

# Matthew Brown

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CONTACT INFORMATION	Stanford Department of Economics 579 Jane Stanford Way Stanford, CA 94305	mbrown35@stanford.edu <a href="https://mattbrownnecon.github.io">mattbrownnecon.github.io</a> +1 (847)-848-8015
APPOINTMENTS	<b>Assistant Instructional Professor</b> , University of Chicago, Department of Economics (Beginning Fall 2025)	2025-
EDUCATION	<b>Ph.D. in Economics</b> , Stanford University Fields: Public Economics and Behavioral Economics	2019-2025
	<b>B.A. in Mathematics and Economics</b> , University of Notre Dame	2015-2019
REFERENCES	<b>Matthew Gentzkow</b> Department of Economics, Stanford University <a href="mailto:gentzkow@stanford.edu">gentzkow@stanford.edu</a> (617) 905-7656  <b>Hunt Allcott</b> Doerr School of Sustainability, Stanford University <a href="mailto:allcott@stanford.edu">allcott@stanford.edu</a> (617) 256-9282  <b>B. Douglas Bernheim</b> Department of Economics, Stanford University <a href="mailto:bernheim@stanford.edu">bernheim@stanford.edu</a> (650) 725-8732	
WORKING PAPERS	<b>Do Sports Bettors Need Consumer Protection? Evidence From A Field Experiment</b> (with Nick Grasley and Mariana Guido)  <i>Abstract:</i> Corrective policy in sports betting markets is motivated by concerns that demand is driven by behavioral bias rather than a normative preference to gamble. We conduct a field experiment with frequent sports bettors to measure the impact of two biases, overoptimism about financial returns and self-control problems, on the demand for sports betting. We find widespread over-optimism about financial returns. The average participant predicts that they will break even, but in fact loses about 8 cents for every dollar wagered. Self-control problems are smaller and less common. We estimate a model of biased betting and use it to evaluate several corrective policies. Our estimates imply that the surplus-maximizing corrective excise tax on sports betting is twice as large as prevailing tax rates. We estimate substantial heterogeneity in bias across bettors, which implies that targeted interventions that directly eliminate bias could improve on a tax. However, implementation is challenging: we show that two bias-correction interventions favored by the gambling industry do not deliver the targeting improvements.  <b>The Role of Ideology in Media Coverage of Science</b> (with Harsh Gupta)  <i>Abstract:</i> We study the role of political ideology in the diffusion of scientific knowledge by media outlets. We document, using a novel measure of scientist ideology that spans more than 600,000 papers, that outlets are statistically significantly more likely to cover scientists with similar ideology. However, the role of scientist ideology is small in magnitude when compared to the role of scientific quality, as measured by academic citations, journal quality, and research funding, in me-	

dia coverage of science. On average, outlets are more likely to cover high-quality research written by misaligned scientists than low-quality research written by ideologically aligned scientists.

**SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS**     **Do People Undervalue Mental Health Treatment? Evidence From Gambling Addiction Therapy**  
(with Sarah Bogl, Nick Grasley, and Mariana Guido)

**Nonmarket Valuation and Imperfect Perception**

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**     **Stanford University**  
TA for Junior Honors Seminar     2025 TA for Undergraduate Behavioral Economics (x3)     2022-2024  
TA for Undergraduate Empirical Environmental Economics (x2)     2023  
TA for Bing Honors College Undergraduate Thesis Boot Camp     2023  
TA for Undergraduate Principles of Economics     2021  
Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (x4)     2022 - 2024

**AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS**     Responsible Gaming Grant, Colorado Division of Gaming     2024  
Ethics in Society Graduate Research Grant, Stanford University     2024  
Bill Lane Center for the American West Grant, Stanford University     2024  
George P. Shultz Dissertation Support Fund Fellowship, Stanford University     2023  
Roger Noll Dissertation Fellowship, Stanford University     2023  
Stanford Center for American Democracy (SCAD) Experiment Grant, Stanford University     2021  
Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society (PACS) Small Grant, Stanford University     2021  
Institute for Research in the Social Sciences (IRiSS) Research Data Grant, Stanford University     2021  
Bernoulli Senior Thesis Award (Honorable Mention), Notre Dame     2019  
Open Source Macroeconomics Boot Camp (Student Fellow), University of Chicago     2018

**INVITED PRESENTATIONS**     **2025:**  
Analysis Group, Edgeworth Economics, University of Wisconsin, University of Notre Dame, Bates White, National Council on Problem Gambling Summer Conference  
  
**2023:**  
University of Notre Dame