

# Chris L. Barker

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Citizenship: United States

[SSRN Author Page](#)

## Research interests

Public Choice Economics, Education, Health, Political Science, Sports

## Employment

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| 2019 – Present | <b>Harding University</b> – Searcy, Arkansas<br>Assistant Professor of Economics and Finance                 |
| 2005 – 2019    | <b>National Federation of Independent Business</b> – Nashville, Tennessee<br>Managing Director of Compliance |

## Education

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| 2021 – 2025 | <b>Middle Tennessee State University</b> – Murfreesboro, Tennessee<br>PhD in Economics<br>Mentors: Professors Daniel J. Smith, Ennio E. Piano, and Charles L. Baum |
| 2014 – 2016 | <b>Middle Tennessee State University</b> – Murfreesboro, Tennessee<br>Masters of Business Administration   |
| 2003 – 2009 | <b>Middle Tennessee State University</b> – Murfreesboro, Tennessee<br>MA in History<br>Mentors: Professors Amy L. Sayward, Jerry Brookshire                        |
| 1988 – 1993 | <b>Harding University</b> – Searcy, Arkansas<br>BBA in Management and Accounting   |

## Working Papers

- 2026    **Has NIL Nationalized College Football Recruiting? Evidence from Geographic Recruiting Patterns**  
Chris L. Barker.
- 2025    **Capitalism and Wealth Concentration, 2000-2019**  
Chris L. Barker, Daniel J. Smith..  
[SSRN Link](#)
- 2024    **The Impact of the Bowl Championship Series on Competitive Balance in Major College Football**  
Chris L. Barker, Daniel J. Smith.  
[SSRN Link](#)
- 2023    **Property Rights and Economic Teaching: An Examination of Economics Textbooks**  
Chris L. Barker.

## Teaching experience

ECON 2010	Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 2020	Principles of Microeconomics
FIN 3430	Managerial Finance
FIN 3440	Principles of Investments
FIN 3550	Real Estate Finance
FIN 3850	Risk Analysis and Insurance
FIN 4350	International Financial Management
FIN 4450	Advanced Financial Management

## Presentations

February 2026 (upcoming)	A Clash of Belief: How Communism and Christianity are in Opposition <i>Harding University Liberty and Character Forum</i>
October 2024	Thinking Economically <i>Harding University Colloquium on the Liberal Arts</i>

## University committees and service

August 2020 – Present	<b>University Academic Assessment Committee (College of Business Administration)</b>
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## Professional memberships

2025 – Present	<b>American Economic Association</b>
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## Technical skills

### Programming languages

Proficient in: R programming language, Stata statistical software

Familiar with: Quarto, Python

### Software

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Git