

C. Luke Watson

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Research Interests

Public Economics, Urban Economics, Industrial Organization, Applied Econometrics

Education

Ph.D. Economics, Michigan State University	2015 - 2021 (expected)
M.A. Economics, Old Dominion University	2013 - 2015
B.A. Economics, Old Dominion University	2009 - 2013

Research Papers

Job Market Paper: "The General Equilibrium Incidence of the Earned Income Tax Credit"

Abstract: The Earned Income Tax Credit is a \$67 billion tax expenditure that subsidizes 20% of all workers. Yet all prior analysis uses partial equilibrium assumptions on gross wages. I derive the general equilibrium incidence of wage subsidies, estimate labor market elasticities, and quantify the importance of EITC spillovers in three ways. I calculate the GE incidence of the 1993 and 2009 EITC expansions using new elasticity estimates. I contrast the incidence of counterfactual EITC and Welfare expansions. I quantify the effect of equalizing the EITC for workers with and without children. In all cases, I find spillovers are economically meaningful.

"Is the Rent Too High: Land Ownership and Monopoly Power" (with Oren Ziv)

"Comment: Estimating Both Supply and Demand Elasticities Using Variation in a Single Tax Rate"

Works in Progress

"The Local Effects of State EITC Expansions"

"Who Goes to Work with the EITC: Pro-Work Subsidies & Labor Supply Quality"

"What Does an EITC DiD Estimate?"

Positions

Instructor : Development Economics (MSU)	Fall 2020
Instructor : Principles of Microeconomics (ODU)	Summer 2015
TA : (MSU) Public Revenues, Ec. of Poverty & Income, Int'l Trade (x4), Urban Econ (x3)	
Interm.Micro, Intro.Micro, Intro.Macro	2015-2020
TA : (AEASP) Foundations Microeconomics and Mathematics	Summer 2017
RA : (MSU) Oren Ziv, Prabhat Barnwal, (ODU) Gary Wagner, Tim Komarek	2013-2020

Presentations

2020: Ohio University; MVEA Conference; *MEA Annual Meeting (Cancelled)*;

NTA Annual Conference on Taxation.

2019: NTA Annual Conference on Taxation.

Referee

Contemporary Economic Policy

Service

Michigan State University - Applied Economics Student Workshop Organizer	2017-2020
Michigan State University - Graduate Student Seminar Organizer	2018-2020
Michigan State University - Graduate Instruction Committee	2017-2018

Awards and Grants

Dissertation Completion Fellowship (MSU)	2020
Outstanding Graduate Economics Student Award (ODU)	2015
Graduate Student Tuition Fellowship (ODU)	2013-2015
Constant Dominion Business Student Merit Scholarship (ODU)	2013
Governor's Technology Tuition Scholarship (ODU)	2009-2013

Memberships

American Economic Association, Midwest Economic Association, National Tax Association

Skills

R, Stata, MATLAB, Julia, ArcGIS, Gauss, L^AT_EX

References

John D. Wilson (Chair)
Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
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Leslie Papke
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Oren Ziv
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