

TIFFANY WU

Curriculum Vitae

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Education policy, early care and education, school choice, causal inference, qualitative methods, mixed-methods, equitable outcomes, research-practice partnerships

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

2025- **Postdoctoral Scholar**

University of Southern California

2025 **Ph.D. in Education (Educational Policy and Social Context)**

University of California, Irvine

Dissertation: *Policies and Practices to Improve the Quality and Supply of Educational Opportunities for Underserved Children*

Committee: Jade Jenkins, Adriana Villavicencio, Emily Penner, Greg Duncan

2023 **M.A. in Education**

University of California, Irvine

2018 **MSc in Child Development and Education**

University of Oxford

2017 **B.A. in Psychology**

University of California, Irvine

GRANTS

2022-2024 Administration for Children and Families. *Improving the Quality and Supply of Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Providers: Evaluating the Impacts of the 2014 CCDF Block Grant Reauthorization*, \$100,000 (Co-I)

PUBLICATIONS

Wu, T., Villavicencio, A., & Ponce Soria, V. (2024). Racial attitudes among Asian American parents and their influence on school choice. *Harvard Educational Review* 94(4), 491–514.

<https://doi.org/10.17763/1943-5045-94.4.491>

Villavicencio, A., Ponce Soria, V., & Wu, T. (2025). Counter-narratives from Spanish and mandarin-speaking parents navigating school choice in the United States. *Race Ethnicity and Education*, 1–23.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13613324.2025.2488754>

WORKING PAPERS

Bailey, D.H., Wu, T., Jenkins, J.M., & Duncan, G.J. (Submitted) Expert forecasts of future impacts of early childhood interventions.

Wu, T., Jenkins, J.M., Whitaker, A. (Under review) Policy impacts of reimbursement rate reform: Evidence from the Child Care and Development Fund. (Working paper available:

<https://doi.org/10.26300/011p-sh36>)

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

Botvin, C., Watts, T., Jenkins, J., Sauval, M., **Wu, T.**, Dodge, K., & Peisner-Feinberg-E. Examining the mixed-delivery system during pre-k expansion in North Carolina.

Wu, T. & Jenkins, J.M. Can teacher's early childhood training improve K-3 learning?

Villavicencio, A., **Wu, T.**, Yoo, P.Y., Clark, D., Martorell, P., & Ponce Soria, V. Why don't parents choose in-demand schools?: A mixed methods analysis.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Wu T. & Jenkins JM. (November 2024) *Can elementary teachers with early childhood training boost the achievement of pre-k graduates?* Paper to be presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM)

Wu T., Jenkins JM., Whitaker A. (June 2024) *The impacts of subsidized childcare reimbursements on childcare providers.* Paper presented at the National Research Conference on Early Childhood (NRCEC)

Wu T., Ponce Soria, V., Villavicencio, A. (November 2023) *How racial beliefs of Asian American parents influence school choice.* Paper presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM)

Wu T., Jenkins JM., Whitaker A. (November 2022) *How did the reauthorization of CCDF affect the supply of subsidized child care?* Poster presented at the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM)

Wu T., Jenkins JM., Whitaker A. (November 2022) *How did the reauthorization of CCDF affect the supply of subsidized child care?* Invited poster presentation to the Early Childhood Education Consortium

Benci-Woodward, L., Marquez, C., Perez, B., **Wu, T.**, Bdiawi, D., Ozbardakci, N., Thomas, A.G., Cauffman, E. (May 2017) *The Role of Self-Esteem in Adolescents' Susceptibility to Peer Pressure.* Poster presented at the UCLA Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference (PURC)

RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

Wu, T., Ainsworth, N., Yu, A., & Jenkins, J. (April 2025) *Program evaluation of the Orange County In-Home Licensed Child Care Program.* Research report prepared for First 5 Orange County

Wu T., Villavicencio, A., Ponce Soria, V. (May 2023) *School choice final parent interview findings.* Presentation presented to San Francisco Unified School District

Villavicencio, A., **Wu T.**, Ponce Soria, V. (September 2022) *School choice preliminary parent interview findings.* Presentation presented to San Francisco Unified School District

MEDIA COVERAGE

05/2025 Research highlighted in "Study Reveals How Model Minority Myth Influences School Choices." *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*

02/2025	Research highlighted in “Study Finds Asian American Parents Prioritize Schools with Large Population of Asian Students, Citing Academic Rigor and Safety.” <i>New York University</i>
02/2025	Research highlighted in “Asian American parents prefer schools with higher Asian enrollment, study finds.” <i>Washington Square News</i>

HONORS & AWARDS

2024	Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation Scholar (\$5,000)
2020	Minority Serving Institution Award (\$10,500)
2020	UC Irvine Diversity Recruitment Fellowship (\$5,000)
2017	Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program Fellowship (\$1,400)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lab Instructor, University of California, Irvine

2025	Education 265, Applied Regression Analysis (PhD)
2024	Education 288A, Educational, Social, and Behavioral Statistics (PhD)

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine

2021	Education 243, Policy and Teaching (MAT); 2 sections
2021	Education 124, Multicultural Education in K-12 Schools (Undergraduate); 2 quarters
2020	Education 106, Introduction to Early Childhood Education (Undergraduate)

Discussion Leader

2014	University Studies 83/84 (Undergraduate)
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SERVICE

Reviewer

2024-2025	American Journal of Education (Ad hoc)
2024-2025	Evaluation Review (Ad hoc)

University Service

2023-2025	Associated Doctoral Students in Education Student Representative <i>UC Irvine</i>
2023-2024	Bailey Lab Lab Manager <i>UC Irvine</i>
2021-2023	Graduate Program Recruitment Weekend Coordinator <i>UC Irvine</i>
2022-2022	Early Childhood Education Consortium Coordinator <i>Cross-University Collaboration with Columbia University, Duke, and UC Irvine</i>
2021-2022	Education and Social Policy Lab Manager <i>UC Irvine</i>

Other Service

2022-2025	First 5 Orange County Childcare Business Program, Research Evaluation
2021-2025	Research mentorship for UC Irvine undergraduate students: Raymond Ibarra**, Valeria Alarcon**, Ryan Nguyen ⁺ , Gerdin Gomez ⁺ , Christine Apostol*, Thanh Hoang*, Katherine Canero*, Sophie Wong* (** Career Pathways for Research in Learning and Education, Analytics and Data Science Fellows Program, ⁺ Qualitative research team, * Quantitative research team)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

2024	Partnership in Inclusive Design Certificate, <i>UC Irvine Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation Graduate Scholar Program</i>
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2022	Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (<i>CIRTL</i>) Associate Certificate
2022	Certificate in Course Design, <i>UC Irvine Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation</i>