

Updated June 20, 2023

Nicholas Skelley
nskelley@mit.edu · nicholasskelley.com

CURRENT

MIT Sloan School of Management

Predoctoral Research Associate, Technical Associate

July 2022 – *Present*

- Work with Dr. Joseph Doyle in Applied Economics studying interventions aimed at improving health outcomes, particularly among low-income households.
- Analyze randomized controlled trials (RCTs) performed in the field and in collaboration with external healthcare providers targeted at improving patient self-management of chronic health conditions.
- Contribute to program and study design for interventions aimed at improving healthcare engagement and health outcomes with external research partners, including Geisinger Health, Quest Diagnostics, and SilverCloud (by Amwell).
- Regularly write code in Stata and R to produce graphs and tables used for analysis and manuscripts, with an emphasis on writing clean, procedural code that is easy to change and update.
- Participated in J-PAL's 2022 Research Staff Training, including workshops on data security and encryption, power analysis, data validation and high frequency checks, and using GitHub for project management and organization. This training also included Q&A sessions with Chris Blattman and Jessica Lasky-Fisk.

EDUCATION

Emory University

BA in Economics (*summa sum laude*)

May 2022

Mathematics Minor

Dean's List: Spring 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022

Omicron Delta Epsilon Economics Honor Society, Economics Honors Program

SELECTED COURSEWORK

Economics: Microeconomics I (PhD), Econometrics I, Causal Inference and Impact Analysis, Game Theory, Experimental Economics, Economics and Psychology, Intermediate Macroeconomics

Mathematics: Abstract Vector Spaces, Foundations of Mathematics (proof-writing), Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, Single- and Multi-Variable Calculus (integral and differential)

RESEARCH

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

WORKING PAPERS/IN PROGRESS

Nicholas Skelley. "Comparing experimental loss framing methods in a multi-leveled lying context," 2023. *Working paper*.

Stephen D. O'Connell, Nicholas Skelley. "Endogenous household reorganization and social welfare program manipulation," 2023. *In preparation*.

EXPERIENCE

Harvard University, New York University, Kellogg School of Management

Temporary Archival Research Assistant

May 2022 – July 2022

- Read and categorized thousands of archival documents at the National Archives at Atlanta related to polio and the polio vaccine during the 1950's and other infectious diseases and vaccines, including measles, that were prevalent during the mid-20th century.
- Reported documents to Drs. Melissa Dell (Harvard), Leander Heldring (Kellogg), and Pablo Querubin (NYU) that could be used to evaluate infectious-disease vaccine uptake during the mid-1900's and in the wake of the 1950's Cutter incident.

Emory University, Department of Economics

Honors Student

July 2021 – May 2022

- Advised by Dr. Kelli Lanier, developed an original research question in the field of behavioral economics
- Extensively reviewed literature in economics and psychology regarding deception, risk taking, prosocial (and antisocial) behavior, and relevant experimental methods previously used in peer-reviewed research
- Independently learned non-parametric statistical methods for rigorously analyzing survey and experimental data.
- Went through the Institutional Review Board approval process and recruited 409 participants from Amazon's Mechanical Turk (MTurk) to participate in the experiment
- Wrote a comprehensive thesis describing the study and the results of the experiment (see "Comparing experimental loss framing methods in a multi-leveled lying context")

Emory Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE)

Undergraduate Research Fellow

June 2021 – August 2021

- Worked full-time with Dr. Stephen O'Connell studying household reorganization and social program manipulation as a result of cash transfers to Syrian refugees in Lebanon
- Performed extensive data manipulation and analysis in R and created automated processes for creating data visualizations and regression models
- Modified packages in R to handle large datasets and to tailor outputs to our needs
- Wrote programs for identifying bandwidths and power for conducting analysis of social program effects using a regression discontinuity design
- Collected relevant literature through EBSCO and Emory University databases and wrote a literature review on child fostering, social program manipulation, and prior research on the effects of aid programs to refugees
- Analyzed trends in the data and wrote a draft manuscript in preparation for submission to a peer-reviewed journal

Emory Economics Policy Lab

Research Assistant

August 2020 – December 2020

- Programmed in R with `dplyr` and `ggplot2` to create regression discontinuity specifications to assess the effects of policies on specific welfare outcomes.
- Wrote procedural code to seamlessly create models and graphics for 198 different outcome-bandwidth-treatment specifications with the flexibility to easily add or remove objects.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

[Jack and Lewis Greenhut Prize¹](#), Emory University Department of Economics, 2022

Emory Undergraduate Research Programs Independent Research Grant, 2022: \$974.40, for “Comparing experimental loss framing methods in a multi-leveled lying context.”

Emory Undergraduate Research Programs Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, 2021.

PRESENTATIONS

MIT Sloan School of Management Predoctoral Presentation Series, 2022. “Comparing experimental loss framing methods in a multi-leveled lying context.”

Emory College Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium, 2021. “Endogenous household reorganization and social welfare program manipulation.”

Emory Center for Innovation, Peer-to-Peer Masterclass Series, 2020. “Introduction to Web Design with Nicholas Skelley (22C).”

SOFTWARE AND PROGRAMMING

tabtex: An R package for formatting data frames as \LaTeX tables. (GitHub)

SOFTWARE

Stata, RStudio, Visual Studio, MATLAB

LANGUAGES

R, \LaTeX , HTML, CSS, Python, SQL, PHP, Unix, Java, C#, Lua, jQuery, JavaScript, Swift

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Emory University, Office of Residence Life

Resident Advisor

August 2020 – May 2022

- Served as a resource and mentor to thirty-one first-year students for academic, personal, and residential needs.
- Fostered community in the building by being visible and available and by putting on community gathering and educational events.
- Served on-call in a crisis-response role throughout the semester, being prepared to respond to a variety of situations from noise complaints to mental health crises.
- Received a certification in Mental Health First Aid from the National Council for Behavioral Health (August 2020)

iD Tech

Virtual Instructor

May 2020 – August 2020

- Taught video game development for one of the most popular platforms for young audiences to over 70 students between the ages of 6 and 12 from around the world.
- Provided introductory lessons in writing (non-visual) code, logical reasoning, and debugging,

¹The Jack and Lewis Greenhut Prize “is awarded to a graduating senior who has demonstrated the highest degree of excellence in classwork, research, and scholarly activities.”

along with lessons in engagement, player retention, and monetization.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

CERTIFICATIONS

Mental Health First Aid (2020-2023), CITI Human Subject Research Track (2021), CITI Basic/Refresher Course Human Subjects Protection: Social/Behavioral Focus (2021-2024)

LANGUAGES

English: native; French: intermediate/working proficiency