

# Chris L. Barker

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Citizenship: United States

[SSRN Author Page](#)

## Research interests

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

## Employment

- 2019 – Present    **Harding University** – Searcy, Arkansas  
Assistant Professor of Economics and Finance
- 2005 – 2019    **National Federation of Independent Business** – Nashville, Tennessee  
Managing Director of Compliance

## Education

- 2021 – 2025    **Middle Tennessee State University** – Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
PhD in Economics  
Mentors: Professors Daniel J. Smith, Ennio E. Piano, and Charles L. Baum
- 2014 – 2016    **Middle Tennessee State University** – Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
Masters of Business Administration
- 2003 – 2009    **Middle Tennessee State University** – Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
MA in History  
Mentors: Professors Amy L. Sayward, Jerry Brookshire
- 1988 – 1993    **Harding University** – Searcy, Arkansas  
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 A Clash of Belief: How Communism and Christianity are in Opposition  
(upcoming) *Harding University Liberty and Character Forum*

October 2024 Thinking Economically  
*Harding University Colloquium on the Liberal Arts*

## University committees and service

August 2020 – Present **University Academic Assessment Committee (College of Business Administration)**

## Professional memberships

2025 – Present **American Economic Association**

## 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