

# Samara Mendez

Department of Economics  
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## Education

Ph.D., Economics, University of Colorado, Boulder (expected 2019)  
M.A., Economics, University of Colorado, Boulder (2015)  
*Dissertation:* "Policy Effects in Applied Microeconomic Settings"  
*Dissertation Committee:* Chrystie Burr (Chair), Scott Savage, Daniel Kaffine, Jonathan Hughes  
  
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 • Behavioral 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 • Mathematical/theoretical modeling  
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, Mathematica, LaTeX, MS Excel/Word • *Intermediate:* ArcGIS • *Basic:* Matlab, R, Python

## Research Experience

Using Classroom Observation Technology to Assess Teaching Improvement in Short-Term Microteaching Environments, Teaching as Research Experimental Study, CU Boulder (2017)  
Research Assistant to Prof. Scott Savage, CU Boulder (2015)  
Research for Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research, CU Boulder (2014-2015)  
Research Assistant to Drs. Valerie Bencivenga and Beatrix Paal, UT Austin (2012-2013)

## Teaching and Pedagogy Training Experience

Graduate Instructor Mentor, Department of Economics, CU Boulder (Spring 2018)

*Pedagogy mentoring, graduate professional development training*

Lead Graduate Instructor, Graduate Teacher Program, CU Boulder (Fall 2016-Fall 2018)

*Academic management, pedagogy development training, interdisciplinary research*

Graduate Instructor, CU Boulder (Fall 2017)

*Economics English Immersion Training*

Graduate Instructor, CU Boulder (Fall 2016)

*Natural Resource Economics*

Graduate Instructor, CU Boulder (Fall 2015-Summer 2016, Fall 2017)

*Math Tools for Economists II*

Teaching Assistant, CU Boulder (Fall 2013-Spring 2015)

*Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics*

Supplemental Instructor, UT Austin (Fall 2011-Spring 2013)

*Principles of Macroeconomics*

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

## Advocacy/Volunteer Experience

Organizing Committee, March for Science Denver (Spring 2017)

*Advocacy planning, science communication, event planning*

Leadership Team, Indivisible Boulder (2017)

*Advocacy planning, advocacy goal assessment, public communication, website creation*

Founder, CU Boulder Department of Economics Composting Program (2017)

*Advocacy outreach, administrative outreach, logistical planning*

## Presentations

CU Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop, Vail CO (Sep. 2017)

AERE Sponsored Sessions, Southern Economic Association, Washington D.C. (Nov. 2016)

CU Boulder Environmental Brown Bag Workshops (2015-2018)

## Awards

CU Boulder Department of Economics Research Grant (2017)

Leslie Whittington Endowed Fellowship for Excellence in Economics (2015)

Prize in Macroeconomics, CU Boulder (2014)

## Dissertation Committee Contacts

Professor Chrystie Burr (Chair)

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Professor Scott Savage

[scott.savage@colorado.edu](mailto:scott.savage@colorado.edu) 303-735-1165

Professor Daniel Kaffine

[daniel.kaffine@colorado.edu](mailto:daniel.kaffine@colorado.edu) 303-492-6652

Professor Jonathan Hughes

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