

Samara Mendez

Department of Economics
University of Colorado Boulder
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Education

Ph.D., Economics, University of Colorado, Boulder (expected 2019)
Dissertation: "Policy Effects in Applied Microeconomic Settings"
Dissertation Committee: Chrystie Burr (Chair), Scott Savage, Daniel Kaffine, Jonathan Hughes

M.A., Economics, University of Colorado, Boulder (2015)
B.A. Economics (with Special Honors), University of Texas, Austin (2013)
B.A. Mathematics, University of Texas, Austin (2013)

Fields of Interest

Environmental/Agricultural Economics • Industrial Organization • Food Economics • Policy

Working Papers

"Just Label It? The Effects of Labels in the Market for Genetically Modified Foods"
"The Effects of the Low-Income Broadband Internet Subsidy"
with Scott Savage and Gabor Molnar
"Incidence and Welfare Effects of Placement of Excise Taxes in Highly Concentrated Markets"
with Chrystie Burr

Research Skills

Statistical analysis • Theoretical modeling • Multi-enterprise project management • Website design
Data collection and preparation • Database creation and management • IRB protocol proposal writing
Master document/work process preparation • Report writing and data presentation for general audiences
Advanced: Stata, LaTeX, MS Excel/Word/Powerpoint, Mathematica • *Intermediate:* ArcGIS, SquareSpace
Basic: Matlab, R, Github

Research Experience

2017 Using Classroom Observation Technology to Assess Teaching Improvement in
Short-Term Microteaching Environments (June)
Interdisciplinary research project management, IRB protocol proposal writing, qualitative data analysis

2016 Dissertation Research Grant (Spring)
Multi-project research administration, research agenda development, data analysis, website creation

2015 Research Assistant to Dr. Scott Savage, CU Boulder (Summer)
Data sourcing and cleaning, statistical and spatial (GIS) data analysis, literature review writing
Research for Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research, CU Boulder (Spring, Summer)
Quantitative and qualitative analysis, master document preparation, graphical data presentation

- 2014** Research for Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research, CU Boulder (Fall)
- 2013** Research Assistant to Drs. Valerie Bencivenga and Beatrix Paal, UT Austin (Spring, Summer)
Project administration, process documentation, interdisciplinary team communication

Presentations

- 2018** Environmental Brown Bag, CU Boulder (Apr)
 “Incidence and Welfare Effects of Placement of Excise Taxes in Highly Concentrated Markets”
- 2017** Environmental Brown Bag, CU Boulder (Dec)
 “Just Label It? The Effects of Labels in the Market for Genetically Modified Foods”
 CU Boulder’s Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop, Vail CO (Sept)
 “Just Label It? The Effects of Labels in the Market for Genetically Modified Foods”
 Environmental Brown Bag, CU Boulder (Apr)
 “Upstream Pollution, Downstream Market Power, and Waste”
- 2016** AERE Sponsored Sessions, Southern Economic Association, Washington D.C. (Nov.)
 “Just Label It? The Effects of Labels in the Market for Genetically Modified Foods”
 Environmental Brown Bag, CU Boulder (Oct)
 “The Effect of Fines on Food Waste: Evidence from French Policy”
- 2015** Environmental Brown Bag, CU Boulder (Oct)
 “Food Labeling Research Sketches”
 Environmental Brown Bag, CU Boulder (Feb)
 “Planning to Prevent Water Waste”

Leadership Experience

- 2018** Graduate Instructor Mentor, Department of Economics, CU Boulder (Spring)
Seminar and event planning, graduate professional development training
- 2017** Founder, CU Boulder Department of Economics Composting Program (August)
Logistics planning, budget creation, administrative outreach
 Leadership Team, Indivisible Boulder
Advocacy planning and project management, website creation, advocacy goal assessment
 Lead Graduate Instructor, Graduate Teacher Program, CU Boulder (Spring, Fall)
Academic management, pedagogy development training, interdisciplinary research
 Organizing Committee, March for Science Denver (Spring)
Planning, coordinating, and executing a very large event, science communication
- 2016** Lead Graduate Instructor, Graduate Teacher Program, CU Boulder (Fall)

Teaching Experience

- 2017** Graduate Instructor, CU Boulder (Fall)
Math Tools for Economists II
 Graduate Instructor, CU Boulder (Summer)
Economics English Immersion Training
- 2016** Graduate Instructor, CU Boulder (Fall)
Natural Resource Economics
 Graduate Instructor, CU Boulder (Spring, Summer)
Math Tools for Economists II
- 2015** Graduate Instructor, CU Boulder (Fall)
Math Tools for Economists II

Teaching Assistant, CU Boulder (Spring, Summer)
Principles of Microeconomics
2014 Teaching Assistant, CU Boulder (Spring, Fall)
Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics
2013 Teaching Assistant, CU Boulder (Spring, Fall)
Principles of Macroeconomics
2012 Supplemental Instructor, UT Austin (Spring, Fall)
Principles of Macroeconomics
2011 Supplemental Instructor, UT Austin (Fall)
Principles of Macroeconomics

See [CU Boulder Faculty Course Questionnaire results portal](#) for teacher ratings

Awards

2018 Graduate Student Teaching Excellence Award, Graduate School, CU Boulder
 Certificate of Excellence for Outstanding Performance and Lasting Contribution to Graduate Student
 Leadership in Economics, Graduate Teacher Program, CU Boulder
2017 Stanford Calderwood Student Teaching Award, Dept. of Economics, CU Boulder
 Dissertation Research Grant, Dept. of Economics, CU Boulder
2016 Leslie Whittington Endowed Fellowship for Excellence in Economics, CU Boulder
2015 Prize in Macroeconomics, Dept. of Economics, CU Boulder
2013 First Year Graduate Student Fellowship, Dept. of Economics, CU Boulder

Dissertation Committee Contacts

Professor Chrystie Burr (Chair)	chrystie.burr@colorado.edu	303-492-0863
Professor Scott Savage	scott.savage@colorado.edu	303-735-1165
Professor Daniel Kaffine	daniel.kaffine@colorado.edu	303-492-6652
Professor Jonathan Hughes	jonathan.e.hughes@colorado.edu	303-735-0220