

# BENJAMIN T. SKINNER

PO Box 400879  
Charlottesville, VA 22904

tel: 434.297.6968  
web: btskinner.me  
email: btskinner@virginia.edu

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## *CURRENT APPOINTMENT*

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2017                      **University of Virginia, Curry School of Education/EdPolicyWorks**  
Assistant Professor of Education, Research Faculty

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## *EDUCATION*

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

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## *RESEARCH INTERESTS*

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Higher education policy; community colleges and open access universities; college access; spatial statistics; Bayesian methods; high-performance statistical computing

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## *PUBLICATIONS*

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### Peer reviewed

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

### Analyst

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

## ***SUBMITTED PAPERS***

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- Doyle, W. R. & Skinner, B. T. (2017). Predicting postsecondary attendance by income in the American states using multilevel regression with poststratification
- Skinner, B. T. (2017). Making the connection: Broadband access and online course enrollment at public open admissions institutions
- Skinner, B. T. (2017). How has college choice changed? An update for the 2000s using the conditional logit model. *Under revise and resubmit*

## ***WORKING PAPERS***

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- Skinner, B. T. (2017). Predicting degree outcomes of online course enrollment at the state level using Bayesian multilevel regression and poststratification
- Skinner, B. T. (2017). Estimating the effect of online courses on student persistence and likelihood of passing in Georgia public postsecondary institutions
- Skinner, B. T. & Doyle, W. R. (2016). Democratization, diversion, and profit: The impact of for-profit institutions on degree attainment

## ***SOFTWARE PACKAGES***

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- Skinner, B. T. (2017). *rscorecard: A Method to Download Department of Education College Scorecard Data*. [R package]. Retrieved from <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=rscorecard>
- Skinner, B. T. (2016). *GitRoom Manager: GitHub classroom manager*. [Python package]. Retrieved from <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/grm>

## ***RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS***

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### **Peer-reviewed conference presentations**

- 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 and 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
- Doyle, W. R. & Skinner, B. T. (2016). Does postsecondary education result in civic benefits? Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy 41st Annual Conference, Denver, CO
- Skinner, B. T. (2016). Modeling college enrollment via conditional logit: How has college choice changed? Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and 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). Predicting postsecondary attendance by income in the American states using multilevel regression with poststratification. Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy 40th Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Doyle, W. R. & Skinner, B. T. (2015). Estimating the education-earnings equation using geographic variation. Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and 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 and 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 and 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

Vanderbilt University | Department of Leadership, Policy, & Organizations

2015                      LPO 9951: *Research Practicum (PhD)*  
                                  First-year PhD student introduction to statistical programming  
                                  Website/Course materials: [btskinner.me/lpo9951](http://btskinner.me/lpo9951)

University of Southern Indiana | Department of English

2010 - 2011      ENGL 201: *Literacy and the World* (4 sections)  
Sophomore-level course on rhetoric and composition

2009 - 2010      ENGL 101: *Literacy and the Self* (4 sections)  
Freshman-level course on rhetoric and composition

### Teaching Assistant

Vanderbilt University | Department of Leadership, Policy, & Organizations

2014              HOD 2790: *Introduction to Data Science*  
*Instructor:* Will Doyle

2013 - 2014      LPO 3921-3: *Research Practicum (PhD)*  
*Instructor:* Will Doyle

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Department of Leadership, Policy, & Organizations

2015 - 2017      Restricted Dataroom Administrator  
2012 - 2017      Graduate Research Assistant

Peabody Research Institute/Development Services Group, Inc.

2014 - 2014      WWC reviewer

The University of Southern Indiana

2009 - 2011      Adjunct Instructor

## CERTIFICATIONS

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2014              What Works Clearinghouse Certified Reviewer

## ***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

## ***PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES/LIBRARIES/SOFTWARE***

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**Statistical** R/Rcpp, Stata, Bayesian tools (Stan, JAGS, WinBUGS/OpenBUGS)

**GIS** ArcGIS, QGIS

**Text processing** TeX, Knitr

**Miscellaneous** Python, D3.js, Git, Bash, SQL

## ***PROFESSIONAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE***

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

## ***PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES***

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### **Referee**

American Education Research Journal

AERA Open

Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis

Educational Researcher

Journal of Diversity in Higher Education

Research in Higher Education

### **Professional Memberships**

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)

Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)