

# MILES T. SMITH

Updated: November 2025  
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## EDUCATION

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**B.A. Mathematics and Economics** *with honors and distinction*, Occidental College, 2023

GPA: 3.8, *Magna Cum Laude*

Honors Thesis: [Normative Policy Analysis within a Poverty Trap Model](#)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- Aug. 2022 - Aug. 2023    **Research Assistant in Economics**, Occidental College  
Project: *Diverse Hiring in a Homogeneous Hiring Pool*  
Advisor: Prof. Jorgen Harris  
[Working Paper](#) (with Prof. Eleonora Patacchini, Cornell)
- May - Aug. 2022        **Undergraduate Research in Economics**, Occidental College  
Project: *The Effect of Loss Aversion on a Poverty Trap Model*  
Advisor: Prof. Brandon Lehr  
[Paper](#)
- Jan. - Aug. 2022       **Research Assistant in Applied Mathematics**, Occidental College  
Project: *NSFD Schemes for the Heat Equation Using Unity Approximations*  
Advisor: Prof. Treena Basu
- May - Aug. 2021       **Research Experience for Undergraduates in Applied Mathematics**, Oregon State University  
NSF Project: *An Explicit and Analytical Solution to the Stokes Equation on the Half-Space*  
Advisor: Prof. Hoe Woon Kim  
[Working Paper](#)
- June - Dec. 2020       **Machine Learning Research Intern**, Air Force Research Laboratory  
Project: *Machine Learning for Multi-Domain Operations*  
Advisor: Dr. John Meyers
- Sept. 2019 - May 2021   **Psychology Research Assistant**, Occidental College  
Project: *Preventative Health Care Disparities in Rising Adults*  
Advisors: Prof. Patricia Cabral and Prof. Andrea Hopmeyer

## OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

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- June 2024 - *Present*    **Sr. Research Assistant**, Federal Reserve Board of Governors  
[Federal Reserve Payments Study Publications](#)
- June 2023 - June 2024   **Research Assistant**, Federal Reserve Board of Governors
- Aug. 2021 - May 2023   **Lead (only) Math Department Tutor**, Occidental College
- Jan. 2021 - May 2022   **Math and Physics Courses TA and Grader**, Occidental College  
Courses: Calculus II (MATH 120), Math Methods (PHYS 310)
- Sept. 2019 - Aug. 2022   **Student Representative on Board of Trustees**, Occidental College  
*Academic Affairs and Technology Committee*
- May 2018 - Aug. 2019   **Python Summer Programming Camp Lead**, Oregon State University
- Oct. 2017 - Aug. 2019   **Front-End Web Development Intern**, Proworks, Inc.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

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Two-sided Market Concentration and Household Welfare ([Proposal](#))

June 2025    Federal Reserve Board, NSF Seminar  
Sept. 2024    [Federal Reserve Board, Brown Bag Seminar](#)

### Persistent Poverty and Inequality ([Current Paper](#))

Oct. 2025    [Federal Reserve Board, Brown Bag Seminar](#)(Loss Aversion and Poverty)  
July 2023    [Federal Reserve Board, Brown Bag Seminar](#)(Honors Thesis)  
May 2023    Occidental College, Economics Dept. Honors Presentation

### NSFD Schemes for the Heat Equation Using Unity Approximations

June 2022    [NREUP Research Presentation](#)  
April 2022    [Student-Faculty Occidental Research Presentations](#)

### An Explicit and Analytical Solution to the Stokes Equation on the Half-Space

April 2022    National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR)  
March 2022    Occidental Math Department Research Seminar Series  
Nov. 2021    [SUMS at James Madison University](#)  
Nov. 2021    Southern California Mathematics Association of America (SoCal MAA)  
Oct. 2021    Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research (SCCUR)  
Sept. 2021    Young Mathematicians Conference at Ohio State University (YMS)

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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April 2025                    [NSF Graduate Research Fellowship](#) (*declined*)  
                                    Project: *Effects Of Minimum Wage Policy In The Presence Of Growing Dual-Market Power*  
Spring 2023                Benedict Freedman Senior Prize in Mathematics (*awarded for highest academic achievement*),  
                                    Honors and Distinction in Economics  
Summer 2022               Undergraduate Research Fellowship, Occidental College  
Fall 2022                    W. M. Keck Foundation Scholarship  
Fall 2021                    Dr. B.F. Stelter Memorial Scholarship  
Fall 2020                    Harry and Grace Steele Foundation Scholarship  
Fall 2019 - Spring 2023    Dean's List

## SKILLS AND ACTIVITIES

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**Programming:**    Python, R, MatLab, Stata, Git;  
                                    Data analysis, Web scraping, Machine learning models

**Activities:**            Volunteer Site leader, [Open Table](#) (2025-Present)  
                                    Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership, Federal Reserve Board (2023-2025)  
                                    Volunteer, [LA Mission](#) (2022-2023)  
                                    Math Mentoring Network (Creator and Lead Mentor), Occidental College (2021-2023)  
                                    Volunteer Web Developer, Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence ([CARDV](#)) (2015-2019)

## REFERENCES

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<b>Professor Brandon Lehr</b> Occidental College, Economics Dept. <a href="mailto:lehr@oxy.edu">lehr@oxy.edu</a>	<b>Professor Jorgen Harris</b> Occidental College, Economics Dept. <a href="mailto:jorgenharris@oxy.edu">jorgenharris@oxy.edu</a>	<b>Professor Treena Basu</b> Occidental College, Mathematics Dept. <a href="mailto:basu@oxy.edu">basu@oxy.edu</a>
<b>Dr. Jean Flemming</b>	<b>Dr. Chuan Du</b>	<b>Dr. Garth Baughman</b>

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