MATTHEW MILLINGTON

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Placement Director: Professor Natalia Kovrijnykh	natalia.kovrijnykh@asu.edu	(480) 965-7158
Placement Coordinator: Laura-Jean Talts	ltalts@asu.edu	(480) 727-7931

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, Arizona State University, 2018-present
Expected completion date: May 2024

References:

Domenico Ferraro, Associate Professor of Economics (Chair)
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(480) 965-5498

Gustavo Ventura, Professor of Economics
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MS in Economics, Arizona State University, May 2021
BS in Economics, Brigham Young University, December 2015, cum laude

RESEARCH FIELDS

Macroeconomics, labor economics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Spring 2023	Microeconomic Principles
Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2021	Macroeconomic Principles (online)
Summer 2021	Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory (in-person/online hybrid)
Spring 2021	Advanced Honors Macroeconomics (reassigned to instruct the course for Edward Prescott)

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2021	Financial Economics, assisting Rajnish Mehra
Fall 2020	Macroeconomic Principles, assisting Bart Hobijn
Spring 2020	Advanced Honors Macroeconomics, assisting Edward Prescott
Spring 2020	Analysis of US Economy, assisting Bart Hobijn
Fall 2019	Economic Development, assisting Stephie Fried
Fall 2019	Macroeconomic Principles, assisting Joanna Girante

Undergraduate Advising

Spring 2021	Honors Thesis Committee Member for Jack Fuller and Justin Fink

HONORS

2021	Best Third-Year Paper Presentation
2021	Distinguished Economics Graduate Instructor
2021	John W. Teets Outstanding Gradate Teaching Assistant

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

2023	GLO Journal of Population Economics Conference (virtual; scheduled), ASU Macroeconomics Workshop
2022	Midwest Macro Fall Meeting at Southern Methodist University, ASU Macroeconomics Workshop
2021	ASU Macroeconomics Workshop, Ohanian-Hansen UCLA Workshop

RESEARCH ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

Summer 2021	Research Assistant for Edward Prescott, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
2016-2018	Research Assistant for Joe Price, NBER

PUBLICATIONS

"Changes in Parental Gender Preference in the USA: Evidence from 1850 to 2019" (2023) with Todd R. Jones and Joseph Price, *Journal of Population Economics*, 36(4), 3057-3070.

WORKING PAPERS

"On-the-Job Search, Human Capital Formation, and Lifecycle Wages" (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: I build an equilibrium lifecycle model of wages that combines human capital accumulation with on-the-job search in a frictional labor market. In the model, heterogeneous workers endogenously invest in human capital accumulation and search effort while firms post jobs. I discipline the model using microdata from the SIPP. Using the calibrated model, I show that (1) on-the-job search is the driving force behind lifecycle wage growth, (2) heterogeneous human capital accumulation is the driving force behind lifecycle wage dispersion, and (3) there is significant heterogeneity in how workers increase their wages over the life cycle. Then, I use the model as a laboratory to study the effects of tax and transfer progressivity. An increase in progressivity decreases wages, primarily due to reduced on-the-job search effort. Surprisingly, it has little effect on wage dispersion because effects from the human capital and search channels offset each other.

"Duration Dependence and Unemployment Persistence"

Abstract: Unemployment is persistent over time, particularly as it decreases after recessions, but standard search models struggle to replicate this fact. I embed duration dependence in a basic search model and show that duration dependence helps to generate realistic unemployment persistence over the business cycle. Intuitively, after recessions, the composition of the unemployment pool shifts to the long-term unemployed, and since they have lower job finding rates, this decreases the aggregate job finding rate and slows recovery. The effect is mitigated if (a) the appearance of duration dependence is driven by unobserved heterogeneity or (b) the recession is driven by a job separation shock.

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Stopgap Jobs: Search and Temporary Jobs"

Abstract: Only 2% of workers in the US have a temporary contract, but 10% of unemployment inflows and outflows involve temporary jobs. Using data from the SIPP and CPS Contingent Worker Supplement, I document that temporary jobs are consistent with "stopgap" behavior; workers tend to use temporary jobs as a short-term solution during an unemployment spell. I insert temporary jobs in a search-and-matching model with incomplete asset markets and calibrate the model to US data. In the model, workers accept temporary jobs if they have been unemployed for some time and their assets are low. I show that a model which does not take temporary jobs into account significantly understates the cost of unemployment because it attributes all job finding to permanent jobs, which are superior to temporary jobs.

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Python, MATLAB, Stata, LaTeX