

# MATTHEW MILLINGTON

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Department of Economics, Arizona State University  
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Placement Director: Professor Natalia Kovrijnykh  
Placement Coordinator: Laura-Jean Talts

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## OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

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Tempe, AZ 85281  
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## EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, Arizona State University, 2018-present  
Thesis title: *Essays on the Labor Market*  
Expected completion date: May 2024

## References:

Domenico Ferraro, Associate Professor of  
Economics (Chair)  
domenico.ferraro@asu.edu  
(480) 965-5498

Hector Chade, Professor of Economics  
hector.chade@asu.edu  
(480) 965-4714

Gustavo Ventura, Professor of Economics  
gustavo.ventura@asu.edu  
(480) 965-5881

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

## TEACHING AND RESEARCH FIELDS

Macroeconomics, labor economics

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor

Spring 2023  
Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2021  
Summer 2021

Spring 2021

Microeconomic Principles  
Macroeconomic Principles (online)  
Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory (in-person/online  
hybrid)  
Advanced Honors Macroeconomics (reassigned to in-  
struct the course from 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	Honor's Thesis Committee Member for Jack Fuller and Justin Fink
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### **RESEARCH ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE**

Summer 2021	Research Assistant for Edward Prescott, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
2016-2017	Research Assistant for Joe Price, NBER

### **HONORS**

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

### **CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS**

2023	ASU Macroeconomics Workshop
2022	Midwest Macro Fall Meetings, ASU Macroeconomics Workshop
2021	ASU Macroeconomics Workshop, Ohanian-Hansen UCLA Workshop

### **PUBLICATIONS**

"Changes in Parental Gender Preference in the USA: Evidence from 1850 to 2019" with Todd R. Jones and Joseph Price, *Journal of Population EconOmg!Omgomics*, 2023.

### **WORKING PAPERS**

A Unified Theory of Human Capital, Job Search, and Wages with Implications for Taxation (Job Market Paper)

**Abstract:** I build an equilibrium lifecycle model of wages that combines on-the-job search in a frictional labor market with human capital accumulation. In the model, heterogeneous workers invest in human capital accumulation and search effort. Wages and their dispersion rise over the life cycle due to two forces: heterogeneous workers climb the job ladder of firm productivity while investing in human capital. I discipline the model using microdata from the SIPP. Using the calibrated model, I find that on-the-job search is the driving force of lifecycle wage growth. In contrast, wage dispersion is mainly a function of heterogeneous human capital formation. I engineer an increase in tax progressivity and find that it decreases wages, primarily due to reduced on-the-job search effort. Surprisingly, it has little effect on wage dispersion as human capital accumulation and search tend to offset one another.

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.

### **PROGRAMMING SKILLS**

Python, MATLAB, Stata, LaTeX