

Elissa Cohen

elissa.cohen@student.american.edu
(+1) 610-952-8328

4400 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington DC, 20016

EDUCATION	American University , Washington, DC	
	<i>Ph.D.</i> , Economics	Expected 2022
	<i>M.A.</i> , Applied Economics	May 2019
	<i>Certificate</i> Greenberg Seminars in Effective Teaching	April 2020
	Santa Fe Institute , Santa Fe, NM	
	<i>Complex Systems Summer School</i>	Summer 2019
	Cornell University , Ithaca, NY	
	<i>A.B.</i> , Economics, Sociology	May 2012
	<i>magna cum laude</i>	
	London School of Economics , London, UK	
	Political Economy, Development Economics	Summer 2010
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Analyst : Intellectual Property & Antitrust NERA Economic Consulting, Washington, DC	Jan 2017 — May 2019
	Research Associate II : Income and Benefits Policy Center Urban Institute, Washington, DC	Jan 2015 — Dec 2016
	Research Assistant : Income and Benefits Policy Center Urban Institute, Washington, DC	Jun 2012 — Dec 2014
	Policy Intern : Policy Solution Center The Reinvestment Fund, Philadelphia, PA	Jun 2011 — Aug 2011
ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Graduate Research Assistant : Info-Metrics Institute For Professor Amos Golan American University, Washington, DC	Aug 2019 — Aug 2020
	Research Assistant : Center for the Study of Inequality For Professors Kim Weeden and Stephen Morgan Cornell University, Ithaca, NY	Aug 2010 — May 2011
	Research Assistant : Dept. of Policy Analysis and Mgmt For Professor Rosemary Avery Cornell University, Ithaca, NY	Jan 2010 — July 2010
SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS	Graduate Student Scholarship : Int. Society of Artificial Life	Spring 2020
	Graduate Student Research Award : American University	Spring 2019
	Doctor of Philosophy in Economics Fellowship : American University	Fall 2017 — present
	Emerging Scholar Award : U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services	2016
PEER- REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS	Cika, A., Cohen, E. , Kruszewski G., Seet, L., Steinmann, P., and Yin, W. (2020). <i>Resilient Life: An Exploration of Perturbed Autopoietic Patterns in Conway's Game of Life</i> . In L. Soros, J. Bongard, and J. Lovato (Ed.), <i>Proceedings of the Artificial Life Conference 2020 (ALIFE 2020)</i> 32, 656-664. Burlington, Vermont: MIT Press. Link here.	

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

Eyster, L., Harford, C., Trutko, J., **Cohen, E.**, Mikelson, K.S., Durham, C., O'Brien, C.T., Martin-Caughey, A., Briggs, A., and Nguyen, K. (2019). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: Implementation of the Rounds 1 and 2 Grants*. (Research Report). Prepared for the US Department of Labor, Chief Evaluation Office. Washington, DC: Urban Institute. [Link here](#).

Mikelson, K.S., Eyster, L., Durham, C., and **Cohen, E.** (2017). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: TAACCT Goals, Design, and Evaluation*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. [Link here](#).

Cohen, E., Mikelson, K.S., Eyster, L., and Durham, C. (2017). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: Grantee Characteristics*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. [Link here](#).

Eyster, L., **Cohen, E.**, Mikelson, K.S., and Durham, C. (2017). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: TAACCT Approaches, Targeted Industries, and Partnerships*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. [Link here](#).

Durham, C., Eyster, L., Mikelson, K.S., and **Cohen, E.** (2017). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: Early Results of the TAACCT Grants*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. [Link here](#).

Cohen, E., Minton, S., Thompson, M., Crowe, E., and Giannarelli, L. (2016). *Welfare Rules Databook: State TANF Policies as of July 2015* (OPRE Report 2016-67). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [Link here](#).

Huber, E., **Cohen, E.**, Briggs, A., and Kassabian, D. (2015). *Welfare Rules Databook: State TANF Policies as of July 2014* (OPRE Report 2015-81). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [Link here](#).

Huber, E., Kassabian, D., and **Cohen, E.** (2014). *Welfare Rules Databook: State TANF Policies as of July 2013* (OPRE Report 2014-52). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [Link here](#).

Kassabian, D., Huber, E., **Cohen, E.**, and Giannarelli, L. (2013). *Welfare Rules Databook: State TANF Policies as of July 2012* (OPRE Report 2013-27). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [Link here](#).

WORKING PAPERS

Golan, A., Mumladze, T., Wilson, D., **Cohen, E.**, McGuinness, T., Mooney, W., and Moon, J. (2020). *Effect of Universal TB Vaccination and Other Policy-Relevant Factors on the Probability of Patient Death from COVID-19*. HCEO Working Paper Series Working Paper No. 2020-041: University of Chicago. [Link here](#).

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREP

“An Info-Metric Approach for Conducting Meta-Analyses.”

“The Value of a Statistical Life: A Gendered Perspective.”

“Integrating Complexity Science and Community-Based Research Practices: Tensions and Solutions.” (with Jackie Brown (University of Toronto) and Travis Moore (Tufts University))

“Overweighted Expectation: A Psychological Explanation for the Financial Crisis.” (with Mikaela Akrenius (Indiana University) and Ahyam Panjwani (Yale University))

PRESENTATIONS **Cohen, Elissa.** “The Value of Statistical Life: A Gendered Perspective.” Presented November 12, 2020. Poster presented at: 42nd Annual 2020 APPAM Fall Research Conference. Washington, DC.

Cika, A., **Cohen, E.***, Kruszewski G., Seet, L., Steinmann, P., and Yin, W. “Resilient Life: An Exploration of Perturbed Autopoietic Patterns in Conway’s Game of Life.” Presented July 13, 2020. Artificial Life Conference 2020 (ALIFE 2020). Burlington, Vermont.

Cohen, Elissa. “How the Minor in Inequality Studies Can Make a Major Difference.” Presented November 3, 2016. Cornell University - Center for the Study of Inequality; Ithaca, NY.

Cohen, Elissa. “Then and Now: Cash Welfare from the AFDC Program to Today’s TANF Program.” The Urban Institute. Presented June 1, 2016. Research and Evaluation Conference on Self-Sufficiency; Washington, DC.

Giannarelli, L., **Cohen, E.**, Briggs, A., and Huber, E. “Transitional Cash Benefits for Families who left TANF: New data from the Welfare Rules Database.” The Urban Institute. Presented August 25, 2015. National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics Conference; Atlanta, GA.

Huber, E., Kassabian, D., **Cohen, E.**, and Giannarelli, L. “Variation in States’ Child-Only and Non-Parent Caretaker TANF Rules: Evidence from the Welfare Rules Database.” The Urban Institute. Presented May 29, 2014. Welfare Research and Evaluation Conference; Washington, DC.

Kassabian, D., Huber, E., **Cohen, E.**, and Giannarelli, L. “States’ Child-Only and Non-Parent Caretaker TANF Rules: Evidence from the Welfare Rules Database.” The Urban Institute. Presented August 20, 2013. National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics Conference; Chicago, IL.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Econometric Methods (Doctoral): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Amos Golan Fall 2018

Advanced Econometric Methods (Doctoral): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Amos Golan Spring 2019

Applied Econometrics I (Master’s): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Amos Golan Spring 2019

Microeconomic Theory I (Doctoral): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Sue Bahk Fall 2020

Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Robert Berman Spring 2019
Teaching Assistant for Professor Shirin Sabetghadam Spring 2020
Teaching Assistant for Professor Sue Bahk Fall 2020

Introduction to Microeconomics (Undergraduate): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Daniel Lin Spring 2018
Curriculum Development for Profs. Mary Hansen & Kara Reynolds Summer 2020

Introduction to Macroeconomics (Undergraduate): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Ivy Broder Fall 2017, Fall 2018
Curriculum Development for Profs. Mary Hansen & Kara Reynolds Summer 2020

The Art of Teaching (Undergraduate): Cornell University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Jeff Perry Spring 2011

TECHNICAL SKILLS	Modeling & Analysis: Python, STATA, R, Mathematica, NetLogo Software & Tools: L ^A T _E X, MS Office, ArcMapGIS	
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS	American Economic Association Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management UNC - Charlotte Complex Systems Institute International Society of Artificial Life Society for Judgment and Decision Making	
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	Complexity and Policy Studies Conference Organizing committee member	2019 — present
	SEIU Local 500 American University Graduate Worker Union Lead collective bargaining negotiator	2018 — present
COMMUNITY SERVICE	IRS' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program Advanced tax preparer	2012 — 2017
OTHER INTERESTS	Vinyasa and Power Yoga Instructor (RYT-200) Ultimate Frisbee	2014 — present