Jordan Holbrook Ph.D.

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jordanholbrook.github.io

Education

Ph.D. in Economics 2020 - 2025 *(expected)*
University of Houston Houston, Texas

- Research Areas: Labor Economics, Health Economics, Human Capital

B.Sc. in Mathematics & Economics 2016 - 2020
Brigham Young University Provo, Utah

Working Papers

1. **"The Returns to Elite Sports Programs: Signaling or Value-Added"** (Job Market Paper)

   This study constructs a novel panel dataset of highly recruited high school athletes, analyzes their participation in college sports programs and subsequent professional sports career outcomes. Utilizing the matched applicant approach, or Dale and Krueger method, that exploits variation in enrollment decisions conditional on similar offer-sets, I estimate selection-corrected returns to attending an elite college sports programs on job placement in the NFL. The findings reveal that student-athletes from top-ranked football programs are significantly more likely to become professional athletes, with a one standard deviation increase in sports program ranking raising the likelihood of being drafted by 32% of the mean. The paper further explores whether these returns align with a human capital or signaling framework, concluding that the evidence supports the latter, particularly with heterogeneous effects across different position groups.

   - Presented at:
     - Texas Camp Econometrics (2024)
     - Texas Applied Microeconomics Workshop (TEAMS)
     - Brigham Young University Graduate Student Conference (2024)
     - Stata Texas Empirical Microeconomics Conference poster session (2024)

2. **"The Gender Gap in the Market for Superstars: Evidence from the NYT Best Sellers List"** (with Chinhui Juhn, Yona Rubinstein, & Angelo Santos)

3. **"Career Decisions for Children in Thai Village Economies"** (with Fan Wang & Robert Townsend)

Publications

Chae, M., Chavez, A., Singh, M., Holbrook, J., Glasheen, W., Woodard, L., & Adepoju, O. "Evaluating Predictors of Participation in Telephone-Base Social Connectedness Interventions for Older Adults: A Dual Machine-Learning and Regression Approach"
Gerontology & Geriatric Medicine Sept. 2023

Cardon, J., Showalter, M., & Holbrook, J."Estimating the Effect of Focused Donor Registration Efforts on the Number of Organ Donors"
Public Library of Science, PLOS ONE Nov. 2020

Research Experience

Doctoral Researcher 2023 - 2025
UH Hobby School of Public Affairs Houston, TX

Doctoral Researcher 2022 - 2023
Humana Integrated Health System Sciences Institute & UH College of Medicine Houston, TX

Research Assistant 2020 - 2022
University of Houston (Dr. Chinhui Juhn & Dr. Yona Rubinstein) Houston, TX

Research Assistant 2019 - 2020
Brigham Young University (Dr. James Cardon & Dr. Mark Showalter) Provo, UT

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant — University of Houston
Courses:

- Econometrics I — Spring 2022
- Quantitative Methods I (Ph.D.) — Fall 2021
- Macroeconomic Principles & Problems — Fall 2020

Teaching Assistant — Brigham Young University
Courses:

- International Trade Theory — Spring 2020
- Economic Principles & Problems — Fall 2018

Conferences and Seminars

- **Stata Texas Empirical Microeconomics Conference*** — 2024**
- **Texas Camp Econometrics** — 2024
- **Texas Applied Micro Workshop (TEAMS, organizer)** — 2024
- **BYU Graduate Student Conference** — 2024
- **AI in Health, Rice University*** — 2023
- **Texas Applied Micro Workshop (TEAMS)** — 2023
- **Academy Health*** — 2023
- **American Society of Health Economists (ASHECON)** — 2023
- **University of Houston Graduate Research Seminar** — 2022

* Poster Session
** Scheduled

Awards and Honors

- **Walter J. Primeaux Jr. and Natalie A. Primeaux Scholarship** — 2023 - 2024
- **Outstanding 3rd Year Paper Award** – UH Department of Economics — 2023
- **Director of Graduate Studies Research Grant** — 2022
- **Henry Graham Economics Scholarship** — 2021 - 2022
- **Steele Reese Memorial Foundation** — 2016 - 2019
- **BYU Academic Scholarship** — 2017 - 2019
- **Walter U. Fuhriman Scholarship** – BYU Department of Economics — 2018 - 2020

Skills

Data Skills: Web Scraping, Natural Language Processing (NLP), (REST) APIs.
Programming: `Python`, `R`, `Stata`.