislative tuition freezes, and the Bartik instrument to address endogeneity, I reveal that while the fee share has a negative but insignificant effect on first-time college enrollment, it significantly impacts STEM major completions. A 10 percentage point increase in fee share leads to a 1.6 percent decrease in STEM major awards, highlighting the differential effects of fees on various academic programs.

“Language Diversity: Does Mother Tongue Affect School Achievement?” (Sole Author)

“Fracking and Tracking: The Effects of Oil and Natural Gas Wells on the Housing Market (with Brent Norwood and Samantha R. Johnson)”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024 The Missouri Valley Economic Association, Kansas City, Missouri (October)

2023 Southern Economic Association, New Orleans, Louisiana (November)
 The Missouri Valley Economic Association, Kansas City, Missouri (October)
 Society of Labor Economists, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (May)
 Midwest Economics Association, Cleveland, Ohio (March)

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2024 Dodge Family College of Arts and Science Dissertation Completion Fellowship,
 University of Oklahoma
 2023 Graduate Student Award, Southern Economic Association
 2023 Dodge Family College of Arts and Science Dissertation Research Fellowship,
 University of Oklahoma
 2022 Winner of the Chong Liew Summer Research Award, University of Oklahoma
 2021 Chong Liew Outstanding 1st Year Graduate Student Award, University of
 Oklahoma
 2019 Third Place in Three Minute Thesis Competition, University of Central
 Oklahoma

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2023 (Fall) Principles of Economics-Macro. (ECON-1113), University of Oklahoma
 2022 (Fall) Principles of Economics-Micro. (ECON-1123), University of Oklahoma
 2022 (Summer) Elements of Statistics (ECON 2843), University of Oklahoma
 2021 (Fall) Elements of Statistics (ECON 2843), University of Oklahoma
 2018 (Fall) Fundamental Algebra (DMAT-0115), University of Central Oklahoma

EMPLOYMENT & AFFILIATIONS

2021-Current Research Assistant, University of Oklahoma
 2020-2021 Teaching Assistant, University of Oklahoma
 2018-2019 Teaching Assistant, University of Central Oklahoma

REFeree SERVICE

2024 Social Sciences & Humanities Open

MEDIA APPEARANCES

2024 Study evaluates effects of legalized marijuana on higher education,
 by Marie O. Uberti Benz, MedicalResearch.com, June 27, 2024
 Research examines how recreational marijuana legalization affects a state's
 college enrollment, Phys.org, May 29, 2024
 Legal recreational cannabis encourages college enrollment, by Joanna Mulvaney,
 medicalnewsbulletin.com, June 17, 2024

SKILLS

Coding Expertise	R, Stata, Python, MATLAB, Julia, C++, and \LaTeX
Coding Experience	SPSS, ArcGIS Pro, Mathematica, and Git
Languages	English (Fluent), French (Intermediate), Arabic/ Tamazight (Native)

REFERENCES

Tyler Ransom

University Professor
Department of Economics
University of Oklahoma
322 CCD1,
308 Cate Center Drive
Norman, OK 73072
Tel: (405) 325-2861
Email: ransom@ou.edu

Pallab Kumar Ghosh

University Professor
Department of Economics
University of Oklahoma
323 CCD1,
308 Cate Center Drive
Norman, OK 73072
Tel: (315) 443-1630
Email: pallab.ghosh@ou.edu

Greg Burge

University Professor, Department Chair
Department of Economics
University of Oklahoma
170 CCD1,
308 Cate Center Drive
Norman, OK 73072
Tel: (405) 325-5857
Email: gburge@ou.edu