

Jo Alkhafaji-King

Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service
New York University
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Pronouns: they/them
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Education

- Ph.D. Public Administration, New York University, *expected graduation May 2026*
Concentrations: Public Policy Evaluation and Education Policy
- M.A. Economics, Miami University, May 2021
Thesis: Suspended from Work and School: Impacts of Layoff Events and Unemployment Insurance on Disciplinary Incidence
- B.A. Economics & Spanish, *magna cum laude*, Western Washington University, June 2020
Thesis: Gender, Human Capital, and Growth: How do Gender-Separate Effects of Human Capital Impact Economic Growth?

Employment

- Research Fellow, Institute of Education Sciences-funded Predoctoral Interdisciplinary Research Training, September 2021 – present
Work with faculty members to produce research centered on issues of education and equity through use of interdisciplinary methods to arrive at causal claims
- Graduate Assistant, Miami University Farmer School of Business, August 2020 – May 2021
Assist faculty in evaluation of students, editing manuscripts for journal submission, and providing feedback on diversity, equity, and inclusion committee activities
- Research Analyst, Western Washington University Center for Economic and Business Research, May 2019 – July 2020
Collaborate with clientele ranging from private institutions to government offices to provide industry research and reporting on topics such as zoning, K-12 and higher education, and residential and retail development

Fields of Interest

Economics of Education; Equity; Labor Economics

Relevant Coursework

- Qualitative Research Methods; NYU Wagner, Spring 2022
- Panel Data Analysis; NYU Stern, Spring 2022
- Advanced Empirical Methods; NYU Wagner, Fall 2021
- Research for Masters Thesis; Miami University MA program, Fall 2020 & Spring 2021
- Applied Time Series Analysis; Miami University MA program, Spring 2021
- Applied Econometrics; Miami University MA program, Spring 2021
- Advanced Empirical Methods; Miami University MA program, Fall 2020

Policy Briefs

“2020 Peer Cities Report.” Western Washington University Center for Economic and Business Research, 2020. (with Audrey Barber)

“City of Marysville Development.” Western Washington University Center for Economic and Business Research, 2019. (with Samantha Adams)

“Point Roberts Economic Profile.” Western Washington University Center for Economic and Business Research, 2020. (with Allison Rucker)

Works in Progress

“Suspended from Work and School: Impacts of Layoff Events and Unemployment Insurance on Disciplinary Incidence” (with Austin Smith and Riley Acton)

“Specially Suspended: Substitution Effects from Suspension to Special Education Placement in the Wake of a Suspension Ban.”

“Disproportionate Representation within College Majors in the US: Polarized Fields and Barriers by Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity” (with Zac McDermott, Joe Cimpian, and Taek H. Kim)

Presentations

“Suspended from Work and School: Impacts of Layoff Events and Unemployment Insurance on Disciplinary Incidence.” (with Riley Acton and Austin Smith). March 2022. *AEFP*.

“Suspended from Work and School: Impacts of Layoff Events and Unemployment Insurance on Disciplinary Incidence.” Oxford, OH, April 2021. (advised by Austin Smith)

“Gender, Human Capital, and Growth: How do Gender-Separate Effects of Human Capital Impact Economic Growth?” Bellingham, WA, June 2020. (advised by Anca Sirbu)

“City of Marysville Development: Anticipating Population Growth.” Marysville, WA, October 2019. (with Samantha Adams and James McCafferty)

Extracurriculars and Service

President, WWU International Affairs Association, 2019-2020

Assistant Director to the Commission for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Northwest Model United Nations: Seattle, 2019

- “Background Guide for the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice” (with Sabrina Suen)

Vice President of Logistics, WWU International Affairs Association, 2018-2019

Student Representative, WWU Departmentally Related Activities Council, 2018-2019

Student Chair, WWU Service and Activities Fee Committee, 2018-2019

Honors and Awards

IES-PIRT Fellowship, New York University (2021-2025)

Graduate Assistantship, Miami University (2020-2021)

Department of Economics Outstanding Graduate, Western Washington University (2020)

Chancellor's Distinguished Fellowship for PhD students in Economics, University of California Riverside (2020: Declined)

Skills and Certifications

Languages: English (native), Spanish (fluent)

Software: STATA, R, LaTeX, Microsoft Suite including Excel