

MERRILL WARNICK

CONTACT

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EMPLOYMENT

2025- University of Georgia, Assistant Professor of Economics

EDUCATION

2019 – Stanford University, PhD Economics (Candidate)
Dissertation: “Essays in the Economics of Education”
Dissertation Committee: Caroline Hoxby, Guido Imbens, Isaac Sorkin
2012 – 2018 Brigham Young University, BS Mathematics and Economics with Honors

PRIMARY RESEARCH FIELDS

Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics, Public Economics, Economics of Education

PUBLICATIONS

A Design-based Perspective on Synthetic Controls (with Lea Bottmer, Guido Imbens, and Jann Spiess), 2023, *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*. [\[link to paper\]](#)
Why Have College Completion Rates Increased? (with Jeffery T. Denning, Eric Eide, Kevin Mumford, and Richard Patterson), 2022, *AEJ: Applied*. [\[link to paper\]](#)
Divisibility Properties of Coefficients of Modular Functions in Genus Zero Levels (with Victoria Iba, and Paul Jenkins), 2019, *Integers*. [\[link to paper\]](#)

WORKING PAPERS

Instructor Value-added in Post-secondary Education (with Jacob Light and Anthony Yim)
[\[link to paper\]](#)

Easy A’s, Less Pay: The Long-Term Effects of Grade Inflation (with Jeffrey T. Denning, Rachel Nesbit and Nolan Pope) [\[link to paper\]](#)

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Are College Degrees Protected From Automation? Measuring Higher Education’s Exposure and Responses to Artificial Intelligence (with Jacob Light)

Performance-based Funding and Grading Standards in Higher Education

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

2024	Leonard W. Ely and Shirley R. Ely Graduate Student Fellowship
2024	Stanford H&S GRO Grant (with Jacob Light)
2024	Stanford IRiSS Research Data Grant
2023	Stanford H&S GRO Grant (with Jacob Light)
2023	George Schultz Dissertation Grant (with Jacob Light)
2023	Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award
2022	George Schultz Dissertation Grant (with Jacob Light)
2022	Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award
2012	Heritage Scholarship, Brigham Young University

TEACHING AND RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

University of Georgia

2026	Introduction to Data Analytics for Business (UG)
2025	Economics of Education (UG)

Stanford University

2022-2024	Intermediate Econometrics II (Graduate, TA)
2024	Applied Econometrics II (UG, TA)
2024	Intro to Financial Decision Making (UG, TA)
2023	Data Science and Experimentation (MBA, TA)
2023	Economics of Education (UG, TA)
2023	Principles of Economics (UG, TA)
2022	Intermediate Econometrics I (Graduate, TA)

Brigham Young University

2018	Advanced Econometrics (UG, TA)
2017	Introductory Econometrics (UG, TA)

PRESENTATIONS

2026	SOLE (scheduled), AEFPP (scheduled)
2025	University of California, Davis; Santa Clara University; University of Georgia; Tulane University; Southern Economic Association
2024	Stanford Applied Economics Workshop
2024	BYU Economics Graduate Student Conference
2023	Stanford Applied Economics Workshop
2022	BYU Economics Graduate Student Conference
2021	Econometric Society North American Summer Meeting

REFEREEING

2026	Journal of Human Resources, Education Policy
2022	Journal of Labor Economics, Economics of Education Review