

# AYDEN YOUNG

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## SUMMARY

PhD Candidate starting the fourth year in the Economics program at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Research focuses on the housing market as it relates to discrimination, local housing policy, development, and affordability. Analytical experience involves conducting original research, compiling and processing large datasets for analysis with causal inference tools such as reduced form econometric methods (matching, DiD, RD, synthetic control, etc.), machine learning (dimensionality reduction, regression and forest methods, shrinkage, DML, etc.), using open-source programming languages such as R, Python, and SQL. Further experience includes providing written and oral communications of findings to both technical and non-technical audiences.

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## SKILLS

- **Causal Inference:** Experimentation (lab, A/B testing), Difference-in-Differences, Matching, Discontinuity, Instrumental Variables, Synthetic Control, Causal Forests
  - **Programming & Scripting:** R, Python, SQL
  - **Data Visualization:** ggplot, Tableau
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## EMPLOYMENT

- University of California at Santa Cruz • Graduate Student Instructor • starting Aug 2025
    - Intermediate Macro (100b)
  - University of California at Santa Cruz • Teaching Assistant • starting Aug 2022
    - Intermediate Macro (100b), Python for Data Science (22p), PhD Math Camp (210b), Public Finance (150), Intro Macro (1), Economic Rhetoric (197), Econ. History of the US (125)
  - Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Student Trainee Economist • Jan 2022–Aug 2022
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## EDUCATION

- University of California at Santa Cruz • PhD in Economics • Aug 2022 – Exp. June 2027
  - University of California at Santa Cruz • MA in Economics • 2023
  - University of Illinois at Chicago • BS in Economics and Applied Statistics (Summa Cum Laude) • 2022
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## PAPERS AND TALKS

3. Housing Discrimination, Credit, and Residential Mobility (with P. Christensen & J. West)  
*Work in Progress*
    - Utilizes experimental discrimination data and consumer credit data to examine the impact of being a renter of color measured in terms of credit score or other renter characteristics such as years of education and occupation.
  2. Bridge Sufficiency and Shared Maintenance Responsibilities  
*Work in Progress*
    - An empirical application of public good provision examining bridge sufficiency ratings of US bridges carrying public roadways with and without a maintenance responsibility shared between state and local highway authorities. Work currently uses multiple applied methods including IPW matching and various panel specifications in R.
  1. Guest speaker at HUD EMAD research roundtable  
*July 2022*
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## CERTIFICATES

- Active Learning Workshop • UCSC's Teaching Learning Center • Spring 2025
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## GRANTS

- Institute for Social Transformation Catalyze Award (with J. West)  
\$9,500 • 2025
  - Dissertation Research Grant - UCSC  
\$9,500 • 2025
  - Regents Fellowship - UCSC  
\$16,000 • 2022-2023
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## REFERENCES

- Justin Marion • Professor, UCSC  
Serves as academic advisor and professional mentor relating to academic research and career development throughout the Econ PhD program.
- Aaron Meininger • Lecturer, UCSC  
Instructor for many of the courses for which I have TA'd, collaborating on course assignments and structure. He has helped develop my skills managing a large number of students and their workload.
- Doug Aburano • Director of the Air Programs Branch, EPA  
Continually serves as a professional mentor providing direction and advice for personal and professional development.
- J. Will Greene • Regional Economist, FDIC  
Helped oversee my work at the FDIC and served as a mentor for professional development during my time at the agency.