Iris M. Margetis

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Education

Ph.D. Candidate, Economics, Michigan State University. Expected completion June 2026 Thesis: "Three Essays on Mandatory Flood Risk Disclosure Laws and their Effects on Rent Prices and Sorting Patterns."
M.A., Economics, Michigan State University, 2022
B.S., Applied Mathematics (GPA: 4.0), Probability and Statistics Concentration, Kent State University, 2020
B.A., International Relations with a Minor in Economics (GPA: 4.0), Kent State University, 2020

Fields of Specialization

Energy and Environmental Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Urban Economics, and Public Economics

Publications

Santiago, A. M., & Margetis, I. (2025). Neighborhood Violence Exposure and Alcohol and Tobacco Use Initiation Among Ethnic Minority Adolescents. *Healthcare*, 13(2), 194

Working Papers

Job market paper: "The Effects of a Mandatory Flood Risk Disclosure Law on Rent Prices and Residential Sorting in Texas"
"Renting in the Floodplain: Flood Risk Disclosure and Rental Prices in Allen County, Indiana" (first full draft)
"Exacting a Pound of Flesh: Neighborhood Environments and Childhood Obesity." Joint with Dr. Anna Maria Santiago (first full draft)
"Individual, Family and Neighborhood Antecedents of Childhood Homelessness for Low-Income Latino and African American Youth in the United States: The Case of Denver." Joint with Dr. Anna Maria Santiago (submission ready)
"The Influence of Residential Instability, Housing, and Neighborhood Quality on Mitigating Exposure to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) during Adolescence." Joint with Dr. Anna Maria Santiago (in preparation)

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Dr. Anna Maria Santiago, Michigan State University, 2022–present

- Conducted advanced data analysis, spatial processing, and statistical modeling using Stata, R, ArcGIS Pro, as well as high-performance computing environments (terminal, HPCC) for projects on poverty, neighborhood dynamics, and low-income homeownership

- Contributed to the authorship of one published article and three additional manuscripts currently under review for academic publication

- Currently working with a U.S.-wide proprietary housing dataset, gaining experience with one of the leading industry sources widely used in applied policy and market analysis

Research Assistant, Dr. Prabhat Barnwal, Michigan State University, 2022.

- Supported empirical research in Development and Environmental Economics through construction, standardization, and analysis of high-frequency administrative microdata

- Designed and implemented scalable data pipelines for cleaning, transforming, and analyzing datasets exceeding 10 million observations using Stata and R

Teaching Experience

Certificate in College Teaching, Michigan State University, 2025

- Completed interdisciplinary coursework and professional development in pedagogy through Michigan State's Graduate School Certification in College Teaching program

- Designed and implemented a mentored teaching project (FAST Fellowship) evaluating how cooperative learning and generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT) can enhance analytical reasoning and collaboration in economics education

- Undertook targeted training in teaching college-level mathematics to address quantitative skill gaps among economics students and support conceptual understanding in theory courses

- Developed a student-centered, evidence-based teaching philosophy emphasizing inclusivity, relatability, and critical thinking

Teaching Assistant, EC 302 Intermediate Microeconomics, Michigan State University, Fall 2021

- Held weekly office hours and tutoring sessions in the Economics Help Room to reinforce lecture content and support student success

- Provided detailed feedback on problem sets and exams to help students strengthen technical and analytical skills

Teaching Assistant and Guest Lecturer, EC 202 Introduction to Macroeconomics, Michigan State University, Spring 2021

- Delivered guest lectures to a class of over 150 students, focusing on core macroeconomic concepts and real-world applications

- Engaged in classroom management and lecture planning under the mentorship of Dr. Graham Gardner to gain direct instructional experience

- Supported students through office hours and Help Room tutoring, clarifying concepts such as GDP, inflation, and monetary policy

Teaching Assistant, EC 301 Intermediate Microeconomics, Michigan State University, 2 semesters, 2020

- Assisted with grading and provided academic support through office hours and tutoring in microeconomic theory, including consumer choice, producer behavior, and market structures

- Helped students navigate mathematical modeling and formal economic reasoning to enhance comprehension of abstract concepts

Work Experience

Tutor, Varsity Tutors, 2020–2022

- Delivered personalized academic support in mathematics, economics, and statistics to undergraduate students across diverse ages and institutions

- Designed customized lesson plans and practice materials to address individual learning needs and strengthen core competencies

Lead Learning Assistant, TRIO Student Support Services, Kent State University, 2016–2020

- Provided individualized academic support in mathematics, physics, and economics to differently-abled, low-income, and first-generation college students

- Mentored both students and peer learning assistants, offering guidance on instructional methods, academic success strategies, and professional development

- Organized and facilitated staff training and fostered ongoing student engagement, contributing to improved academic confidence and retention

Intern, United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), Middle East North Africa (MENA) Bureau, Geneva, Switzerland, 2017

- Analyzed budgetary data for UNHCR's North Africa operations (2013–2017) to support regional financial reporting and strategic planning

- Managed and responded to individual queries from refugees across the MENA region, offering timely and compassionate assistance

- Developed a formal proposal outlining process improvements for refugee inquiry management and communications efficiency

Presentations

2025:
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Conference
  (Seattle, Washington; Forthcoming)
- UM/MSU Energy & Environmental Economics Day (University of Michigan)
- Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Conference (Albuquerque, New Mexico)
- Grand River Conference (Michigan State University)
- Empirical Micro Lunch Seminar (Michigan State University)
- Fate of the Earth: Our Waters Symposium (Michigan State University)

2024:
- European Network for Housing Research (Delft, The Netherlands)

International Experience

Bocconi Summer School, Department of Economics, Università Bocconi, Milan, Italy, 2019

- Completed a specialized course on the Economics of the European Union, examining the economic, political, and institutional structures of the EU

- Gained insights into monetary integration, fiscal policy coordination, and the challenges of economic governance across member states

Kosovo International Summer Academy, Academy for Diplomacy and Leadership, Pristina, Kosovo, 2018

- Participated in an intensive program focused on diplomacy, peacebuilding, international law, human rights, and global governance

- Attended seminars and workshops led by diplomats, UN representatives, and scholars, fostering intercultural understanding and leadership development in post-conflict settings

Webster Humanitarian Association, Webster University, Geneva, Switzerland, 2017

- Provided childcare for refugee families while parents attended French language courses and integration workshops, promoting community stability and self-sufficiency

- Cultivated a deeper understanding of the humanitarian needs of displaced populations and the value of compassionate, hands-on support in resettlement contexts

Fellowships and Awards

Ethics and Water Grant, Center for Ethical and Socially Responsible Leadership, Michigan State University, 2024
Graduate Research Fellowship, Michigan State University, 2024
Future Academic Scholars in Teaching Fellowship, Michigan State University, 2023
Phi Beta Kappa, 2019

Dennis Sefert Scholarship, Kent State University, 2018
Harshbarger Scholarship, Kent State University, 2018
Choose Ohio First Scholarship, 2016
PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation Award, 2016
PanHellenic Honors Society, 2016
President's List, Kent State University, 10 semesters

University Service

IN!SPIRES Wellness Ambassador for International Graduate Students and Post-Docs, Michigan State University, 2024- present

- One of seven university-wide ambassadors selected to support the wellbeing of MSU's international graduate students and postdocs

- Completed a six-week training on culturally responsive strategies to promote mental health, belonging, and resilience within international academic communities

- Helped organize a university-wide graduate wellness retreat and partnered with the Graduate School to expand inclusive wellness programming across campus

Graduate Economics Student Mentor (First-Year Cohort), Michigan State University, 2021–2023

- Mentored incoming Ph.D. students in navigating coursework, research expectations, and departmental culture during their transition to graduate school

- Provided guidance on academic planning, campus resources, and work-life balance, contributing to improved cohort integration and student retention

Undergraduate Studies Committee Member, Department of Political Science, Kent State University, 2018–2020

- Appointed student representative on the Undergraduate Studies Committee, contributing to curriculum planning and policy review within the department

- Provided feedback on student needs, helped evaluate proposed course changes, and promoted academic engagement initiatives

Programming Languages

R, Stata, ArcGIS Pro, SAS, EViews, LaTeX, Bash/Shell Scripting, Slurm Workload Manager, Excel, Google Docs, and Microsoft Word

Citizenship and Languages

Citizenship: United States, Greece
Languages: English (native), Greek (native), French (novice), Italian (novice)

References

Soren Anderson
Associate Professor, MSU Economics
sta@msu.edu

Benjamin Bushong
Associate Professor, MSU Economics
bbushong@msu.edu

Justin Kirkpatrick
Assistant Professor, MSU Economics
jkirk@msu.edu

Anna Maria Santiago
Professor of Community Development,
MSU School of Social Work
santia63@msu.edu