

BENJAMIN T. SKINNER

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

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

AFFILIATIONS

2018 - present	Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, University of Virginia
2017 - present	Nudge ⁴ Solutions Lab, University of Virginia
2017 - present	EdPolicyWorks, University of Virginia

EDUCATION

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

RESEARCH INTERESTS

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

PUBLICATIONS

Skinner, B. T. (2019). "Making the connection: Broadband access and online course enrollment at public open admissions institutions." *Research in Higher Education*, 1–40.

Skinner, B. T. (2018). "Choosing college in the 2000s: An updated analysis using the conditional logistic choice model." *Research in Higher Education*, 1–31.

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.

SUBMITTED PAPERS

Baker, D. J., Skinner, B. T., & Redding, C. (2018). "Affirmative intervention to reduce stereotype threat bias: Experimental evidence from a community college."

Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2017). "Predicting postsecondary attendance by income in the American states using multilevel regression with poststratification."

Updated: 2 January 2019

WORKING PAPERS

- Skinner, B. T. (in progress). “Policies and interventions to improve postsecondary access, persistence, completion, and workforce entry.”
- 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., & Doyle, W. R. (in progress). “Democratization, diversion, and profit: The impact of for-profit institutions on degree attainment.”

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.

SOFTWARE PACKAGES

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

GRANTS AND EXTERNAL FUNDING

Awarded

- 2018 “Evaluation of Strada Education Network’s National Engagement and Philanthropy Programs, 2014 — 2016”
Co-PI with Jim Wyckoff, Veronica Katz, and Anna Markowitz
Funder: Strada Education Network

Submitted

- 2018 “Using machine learning to identify barriers to college completion”
Co-PI with Benjamin Castleman, Kelli Bird, and Sally Hudson
Funder: Institute of Education Sciences (Goal 1: Exploration Grant)

PRESENTATIONS

Peer-reviewed conference presentations

- Baker, D. J., Skinner, B. T., & Redding, C. (2018). Affirmative intervention to reduce stereotype threat bias: Experimental evidence from a community college, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Tampa, FL.

- 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 and 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 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

Workshops

University of Virginia | Curry School of Education | EdPolicyWorks

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

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

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

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS

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

2014 / 2018 What Works Clearinghouse Certified Reviewer (Standards Version 3.0 & 4.0)

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES/LIBRARIES/SOFTWARE

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

General programming Python, C++

GIS ArcGIS, QGIS

Miscellaneous Git, Bash, SQL, TeX, Markdown, Web (HTML, CSS, Javascript)

PROFESSIONAL, UNIVERSITY, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

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

Referee

American Education Research Journal, AERA Open, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Educational Researcher, Journal of Diversity in Higher Education, Journal of 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)