

**TIFFANY WU**  
*Curriculum Vitae*  
[tiffany.wu.5@usc.edu](mailto:tiffany.wu.5@usc.edu) | [wutiffany.com](http://wutiffany.com)

---

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Pre-K-12 education policy, school quality, access to schooling, causal inference, qualitative methods, mixed-methods, equitable outcomes, research-practice partnerships

---

### **EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT**

2025- **Postdoctoral Scholar Research Associate**  
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. (*Submitted*) Policy impacts of reimbursement rate reform: Evidence from the Child Care and Development Fund. (Working paper available: <https://doi.org/10.26300/011p-sh36>)

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

Villavicencio, A., **Wu, T.**, Clark, D., Martorell, P., & Yoo, P.Y. (*Submitted*) Understanding place-based priorities in centralized school choice systems: A mixed-methods analysis.

## **SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS**

---

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

**Wu, T.**, Scollan-Rowley, J., Haderlein, S., Silver, D., & Polikoff, M. Assessing mathematics teachers' preferences for instructional materials: Evidence from a survey experiment.

## **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.” <i>Diverse Issues in Higher Education</i>
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)
------	--

## **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 <sup>+</sup> , Gerdim Gomez <sup>+</sup> , Christine Apostol*, Thanh Hoang*, Katherine Canero*, Sophie Wong* (** Career Pathways for Research in Learning and Education, Analytics and Data Science Fellows Program, <sup>+</sup> 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>
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>