

Matthew J. Capaldi

 [Website](#)  [Email](#)  [Phone](#)  [Google Scholar](#)  [ORCID](#)  [StackOverflow](#)  [GitHub](#)

Education

- Ph.D.** Higher Education Administration – University of Florida *Fall 2021 – Summer 2025 (Expected)*
Minor – Urban and Regional Planning
Dissertation – *The Route to Retention: A Quasi-Experimental Analysis of the Link Between Transit Stop Proximity and First Year Retention Rates at US Commuter Colleges*
- M.Ed.** Research and Evaluation Methodology – University of Florida *Fall 2022 – Fall 2024*
- M.Ed.** Student Personnel in Higher Education – University of Florida *Fall 2018 – Spring 2020*
- B.A.** International Relations with Political Science – University of Birmingham *Fall 2014 – Summer 2018*
Year Abroad – Providence College, RI

Certifications

- [Intermediate PostgreSQL](#) – University of Michigan *February 2025*
- [Database Design and Basic SQL in PostgreSQL](#) – University of Michigan *December 2024*

Experience

- Graduate Assistant & Fellow** – University of Florida *August 2021 – Present*
- Taught in the [“R Class”](#) for 3 years including the majority of instruction in Spring 2024
 - Used OpenTripPlanner to calculate travel time penalties for using public transit to access college
 - Merged Census, IPEDS, and BLS data to create visualizations for a [report targeted at policy makers](#)
 - Created a new dataset of US merit-based aid programs which led to a [new typology being proposed](#)
- Residence Hall Coordinator** – University of Missouri *July 2020 – May 2021*
- Supervised 16 student staff and 404 residents, provided crisis response for 3,242 residents
- Graduate Community Coordinator** – University of Florida *July 2019 – May 2020*
- Supervised 5 student staff and 222 residents, provided crisis response for 3,655 residents
- Summer Sessions Graduate Intern** – Georgetown University *May 2019 – July 2019*
- Graduate Assistant** – University of Florida *August 2018 – May 2019*
- Advising Intern** – US-UK Fulbright Commission *January 2018 – June 2018*
- Student Ambassador** – University of Birmingham *January 2015 – June 2018*

Published Work

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Capaldi, M. J.**, & Shin, J. (under review). A time and place for (sustainable) campus planning: using structural topic models to explore variations in planning priorities at large us public colleges. *Research in Higher Education*.
- Hu, X., Fernandez, F., & **Capaldi, M.** (under review). Growing Outcomes in the Garden State: Examining Community College Merit Aid, Enrollment, Completion, and Transfer. *Community College Review*.
- Hu, X., Fernandez, F., Qiu, Y., & **Capaldi, M.** (2024). The good, the bad, and the balanced: a typology of state merit-aid programs for community college students. *Community College Review*, 52(3), 289–314.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00915521241238753>

Capaldi, M. J. (2023). The route to graduation: an exploration of the association between transit stop proximity and pell recipient completion rates at us commuter colleges. *Journal of College Student Retention: Research, Theory & Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15210251231156421>

Reports

Fernandez, F., Hu, X., & **Capaldi, M.** (2023). *Exploring equitable public higher education funding models in Illinois*. Partnership for College Completion. <https://partnershipfcc.org/publications/adequacy/>

Commentary Articles

Capaldi, M. J. (2021, December 1). Ensuring equitable public safety responses in college towns. *American City and County*. <https://www.americancityandcounty.com/2021/12/01/ensuring-equitable-public-safety-responses-in-college-towns/>

Fernandez, F., & **Capaldi, M. J.** (2021, October 25). Studying political science motivates college students to register and vote – new research shows. *The Conversation*. <http://theconversation.com/studying-political-science-motivates-college-students-to-register-and-vote-new-research-shows-168440>

Conference Presentations

Workshops

Capaldi, M. J. (2024, November 22). *Automating data retrieval for enhanced reproducibility: using Stata and R to “automagically” download labeled IPEDS data*. ASHE: Association for the Study of Higher Education. <https://capaldi.info/ASHE24/>

Paper Presentations

Capaldi, M. J., & Shin, J. (accepted). *Time and place for (sustainable) planning: a structural topic model analysis of campus master plans*. AERA: American Educational Research Association.

Hu, X., Fernandez, F., & **Capaldi, M. J.** (accepted). *With a Few Dollars More: Examining Community College Merit Aid, Enrollment, and Transfer*. AERA: American Educational Research Association.

Capaldi, M. J. (2024, November 21). *The route to retention: an analysis of transit stop proximity and urban commuter college retention*. ASHE: Association for the Study of Higher Education. <https://capaldi.info/ASHE24/>

Hu, X., Fernandez, F., Qiu, Y., & **Capaldi, M. J.** (2023, April 13). *A typology of state merit aid programs for community college students*. AERA: American Educational Research Association.

Technical Portfolio

[Shiny Interactive Dashboard](#) – Visualization of transit stop access and association with Pell completion rates
[IPEDtaS](#) – Code to ‘Automagically’ Download and Label IPEDS data in Stata and R

Technical Skills

Regression-Based Analysis
Quasi-Experimental Design

Spatial Statistics
Machine Learning Models

Psychometrics & Latent Variables
Natural Language Processing



R



Shiny



Python



Git



SQL



Microsoft Office



Stata



SPSS



Qualtrics



GIS



Typst



Quarto & Rmd