Matías Navarro

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Education

Ph.D. in Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University.	May 2026 (expected)
M.S. in Economics, University of Texas at Austin.	2019
M.S. in Transportation Engineering, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.	2014
B.S. in Industrial Engineering, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.	2012

Research Interests

Primary: Environmental and Energy Economics, Urban and Transportation Economics.
Secondary: Empirical Industrial Organization, Spatial Economics.

Working Papers

"Paying at the pump and at the ballot box: Electoral penalties of motor fuel taxes" with Gian-Claudia Sciara, and Andrew Waxman.

Work in Progress

"On the right track? Designing optimal public transit contracts" (Job Market Paper).
"Optimal congestion pricing in road networks" with Avralt-Od Purevjav, and Shanjun Li.
"Bridges in Bangladesh" with Alejandro Molnar, and Forhad Shilpi.

Publications

Basso, L.J., Navarro, M. and Silva, H.E., 2021. "Public transport and urban structure." *Economics of Transportation*, 28, p.100232.

Work and Research Experience

Consultant, Development Research Group (DECSI), World Bank	2023 - 2024
⏐ Evaluated the effect of transportation infrastructure on economic activity in Bangladesh.	
Research Assistant, Cornell University	2022 - 2023
⏐ Prof. Todd Gerarden - Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management.	
Consultant, Education Division, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)	2019 - 2020
⏐ Supported the implementation of centralized school choice systems in Perú and Ecuador.	
Research Assistant, University of Texas at Austin	2019
⏐ Prof. Andrew Waxman - LBJ School of Public Affairs.	
Research Assistant, The Complex Engineering Systems Institute (ISCI)	2016 - 2017
⏐ Prof. Leonardo J. Basso - School of Civil Engineering, Universidad de Chile.	
⏐ Prof. Hugo E. Silva - Department of Economics, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.	
Research Consultant, Center for Sustainable Urban Development (CEDEUS)	2014 - 2017
⏐ Advised the Metropolitan Public Transit Authority of Santiago, Chile.	
Visiting Research Fellow, Georgia Institute of Technology	2014
⏐ Prof. Jorge Laval - School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.	

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, Cornell University   2021 - 2022
| Undergraduate: Environmental and Resource Economics (Fall 2021), Introductory Microeconomics (Fall 2022).

Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin   2017 - 2019
| Undergraduate: Introduction to Microeconomics (Fall 2017), Introduction to Economics (Spring 2018), Economics of Ethics and Social Justice (Fall 2018 and Spring 2019).

Teaching Assistant, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile   2011 - 2013
| Graduate: Transportation Economics (Fall 2012), Advanced Traffic Modeling (Spring 2013), Highway Traffic Flow (Fall 2013).
| Undergraduate: Operations Research (Spring 2012 and Fall 2012), Introduction to Public Policy (Spring 2012), Fundamentals of Transportation Engineering (Spring 2011), Traffic Flow Theory (Spring 2011 and Fall 2011).

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

Lourdes Benería Award, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University.   2024
Interdisciplinary Transportation Doctoral Fellowship, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.   2024 - 2025
Edward and Janet Heslop Fellowship, Cornell University.   2022 - 2023
Cornell Graduate School Fellowship.   2020
Dean's Prestigious Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin.   2018
Biennial Award of the Chilean Society of Transport Engineering.   2015
Padre Hurtado Award, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.   2007

Seminar and Conference Presentations (including scheduled)

2025: Cornell SEERE Seminar, Cornell Real Estate and Urban Economics Symposium, AERE Summer Conference, ITEA Annual Conference.

Programming languages and Software

R, Julia, Matlab, Python, QGIS, and LATEX.

Other

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent), French (basic).
Citizenship: Chilean.

Updated on August 5, 2025