

# Joseph M. Westenberg

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## EDUCATION

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### Indiana University-Bloomington

Ph.D. Economics

Thesis Title: “Essays in Applied Microeconomics”

*Bloomington, IN  
May 2022 (expected)*

### Indiana University-Bloomington

M.A. Economics

*Bloomington, IN  
March 2019*

### University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

B.Sc. Economics and Mathematics, *magna cum laude*

*Eau Claire, WI  
May 2017*

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

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Primary: Applied Microeconomics and Industrial Organization

Secondary: Political Economy

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### PhD Workshops

Indiana University-Bloomington

◇ [Introduction to Data Science](#) (S 2021)

*Sole Instructor*

### Associate Instructor

Indiana University-Bloomington

◇ [International Economics](#) (S 2020)

*Full Teaching Responsibilities*

### Graduate Teaching Assistant

Indiana University-Bloomington

◇ Fundamentals of Economics For Business I (F 2020, F 2021) *with Professor Gerhard Glomm*

◇ Gender and Economics (F 2019, S 2019, S 2021) *with Professor Gerhard Glomm*

◇ Introduction to Microeconomics (F 2018) *with Professor Paul Graf*

◇ Introduction to Macroeconomics (F 2017, S 2018) *with Professor Paul Graf*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Graduate Research Assistant (F 2019)

Indiana University-Bloomington

*with Professor Stefan Weiergraeber*

### Undergraduate Research Assistant (F 2014-S 2017)

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

*with Professor David Schaffer*

**Time Flexibility, Women's Wages, and the Gender Wage Gap**

(with David Schaffer)

**Atlantic Economic Journal (2019)**, 47:217:239.

**Abstract:** Paid jobs providing more time flexibility may appeal to workers who have primary responsibility as a caregiver for young children or for sick, handicapped, or elderly adults. However, in some jobs, workers who are given this flexibility may be less productive per hour than workers who commit to a fixed work schedule chosen by the employer. These two realities may lead employers to offer, and caregivers to accept, lower paying jobs that come with more time flexibility. Since caregivers in the United States are disproportionately women, this may help to explain the lingering gender wage gap in the U.S. Data sets were combined from the 2015 revision of the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) and the 2003 through 2015 March Current Population Surveys to analyze this issue. The combined data set includes extensive information on workers' average hourly earnings and personal characteristics along with 407 characteristics of their occupations. Log wage regressions were used to show that the data are not consistent with the Time Flexibility Hypothesis when applied to occupation categories.

IN PROGRESS

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**Section 301 and Politics: Analysis of Tariff Exemptions**

(with Nikita Lopatin and Beverly Mendoza)

**SSRN Working Paper Series (2021) No. 3885900.**

- 6th most downloaded paper in Import/Export Strategies
- 8th most downloaded paper in Models of Political Processes: Rent-Seeking, Elections, Legislatures, & Voting Behavior
- 8th most downloaded paper in Trade Policy

**Abstract:** Section 301 tariffs were imposed as a consequence of China's discriminatory business practices against American firms. However, domestic American firms who rely on Chinese imports are now faced with paying for these tariffs. In response, the Trump administration allowed the affected firms to apply for a tariff exemptions. Approximately 7% of these applications were approved. In this paper, we investigate the factors affecting the approval rates for these tariff exemptions. We find that an increase in county Republican vote share by 10 percentage points results in a 23% increase in probability of tariff exemption approval.

**Political Incentives and Air Pollution**

**Abstract:** In this paper I explore the relationship between political incentives generated by the election cycle and air pollution. Using GIS techniques I develop a novel dataset constructed from the EPA pollution monitors, historical congressional district shapefiles, election results, PRISM weather data, and BLS county population, income and employment data. Theory suggests that in areas where democratic contests are determined by larger margins of victory, the incentives of elected officials to represent their constituents and enforce costly regulations can erode. Using difference in differences I find evidence

that suggests that in districts with larger election margins, the trend of air pollution is higher.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

(\* Denotes Upcoming)

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Missouri Valley Economics Association Annual Meeting	*2021
Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting	2017
Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting	2016
Wisconsin Economic Association Annual Meeting	2014

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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Ostrom Workshop Research Award (\$3,500), <i>Indiana University – Bloomington</i>	2020
Alumni Excellence Award, <i>UW-Eau Claire</i>	2017
Lynne Oyen Economics Scholarship, <i>UW-Eau Claire</i>	2016
Gerald and Mary Jacobson Economics Department Scholarship, <i>UW-Eau Claire</i>	2015
Lynne Oyen Economics Scholarship, <i>UW-Eau Claire</i>	2015

## WORKSHOPS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Associate Instructor Teaching Academy	2020
Associate Instructor Teaching Workshop on Student Engagement	2019
R Markdown Workshop	2018

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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R, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Methods, Stata, MATLAB, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Microsoft Excel

## REFERENCES

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Available upon Request