

DAPHNE BLAKEY

Brooks School of Public Policy
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OBJECTIVE

To apply advanced quantitative and computational methods to policy-relevant research, translating complex data into actionable insights that can inform effective and equitable public policy.

EDUCATION

Cornell University, Brooks School of Public Policy	Ithaca, NY
Masters of Science in Public Policy (awarded as terminal degree)	2022
Doctoral studies in Public Policy	2019–2025
<i>Relevant Coursework:</i> Microeconomics Sequence; Econometrics Sequence; Empirical Public Finance and Taxation; Public Finance; Seminar in Labor Economics I & II; Advances in Labor Economics; Empirical Strategies for Policy Analysis I & II; Social Research Design and Methodology; Spatial Demography	

University of Southern California	Los Angeles, CA
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Economics, Cum Laude	2016
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Cum Laude	

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Graduate Researcher, Brooks School of Public Policy, Cornell University **Spring 2022 – Present**
Conducted original research on policing and public sector labor unions. Designed and led a large-scale data collection project building a national database of Police Union Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs). Applied advanced text analysis methods including machine learning techniques to identify and classify changes in contract provisions related to officer discipline and discharge. Performed econometric analyses to evaluate the effects of these contract changes on public safety outcomes and labor dynamics.

Secured external grant funding to recruit and supervise a team of research assistants for text coding, data validation, and reproducibility checks. Directed all phases of the multi-year project, from data infrastructure development to statistical modeling and manuscript preparation, resulting in multiple working papers. This project is ongoing and aims to produce a publicly accessible data resource to support future research on policing and labor institutions.

Teaching Assistant, Brooks School of Public Policy, Cornell University **Summer 2020 – Present**
Supported tenured professors in preparing and delivering undergraduate and master's-level courses in the departments of Economics, Information Science, and Public Policy. Responsibilities included preparing lecture materials and exams, leading discussion sections, evaluating student work, and managing course administration.

Courses: Causal Reasoning and Policy Evaluation; Economics of Crime; Economics of the Public Sector; Big Data for Big Policy Problems (National Education Equity Lab Partnership); Choices and Consequences in Computing; Behavioral Economics

Research Assistant, Professor Jamein Cunningham, Cornell University **Spring 2021 – Spring 2024**
Built a comprehensive legal history database identifying consent decrees between the Department of Justice and local law enforcement agencies. Developed studies analyze the role of legal institutions in the evolution of racial disparities in the criminal justice system over time, focusing on changes in police contact due to court ordered federal interventions such as consent decrees.

Managed several research assistants in collecting and coding Law Enforcement Officer's Bills of Rights introduced in each state and tracking associated amendments. Designed analyses to document the evolution of these laws and assess their impact on policing practices.

Analyst, NERA Economic Consulting, New York, NY **June 2016 – June 2019**
Performed detailed economic and financial analyses pertaining to high-profile merger investigations and antitrust litigation cases. Managed internal teams of researchers and PhD economists to produce rigorous economic analyses, white papers, expert reports, and presentations for legal clients and regulatory agencies.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Dissertation Fellowship Grant, Russell Sage Foundation (2023–2024)
- Sage Fellowship, Cornell University (2019–Present)
- Discovery Scholar Award for Original Research, University of Southern California (2016)
- Presidential Scholarship, University of Southern California (2012–2016)
- National Merit Scholarship (2012–2016)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Member, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (2019–Present)
- Graduate Student Affiliate, Cornell Population Center (2019–Present)
- Graduate Student Affiliate, Cornell Center for the Study of Inequality (2019–Present)
- Bargaining Committee Member, United Electric Local 300, Cornell Graduate Students United (2024–2025)
- Constitutional Committee Member, United Electric Local 300, Cornell Graduate Students United (2025)
- Member, United Electric Local 300, Cornell Graduate Students United (2023–Present)
- Chair, Undergraduate Mentorship Committee, Diversity in Cornell Economics (2022–2024)
- Member, Diversity in Cornell Economics (2021–2024)
- Member, Graduate Students for Gender Equity in Economics (2021–2024)
- President, Cornell Graduate Students in Policy Analysis and Management (2020–2021)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** R, Python, SQL, MATLAB, C++
- **Statistical Software:** Stata, SAS, SPSS
- **Data Management & Workflow:** Git, GitHub, AWS S3, Google Cloud Storage, RMarkdown, Jupyter
- **Research Methods:** Descriptive Analysis, Causal Inference, Machine Learning, Text-as-Data Analysis
- **Visualization & Reporting:** ggplot2, ArcGIS, Tableau, Airtable, LaTeX, Microsoft Excel