

# BENJAMIN T. SKINNER

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

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2019 - present	Assistant Professor of Higher Education and Policy, University of Florida
2018 - 2019	Research Assistant Professor of Education and Public Policy, University of Virginia
2017 - 2018	Research Assistant Professor of Education, University of Virginia

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## EDUCATION

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2017	Leadership and Policy Studies, Vanderbilt University	Ph.D.
2008	Humanities, University of Chicago	M.A.
2006	Music and English, Vanderbilt University	B.Mus.

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Education policy; college access; community colleges and broad access universities; data science/statistical computing; Bayesian methods; causal inference; data visualization; open source data analysis software

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## PUBLICATIONS

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- Skinner, B. T., & Doyle, W. R. (forthcoming). "Do civic returns to higher education differ across subpopulations? An analysis using propensity forests". *Journal of Education Finance*.
- Baker, D. J., Skinner, B. T., & Redding, C. (2020). "Affirmative intervention to reduce stereotype threat bias: Experimental evidence from a community college". *The Journal of Higher Education*, 91(5), 722-754.
- Skinner, B. T. (2019). "Making the connection: Broadband access and online course enrollment at public open admissions institutions". *Research in Higher Education*, 60(7), 960-999.
- Skinner, B. T. (2019). "Choosing college in the 2000s: An updated analysis using the conditional logistic choice model". *Research in Higher Education*, 60(2), 153-183.
- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2017). "Does postsecondary education result in civic benefits?" *The Journal of Higher Education*, 88(6), 863-893.
- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2016). "Estimating the education-earnings equation using geographic variation". *Economics of Education Review*, 53, 254-267.
- Heyneman, S. P., & Skinner, B. T. (2014). "The Bologna Process in the countries of the former Soviet Union: An outsider's perspective". *Journal of the European Higher Education Area*, 01/2014.

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## SUBMITTED PAPERS

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- Bird, K. A., Castleman, B. L., Fischer, B., & Skinner, B. T. (2020). "Who should re-enroll in college? the academic and labor market profile of adults with substantial college credits but no degree". *Annenberg Institute at Brown University*, (EdWorkingPaper: 20-240).
- Ortagus, J., Skinner, B. T., & Tanner, M. (2020). "Investigating why academically successful community college students leave college without a degree".

Updated: 24 March 2021

## WORKING PAPERS

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- Skinner, B. T. (in progress). “Predicting degree outcomes of online course enrollment at the state level using Bayesian multilevel regression and poststratification”.
- Skinner, B. T. (in progress). “Estimating the effect of online courses on student outcomes in a statewide postsecondary system”.
- Skinner, B. T., Levy, H., & Burtch-Rosin, T. (in progress). “Digital redlining: The relevance of HOLC neighborhood classifications on broadband access”.
- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2017). “Predicting postsecondary attendance by income in the American states using multilevel regression with poststratification”.

## ANALYST

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- Institute for Research on Higher Education. (2016). *College affordability diagnosis: National report* (tech. rep.). Institute for Research on Higher Education, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.

## SOFTWARE PACKAGES

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- Skinner, B. T. (2020). *crosswalkr: Rename and Encode Data Frames Using External Crosswalk Files*.
- Skinner, B. T. (2020). *rscorecard: A Method to Download Department of Education College Scorecard Data*.
- Skinner, B. T. (2018). *duawranglr: Securely Wrangle Dataset According to Data Usage Agreement*.
- Skinner, B. T. (2017). *distRcpp: Compute Geodesic Distance and Distance-Weighted Measures Using Rcpp*.
- Skinner, B. T. (2016). *GitRoom Manager: GitHub classroom manager*.

## PRESENTATIONS

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### Peer-reviewed conference presentations

- Skinner, B. T., Levy, H., & Burtch-Rosin, T. (2021). “Digital redlining: The relevance of HOLC neighborhood classifications on broadband access”, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance; Policy 46th Annual Conference, (Virtual).
- Ortagus, J., Skinner, B. T., & Tanner, M. (2020). “Why did you go? Using Bayesian multilevel regression with poststratification to understand why community colleges students exit early”, Paper presented at the MRP Conference, Columbia University, New York, NY (Virtual).
- Ortagus, J., Skinner, B. T., & Tanner, M. (2020). “Why did you go? Using Bayesian multilevel regression with poststratification to understand why community colleges students exit early”, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance; Policy 45th Annual Conference, Ft. Worth, TX (Virtual).
- Skinner, B. T., & Doyle, W. R. (2019). “Are civic returns to higher education different across subpopulations? An analysis using propensity forests”, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Portland, OR.
- Bird, K., Castleman, B., Fischer, B., & Skinner, B. T. (2019). “Students with some college, but no degree: A statewide descriptive analysis”, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance; Policy 44th Annual Conference, Kansas City, KS.
- Skinner, B. T. (2018). “Online courses and degree attainment: Estimating state-level differences using nationally representative data”, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance; Policy 43rd Annual Conference, Portland, OR.

- Skinner, B. T. (2017). “Virtually the same: Estimating the effect of online courses on student outcomes at open access institutions in Georgia”, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance; Policy 42nd Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Skinner, B. T. (2016). “How has college choice changed? An update for the 2000s using the conditional logit model”, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Columbus, OH.
- Skinner, B. T. (2016). “Virtually the same: Estimating the effect of online courses on student outcomes at open access institutions in Georgia”, Paper presented in roundtable discussion at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Columbus, OH.
- Skinner, B. T., & Doyle, W. R. (2016). “Democratization, diversion, and profit: The impact of for-profit institutions on degree attainment”, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Columbus, OH.
- Skinner, B. T. (2016). “Modeling college enrollment via conditional logit: How has college choice changed?” Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance; Policy 41st Annual Conference, Denver, CO.
- Skinner, B. T. (2015). “Estimating the relationship between broadband speed and distance education at public two-year institutions”, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.
- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2015). “Estimating the education-earnings equation using geographic variation”, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance; Policy 40th Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Skinner, B. T. (2014). “An event history analysis of delayed college enrollment as a function of employment and wage”, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance; Policy 39th Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Skinner, B. T. (2013). “Estimating the connection between broadband connectivity and participation rates in college eLearning”, Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, St. Louis, MO.
- Skinner, B. T. (2013). “Coming up short: The European Credit Transfer System as a measure of quality in the EHEA”, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Comparative; International Education Society, New Orleans, LA.

### Invited presentations

- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2015). “Using data science to harness the big data revolution”, Presidential session presentation at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.

## TEACHING

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### Instructor

University of Florida | Human Development and Organizational Studies in Education

EDH 6065: *History of American Higher Education*

EDH 6931: *Innovation in Higher Education*

EDH 6931: *Advanced Writing Seminar*

EDH 7050: *Exploration of Research Literature in Higher Education*

EDH 7636: *Organizational Theory of Higher Education*

EDH 7916: *Contemporary Research in Higher Education*

[[edquant.github.io/edh7916](https://edquant.github.io/edh7916)]

Vanderbilt University | Department of Leadership, Policy, &amp; Organizations

LPO 9951: *Research Practicum (PhD)*

[btskinner.io/lpo9951]

**Workshops**

University of Virginia | Curry School of Education | EdPolicyWorks

2018 Workshop on R  
 Three-day workshop on R statistical language  
*Website/Course materials:* btskinner.io/rworkshop

***AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS***

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2017	Emerging Education Policy Scholar	
2016 - 2017	Bonsal Applied Education Research Award	\$10,000
2016 - 2017	Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning Graduate Fellow	\$5,500
2012 - 2016	Peabody Graduate Fellowship	
2012	ExpERT Pre-Doctoral Fellow	
2005	Vanderbilt Undergraduate Summer Research Program	\$4,000

***CERTIFICATIONS***

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2014 / 2018	What Works Clearinghouse Certified Reviewer (Standards Version 3.0 & 4.0)
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***PROFESSIONAL, UNIVERSITY, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE***

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**Association for the Study of Higher Education**

2018	Member	Bobby Wright Dissertation of the Year Committee
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**Vanderbilt University**

2016 - 2017	Co-coordinator	LPO Quantitative Methods Workshop
2014	Planning Committee	Crucial Conversations

**Charlottesville, VA**

2018	Project Fellow	Smart Cville Civic Innovation Day
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***PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS***

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**Ad-Hoc Referee**

American Education Research Journal, AERA Open, Economics of Education Review, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Educational Researcher, Journal of Diversity in Higher Education, Journal of Higher Education, Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness, PLOS One, Research in Higher Education, Review of Educational Research

**Professional Memberships**

American Educational Research Association (AERA)  
 Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)  
 Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)