

KATHARINE E. MEYER

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2019 - present	Postdoctoral Research Associate Annenberg Institute, Brown University *Affiliate, Taubman Center for American Politics and Policy
2017 - present	Research Affiliate, Nudge ⁴ Solutions Lab, University of Virginia

EDUCATION

2019	PhD Education Policy; University of Virginia <i>Dissertation: "Resource and Information Gaps: Policies Affecting Academic Trajectories"</i> <i>Dissertation Committee:</i> Benjamin Castleman (chair), Daphna Bassok, Sally Hudson, James Wyckoff
2016	Master of Public Policy (MPP); University of Virginia
2014	MEd Research, Statistics, and Evaluation; University of Virginia
2010	BA Government; University of Virginia

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

2020	Emerging Education Policy Scholar
2014-2018	Institute of Education Sciences, Virginia Education Science Training Pre-doctoral Fellowship
November 2018	Association for the Study of Higher Education, Graduate Student Policy Seminar pre-conference workshop
Summer 2016	Harvard Business School BIG Ideas Graduate Student Workshop

PUBLICATIONS

- Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. (accepted) Can Text Message Nudges Improve Academic Outcomes in College? Evidence from a West Virginia Initiative. *Review of Higher Education*
- Page, L. C., Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. (2019). Customized nudging to improve FAFSA completion and income verification. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*
- Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. (2019) Financial Constraints and Collegiate Student Learning: A Behavioral Economics Perspective. *Daedalus*, 148(4) [[open access](#)]
- Meyer, K., & Rosinger, K. O. (2019) Applying behavioral insights to improve postsecondary outcomes: A review of Obama administration efforts and next steps under the Trump administration. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 38(2), 481-499.
- Castleman, B. L., Meyer, K., Sullivan, Z., Hartog, W. D., & Miller, S. (2017). Nudging students beyond FAFSA: The impact of university outreach on financial aid behaviors and outcomes. *Journal of Student Financial Aid*, 47(3).

BOOK CONTRIBUTIONS

Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. (2017). Nudges, norms, and navigation: Behavioral insights to improve student success. In R. S. Feldman (Ed.), *The first year of college: Research, theory, and practice on improving the student experience and increasing retention*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

WORKING PAPERS

Castleman, B.L., Meyer, K., & Page, L. (mimeo). "Design and Implementation in Nudging: Insights from a Statewide Financial Aid Intervention."

Meyer, K. (mimeo). "The effect of school counselors on student discipline: Evidence from a regression discontinuity."

Meyer, K. (mimeo). "Do small price changes affect college enrollment? Evidence on college commitment deposits"

GRANTS

Brooklyn Public Library Engagement Project. Heckscher Foundation. \$400,000. 2018-2020.

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

How information affects students' interest in colleges: Results from a randomized control trial of a college search interface (with Ben Castleman and Cait Lamberton)

- Examining how small variations in the presentation of information about a college affect students' interest in and sense of fit with that institution (~ 5,000 participants)

Reducing SNAP benefit churn (with Susanna Loeb)

- Applying behavioral science insights to reduce SNAP "churn" (temporary benefits lapse) through proactive outreach and process simplification
- Partner agencies: Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance

The effects of parental outreach on preschool attendance

- Developing pilot intervention to evaluate effectiveness of different messaging campaigns to increase preschool and early grades attendance
- Partner agencies: Urban Community Schools (Cleveland, OH)

Lessons from the library: Improving youth library engagement (with Ben Castleman and Ariel Kalil)

- Funded by Heckscher Foundation; developing and evaluating interventions to nudge book returns, fine repayment, and youth/family engagement with library services
- Partner agencies: Brooklyn Public Library

First Year Forward: The effects of virtual mentoring and timely nudges on college persistence (with Ben Castleman and Zack Mabel)

- Designed college-advising interventions for first-year students. Launched RCT of three interventions in fall 2016 and revised RCTs in fall 2017 and 2018 (~900 students per cohort)
- Partner agencies: College Summit/Peer Forward

The labor market returns to “stackable credentials” (with Daniel Rodriguez, Ben Castleman, and Kelli Bird)

- Evaluating the labor market returns to individuals who “stack” credentials in Virginia
- Partner agencies: Virginia Community College System

Design and Effect: Examining the relationship between “free college” program design and student outcomes (with Kelly Ochs Rosinger)

- Evaluating the extent to which behavioral science informs the design of free college programs and how design variation affects student outcomes

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

How information affects students’ interest in colleges: Results from a randomized control trial of a college search interface

AEFP annual conference, Kansas City, MO

March 2019

Lessons from the Library: Leveraging public institutions and behavioral insights to improve adolescent outcomes

APPAM annual conference, Washington, DC

Nov. 2018

How do guidance counselors affect student outcomes? Evidence from state student/counselor ratio policies.

AEFP annual conference, Portland, OR

March 2018

AEFP annual conference, Washington, DC

March 2017

Summer Reading Connection: Engaging student learning through technology

APPAM annual conference, Chicago, IL

Nov. 2017

Can Text Message Nudges Improve Academic Outcomes in College? Evidence from a West Virginia Initiative (with Benjamin Castleman)

APPAM student regional conference, Washington, DC.

April 2016

AEFP annual conference, Denver, CO

March 2016

APPAM annual conference, Miami, FL

Nov. 2015

Nudging students beyond FAFSA: The impact of university outreach on financial aid behaviors and outcomes (with Benjamin Castleman and Zachary Sullivan)

APPAM annual conference, Washington, DC

Nov. 2016

AEFP annual conference, Denver, CO

March 2016

AP is IN: The Impact of Standardizing Postsecondary Acceptance of Advanced Placement Credit in Indiana

APPAM student regional conference, Washington, DC

April 2016

APPAM annual conference (poster), Miami, FL

Nov. 2015

VERA annual conference, Charlottesville, VA

Sept. 2015

RESEARCH AND POLICY EXPERIENCE

2014 – 2019 Research assistant to Benjamin L. Castleman, University of Virginia

Summer 2016 Research intern, Virginia Department of Education Office of Research

2009 – 2012 Research assistant to Carolyn Callahan, University of Virginia

TEACHING – COURSES

Spring 2018	EDLF 1200: Evaluating Social Innovation (Evaluation: 4.61/5) Co-instructor with Daphna Bassok
Fall 2016	EDLF 2050: What the Innovators Do: Strategies to Transform the Lives of Youth (Evaluation: 4.45/5) Co-instructor with Benjamin Castleman

TEACHING – WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

January 2019	Policy Memo Writing <i>Two day workshop for IES pre-doctoral fellows; co-facilitator with Virginia Deputy Secretary of Education</i>
July 2018	Undergraduate workshop: Resumes/CVs
July 2017	Undergraduate workshop: Quantitative Methods Overview
May 2017	Behavioral Science and Nudge Interventions in Education <i>Two day conference for IES pre- and post-doctoral fellows, co-facilitator</i>
March 2017	Behavioral Insights to Improve Community College Success <i>Workshop at Washington State Community College, co-facilitator</i>
July 2015, 2016	Undergraduate workshop: Communicating research in clear and compelling ways

SERVICE

Journal Reviews	<i>Behavioural Public Policy</i> <i>Economics of Education Review</i> <i>Education Evaluation and Policy Analysis</i> <i>Educational Researcher</i> <i>Studies in Higher Education</i>
Conference Reviews	Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Conference (2020) Curry Research Conference (2015, 2016)
2016-2019	Member, Curry School Student Travel Committee
2015-2016	Logistics co-chair, Curry Research Conference

SELECT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

2018	R; Advanced R; Missing Data
2017	Data Visualization in Stata
2016	Field Experiments; Value Added Modeling; Hierarchical Linear Modeling
2015	Statistical Mediation & Moderation

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)
Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)
Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2012-2014 External Affairs Coordinator, University of Virginia
2010-2012 Faculty Affairs Coordinator, University of Virginia

NON-REFEREED WRITING

Page, L. C., Castleman, B. L., & Meyer, K. "The gift of time: The opportunity and benefit of early FAFSA filing." *The Brookings Institution Brown Center Chalkboard*, October 2016.

Meyer, K. "Studying first-generation college students." *Sense About Science: Epistemically Challenged Series*, May 16, 2016.

SELECT PRESS CITATIONS

Education Week. You Want More Students Applying for Financial Aid? Bring in Michelle Obama. July 2017.

The Atlantic. The FAFSAs Midterm Grade: Changes intended to make filing for financial aid easier were accompanied by major structural hiccups. April 2017.

Charleston Gazette-Mail. Students complete more credits due to text reminders, research shows. July 2016.