

Self Introduction

Name: Malcolm S. Townes

Major: Public and Social Policy (PSP)

Year/Status (e.g. 2nd year Master): 1st year (2nd semester) / Ph.D. student

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1. What is the reason why you take this course, and what do you expect to learn from this course?

I’m taking this course because it is a requirement for my degree program. I expect to learn statistical analysis methods and skills that will enable me to conduct substantive, impactful research in my chosen areas of focus.

2. List all research and statistics related courses at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

- SOC 5650 Introduction to Geospatial Information Science (GISc) (Saint Louis University; graduate course)
- BUS X504 Foundations Core: Quantitative Methods (Indiana University; graduate course)
- STAT 213 Statistical Methodology in Engineering (Missouri S&T; undergraduate course)

3. What are your research interests (current research, dissertation topics, etc.)?

My broad research interests are focused on public policy regarding:

- Federal research activities and technology transfer
- Innovation and entrepreneurship
- Underrepresented groups in entrepreneurship, STEM-related disciplines, and the technology industry
- Economic development, community development, and wealth creation
- Mental health and mental illness

The tentative title for my planned dissertation is “Exploring the Nature of University Technology Transfer: A Study of Public Policy and Factors That Influence Success.” In particular, I’m interested in summarizing current policy regarding university

technology transfer (UTT); understanding how success has been and should be defined with regard to UTT; cataloging the known drivers of successful UTT; testing whether or not technology readiness level (TRL), spatial proximity to innovation clusters, and economic activity influence UTT success; and examining whether or not public policy aligns with what is currently known about successful UTT.

4. **What is your career goal?**

Currently, I'm full-time staff with the Research Innovation Group (RIG) in the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) at Saint Louis University. My role focuses on technology transfer and commercialization. I would like to continue working in the field of technology transfer in academia in roles of increasing responsibility and to conduct research in the areas I listed above. A dual appointment in either Public and Social Policy (PSP) program or Business Management program and the technology transfer office at a university is one interesting career option that Dr. Daniel Monti (SLU tenured faculty) suggested.