

# TAYLOR J. WEIDMAN

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## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D. Candidate in Economics**, University of Pittsburgh (Expected) 2022  
*Thesis Committee.* Richard Van Weelden (chair), Alistair Wilson, Randy Walsh, John Miller  
*Thesis Title.* Herding to the Polls: Homophily Turnout in Hyper-Local Neighborhoods

**M.S. Economics**, Iowa State University 2016  
*Thesis Committee.* Elizabeth Hoffman, David Frankel, Ulrike Genschel  
*Thesis Title.* Repeated Anonymous Behavior: Lab and MTurk Trust and Trustworthiness

**B.A. Economics, Environmental Sustainability**, Eastern Mennonite University 2013  
*Advisors.* Chris Gingrich, Jim Yoder, Gloria Rhodes

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

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Political Economy, Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics, Urban Economics

## WORKING PAPERS

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*Herding to the Polls: Homophily Turnout in Hyper-Local Neighborhoods*  
tl;dr. Voter turnout rates are higher in politically aligned neighborhoods, responsive to changing neighborhoods.

*Testing Models of Strategic Uncertainty: Equilibrium Selection in Repeated Games* (with Emanuel Vespa and Alistair Wilson). R&R at **Journal of the European Economic Association** (April 2021)  
tl;dr. An index using the notion of risk dominance organizes cooperation across social dilemmas in the lab.

*Well Excuse Me! Replicating and Connecting Excuse-Seeking Behaviors* (with B. Ahumada, Y. Chen, N. Gupta, K. Hyde, M. Lepper, W. Mathews, N. Silveus, L. Vesterlund, A. Wilson, K. P. Winichakul, and L. Zhou). Submitted (February 2022)  
tl;dr. Three excuse-seeking behaviors replicate but show no relationship across domains.

*Backfitting and Adaptive Lasso: an Algorithm Combining Gauss Sediel and Gauss Jacob* (with Ning Zhang)  
tl;dr. An algorithm that improves estimates of sparse additive models using adaptive lasso and kernel estimators.

*Urban Spatial Sorting During the Era of Mass Migration*  
tl;dr. Immigrant segregation in the early 1900's was driven by white out-sorting and immigrant in-sorting.

*The Lab Generalizes: Dynamic Trust Behavior in the Lab and on Mechanical Turk*  
tl;dr. Subjects in dynamic trust games respond to the same things and in the same ways in the lab and on MTurk.

## SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

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*The Great Electoral Divergence* (data collected)

tl;dr. Cities reward highly educated voters, realigning the electorate across population density after trade shocks.

*Herdling to the Polls: A field experiment*

tl;dr. Something of a party-heterogenous *Green (2008)* treatment effect.

*The Small Sort* (data collected)

tl;dr. Electorate population accounting to examine the precinct-level changes, especially related to the big sort and Gerymandering.

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

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Research Assistant, Felipe Augusto De Araujo	Spring 2021
<i>Developing software to run remote and in-lab behavioral experiments</i>	
Research Assistant, Alistair Wilson	Summer 2020
<i>Developing software to run remote behavioral experiments</i>	
Research Assistant, David Huffman & David Danz	Spring 2018
<i>Developing software and running experiments on risky behavior</i>	
Research Assistant, Elizabeth Hoffman, ISU Department of Economics	2015 - 2016
<i>Experimentally testing individual's behavior under risk with language effects</i>	
Research Assistant, Chad Hart, ISU Department of Economics	2014 - 2015
<i>Developing weekly grain basis indicators for the USDA</i>	

## TEACHING POSITIONS

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Instructor, Honors Introduction to Microeconomics ( <i>hybrid</i> )	Fall 2021
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.6 / 5</i>	
Instructor, Intermediate Microeconomics ( <i>hybrid</i> )	Summer 2021
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.6 / 5</i>	
Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Microeconomics ( <i>remote</i> ) with Neal Becker	Spring 2021
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.6 / 5</i>	
Instructor, Introduction to Microeconomics ( <i>remote</i> )	Summer 2020
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.6 / 5</i>	
Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Microeconomics ( <i>remote</i> ) with Kevin Shaver	Spring 2020
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.5 / 5</i>	
Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Microeconomics with Neal Becker Treado	Fall 2019
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.6 / 5</i>	
Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Microeconomics with Neal Becker	Spring 2019
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.5 / 5</i>	
Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Microeconomics with Margarita Zabelina	Fall 2018
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.4 / 5</i>	
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Microeconomics with Yi Han	Summer 2018
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.3 / 5</i>	
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Microeconomics with Margarita Zabelina	Spring 2018
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 4.4 / 5</i>	
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Microeconomics with Margarita Zabelina	Fall 2017
<i>Average Teaching Effectiveness: 3.8 / 5</i>	

## FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

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Arts & Sciences Graduate Fellowship	Spring 2022
Department of Economics Summer Fellowship	Summer 2018
Arts & Sciences GSO Econ Representative	2017 - 2018
Arts and Sciences Graduate Fellowship	2016 - 2017
Student Government Association, Senator	Spring 2012
Rodney Longacer Business Scholarship	Fall 2011
Brubaker Business Scholarship	Spring 2011
Presidential Scholarship	2009 - 2013

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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*Membership:* American Economic Association, European Economic Association, Economic Science Association  
*Mentorship:* 2nd Year Ph.D. Student Mentor, 2018 - 2020  
*Students Recommended:* Emma Stachelek (*Spring 2021*), Shivam Patolia (*Spring 2021*), Tianren Wang (*Fall 2021*), Tatiana Sinelnikova (*Spring 2022*)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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<b>Python</b>	<i>everything from data processing to automation</i>	2012 - Current
<b>Esri ArcGIS</b>	<i>inspecting spatial data and one-off operations</i>	2012 - Current
<b>R</b>	<i>econometrics and visualizations</i>	2014 - Current
<b>Stata</b>	<i>econometrics</i>	2014 - Current
<b>Pandas</b>	<i>panel data operations in python</i>	2015 - Current
<b>oTree</b>	<i>deploy experiments in laboratory and virtual settings</i>	2016 - Current
<b>Heroku</b>	<i>deploy web applications</i>	2016 - Current
<b>GitHub</b>	<i>replication files and public code repository</i>	2016 - Current
<b>JupyterLab</b>	<i>python IDE, markdown editor, and latex compiler</i>	2017 - Current
<b>GeoPandas</b>	<i>fast and flexible geographic panel data in python</i>	2017 - Current
<b>Manim</b>	<i>mathematical animation engine for explainer videos in python</i>	2020 - Current
<b>DaVinci Resolve</b>	<i>editor for explainer and teaching videos</i>	2020 - Current
<b>Google Earth Pro</b>	<i>visualizing and animating geographic data</i>	2022 - Current

## REFERENCES

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Prof. Richard Van Weelden Department of Economics University of Pittsburgh 4906 Posvar Hall Pittsburgh, PA, 15260 E: <a href="mailto:rmv22@pitt.edu">rmv22@pitt.edu</a> P: 412.648.1752	Prof. Alistair Wilson Department of Economics University of Pittsburgh 4915 Posvar Hall Pittsburgh, PA, 15260 E: <a href="mailto:alistair@pitt.edu">alistair@pitt.edu</a> P: 412.383.8152	Prof. Randy Walsh Department of Economics University of Pittsburgh Posvar 4528 Pittsburgh, PA, 15260 E: <a href="mailto:walshr@pitt.edu">walshr@pitt.edu</a> P: 412.648.1737	Prof. John Miller Social & Decision Sciences Carnegie Mellon University 208D Porter Hall Pittsburgh, PA, 15260 E: <a href="mailto:miller@santafe.edu">miller@santafe.edu</a> P: 412.268.3229
Prof. Elizabeth Hoffman Department of Economics Iowa State University 367 Heady Hall Ames IA, 50011 E: <a href="mailto:bhoffman@iastate.edu">bhoffman@iastate.edu</a> P: 515.294.0039	Prof. Leigh Tesfatsion Department of Economics Iowa State University 375 Heady Hall Ames IA, 50011 E: <a href="mailto:tesfatsi@iastate.edu">tesfatsi@iastate.edu</a> P: 515.294.0138	Prof. Wallace Huffman Department of Economics Iowa State University 460E Heady Hall Ames IA, 50011 E: <a href="mailto:whuffman@iastate.edu">whuffman@iastate.edu</a> P: 515.294.6359	

## SELECTED STUDENT EVALUATIONS (FOR THE LOLS)

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**Fall 2021** - *Was very clear what was on exams with his several explanation videos for the exams, homework, etc. Made the testing environment relaxed which caused me, personally, to focus and thoroughly enjoy the material. There was no rush when getting through the material. The classroom's atmosphere was not competitive in nature but rather collaborative because of all of the support and resources Taylor gave us. Taylor Weidman demonstrated what education should really be about.*

**Fall 2021** - *Taylor is a fantastic instructor. He kindly provides custom made tutorial videos and demos which make learning problem sets a breeze. I really enjoyed this class.*

**Fall 2020** - *He always seemed happy to be there- he made the most connections between his students in a virtual platform, he seemed to genuinely care.*

**Summer 2020** - *The lectures were less like lectures and more like informational videos, they were condensed from traditional lectures and included helpful animations which aided the explanation of certain concepts.*

**Spring 2020** - *Taylor was super funny and the recitations always had a super casual atmosphere. It's easier to pay attention and remember stuff when you're having fun doing it.*

**Spring 2020** - *This is probably the most helpful recitation I've ever had in college. I really like the chill environment Taylor created with his sense of humor, but we're also productive at the same time. Taylor was really helpful with explaining the concepts as well. I also enjoyed Taylor's review session before the exam! It was really helpful and totally worth it!*

**Fall 2019** - *I think I may have learned more from Taylor than the professor. He is a great teacher and really good at explaining things slowly.*

**Summer 2019** - *Has a great sense of humor and is very good at explaining difficult concepts.*

**Spring 2019** - *Taylor has a strange sense of humor but he is funny in his own way.*

**Spring 2019** - *bring snacks maybe?*

**Fall 2018** - *Taylor was the best TA I have ever had for any class. Always prepared, Always enthusiastic (even if we weren't sometimes), always ready to answer any question. He is single-handedly, one of the greatest people I have ever met. Taylor, if you are reading this, I am convinced my life is better for having met you, I am not joking. Thank you so much for a great semester.*

**Fall 2018** - *Taylor, you're smart. You know what you're talking about, so there's no reason to not be totally confident when you teach. I see a lot of potential in you. Learn some jokes or something, they don't even have to be good ones, just something to get people's ears to perk up and maybe even crack a grin.... If you and your students can bounce off each other, everything will go much smoother in the classroom, the students will pay more attention, and everyone's happy.*

**Fall 2018** - *Calm. Down. Microeconomics is not the be-all end-all of the universe, and your recitation is not more important than the rest of my classes.*

**Spring 2018** - *He learned everybody's names and cracked funny dad jokes constantly. I have noticed that usually students tend to be very disrespectful towards TAs. However, because the TA was so respectful and cared sincerely about his teaching, all the students in the class respected him as well.*

**Spring 2018** - *I would not be doing as well in ECON 0100 if it was not for this recitation instructor.*

**Spring 2018** - *I can't really comment because I did not really attend the recitation. However, Taylor Weidman definitely seems to be prepared and active. I get a lot of emails from him and sometimes study guides too. He does really seem helpful.*

**Fall 2017** - *There was a lot of awkwardness in the classroom. The professor should not be stressed or worried, he is a great professor and he really helps us!*