

# Wesley Morris

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Chapel Hill, NC 27599

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## EDUCATION

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** 2020 – Expected 2025  
Ph.D., Education Policy, Leadership, and School Improvement

**Vanderbilt University** 2018 – 2020  
M.P.P., Education Policy  
Concentration: K-12 Education Policy

**Wake Forest University** 2012 – 2016  
B.S., Mathematics  
Honors Thesis: Models for Ordinal Data

## RESEARCH INTEREST

Economics of Education, Teacher Labor Markets, Distribution of Teacher Quality, Rural Education, and Teacher Preparation and Licensure

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** Chapel Hill, NC  
Dr. Lauren Sartain  
*Graduate Research Assistant* August 2020 – Present

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** Chapel Hill, NC  
North Carolina Education Futures Initiative  
*Graduate Research Assistant* June 2021 – Present

**The Hunt Institute** Durham, NC  
K-12 Policy and Research  
*Policy and Research Fellow* May 2020 – January 2021

**Vanderbilt University** Nashville, TN  
Tennessee Education Research Alliance  
*Graduate Assistant* January 2019 – May 2020

**Vanderbilt University** Nashville, TN  
Fuchs' Research Group  
*Research Assistant* July 2018 – January 2019

**Forsyth Futures** Winston-Salem, NC  
Data and Research Team  
*Research Intern* January 2016 – May 2016

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**EDUC 309: Foundations of Leadership** Chapel Hill, NC  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
*Teaching Assistant, Undergraduate Students* Spring 2024

## PUBLICATIONS

### REFEREED PAPERS

Barrow, L., **Morris, W. T.**, & Sartain, L. (2024). The Expanding Landscape of Online Education: Who Engages and How They Fare. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 42:S1, S417-S443.  
<https://doi.org/10.1086/728807>

Sartain, L., & **Morris, W. T.** (2024). Are Teachers Satisfied With Their Evaluations? The Importance of Teaching Context and Trends Over Time. *AERA Open*, 10. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23328584231221539>

### MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Klasik, D., **Morris, W. T.**, Hutt, E., Sartain, L., & Zaharan, W. “How Do Unexpected College Grades Shape Race and Gender Gaps in the Stem Pipeline?”

Sartain, L., Zaharan, W., Hutt, E., Klasik, D., & **Morris, W. T.** “Grading The Pandemic: Student Use of University Pass/Fail Policies in Spring 2020”

### GENERAL AUDIENCE

**Morris, W. T.**, Ronfeldt, M., Bardelli E., & Truwit M. (2020) “Learning from the Best: Promising Practices in Preparing Tennessee’s Future Teachers” [Tennessee Education Research Alliance, Vanderbilt University.](#)

**Morris, W. T.** (2019) “Teacher Perceptions of Evaluation Fairness and Burden” [Tennessee Education Research Alliance, Vanderbilt University.](#)

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Tell me what you want, what you really, really want: What can we learn about the demand for educational professionals from district job postings?. Presented at the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness. (September, 2024)

Financial Aid for Educators: Assessing a Federal Grants Impact on Teacher Career Decisions. Presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy. (March, 2024)

Where Do They Come from? Where Do They Go? The Geography of Teacher Labor Markets and Teacher Preparation Programs. Presented at the Association of Public Policy and Management. (November 2023)

How Do Unexpected College Grades Shape Race and Gender Gaps in the Stem Pipeline? Presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy. (March, 2023)

The Expanding Landscape of Online Education: Who Engages and How They Fare. Presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy. (March, 2022)

Teacher Satisfaction with Teacher Evaluation: Factors that Explain the Variation. Presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy. (March, 2021)

Fairness and Burden in Tennessee's Statewide Teacher Evaluation System: How Educators Preparation and Information Systems Can Make a Difference. Presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy. (March, 2020)

## **FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**

Dean Smith Opening Doors Fellowship (2024 – 2025) School of Education, UNC Chapel Hill

Roe L. Jones Student Travel Grant (2024) Association of Education Finance and Policy

Education Policy Academy (2023), American Enterprise Institute

Community Engagement Fellow (2022 - 2023), Center for Public Service, UNC Chapel Hill

William Self Endowment (2022 - 2023), School of Education, UNC Chapel Hill

## **SERVICE**

**Graduate Student Association**  
School of Education, UNC Chapel Hill  
*President*  
*Vice President*

Chapel Hill, NC  
  
AY 2023-24  
AY 2022-23

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Assosiation for Education Finance and Policy	2019 – Present
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management	2023 – Present
American Education Research Association	2023 – Present