

Melissa K. Spencer

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Richmond (2021 -)

EDUCATION

University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Ph.D. in Economics May 2021

Advisors: Amalia Miller, Eric Chyn, Sebastian Tello-Trillo

M.A. in Economics December 2016

Clemson University, Clemson

B.A. in Economics, *summa cum laude* May 2015

B.A. in Women's Leadership, *summa cum laude* May 2015

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health, Gender, Crime

WORKING PAPERS

"Safer Sex? The Effect of AIDS Risk on Birth Rates" (Job Market Paper)

"Effects of COVID-19 Shutdowns on Domestic Violence in US Cities"
with Amalia Miller (UVA) and Carmit Segal (University of Zurich)

"Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Domestic Violence in Los Angeles"
with Amalia Miller (UVA) and Carmit Segal (University of Zurich)
NBER Working Paper w28068.

WORK IN PROGRESS

"The Effects of Abortion Counseling Laws," with Rebecca Brough (UC Davis)

"The Effect of Tasers on Fatal Police Encounters"

AWARDS AND GRANTS

NBER Gender in the Economy Study Group Research Grant on Women,
Victimization, and COVID-19 (with Amalia Miller and Carmit Segal) 2020

Bankard Pre-doctoral Fellowship 2020

Marshall Jevons Fund Award 2020

The Jefferson Fellowship (UVA's premier graduate fellowship) 2018

Jefferson Scholars Foundation Research Fund 2018

Snively Prize for Outstanding Economics Dissertation Proposal 2018

Huskey Graduate Research Exhibition, Best Social Sciences Poster 2018

Snively Prize for Outstanding Economics Summer Paper 2017

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED SEMINARS

2021: UVA Law and Economics Colloquium, Annual Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, LAC Labor and Public Conference, Virtual Seminar on the Economics of Risky Health Behaviors

2020: Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, University of Toledo Economics seminar, St. Olaf College Economics seminar, SITE Economic Perspectives on Domestic Violence, NBER Summer Institute Gender in the Economy Egg-Timer with Amalia Miller (presenter) and Carmit Segal

INVITED WORKSHOPS

IWPR Economics of Reproductive Health working group (cancelled due to COVID-19)	2020
Becker-Friedman Institute Price Theory Summer Camp	2019
Summit for Diversity in Economics	2018

SERVICE GRANTS

UVA Diversity and Inclusion Grant for Women in Economics	2019
Jefferson Foundation Grant for Interdisciplinary Forums	2019
CSWEP Joan Haworth Mentoring Grant for Women in Economics at UVA	2018
Bankard Conference Award for Economics Graduate Student Workshop	2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

ECON 101: Principles of Microeconomics (UR)	Fall 2021
ECON 3010: Intermediate Microeconomics (UVA)	Summer 2018
TA for ECON 4160: Economics of Health (UVA)	Spring 2018
TA for ECON 3010: Intermediate Microeconomics (UVA)	Summer 2017, Fall 2017
TA for ECON 2020: Principles of Macroeconomics (UVA)	Spring 2017
TA for ECON 2010: Principles of Microeconomics (UVA)	Fall 2016

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES & SERVICE

President and founder of Women in Economics at UVA	Fall 2019 - Spring 2020
Co-organizer of the Academics and Social Media Forum	Spring 2019 - Fall 2019
Graduate School Student Council Vice President	Fall 2018 - May 2019
Graduate School Student Council Initiatives Committee Chair	Fall 2017 - May 2018
Selections Co-chair for The Raven Society	Fall 2018 - May 2019
Chief organizer of the Bankard Economics Graduate Student Workshop	Fall 2017 - May 2018

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Tomorrow's Professors Today at UVA Center for Teaching Excellence, Phi Beta Kappa

MEDIA

"Measuring the Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Domestic Violence."
IZA World of Labor opinion article. January 11, 2021. with Amalia Miller and Carmit Segal.

"How to Handle Multiple Projects."
The Hidden Curriculum Podcast guest. Season 1 Episode 9. October 22, 2020.