

James Thomas

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Current Appointment

Economist, Consumer Protection Division, Federal Trade Commission, August, 2018 – Present.

Previous Appointments

Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Economics, Yale University, August, 2016 – June, 2016.

Education

Ph.D. Economics, Duke University, 2016.

M.A. Economics, Duke University, 2011.

B.A. Economics, B.A. Mathematics, *Summa Cum Laude*, University of Pennsylvania, 2010.

Research Interests

Labor Economics, Economics of Education.

Research

Published Articles

“The signal quality of grades across academic fields.” *Journal of Applied Econometrics* (forthcoming)

“The effects of Greek affiliation on academic performance,” with Andrew De Donato. *Economics of Education Review*, 57 (April, 2017): 41-51.

Working Papers

“Measuring implied field preferences from a university’s course offerings.”

“Grade Inflation in General Equilibrium with Implications for Female Interest in STEM Majors,” with Thomas Ahn, Peter Arcidiacono, and Amy Hopson.

In Progress

“Admission decisions and University Preferences for Student Body Composition,” with Peter Arcidiacono and Arnaud Maurel.

“The Labor Market Returns to Spending on College Instruction,” with Joseph Altonji and Seth Zimmerman

Honors and Awards

Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Fellowship, Duke Univ., Summer, 2015.

John T. Grigsby Fellowship, Duke Univ., Summer, 2013.

Graduate School Tuition Scholarship, Duke Univ., 2010-2016.

Teaching

ECON 448 Employment and Public Policy (undergraduate). Instructor, Yale Univ., Fall, 2017.
ECON 680 Public Finance I (doctoral). Guest lecturer for Amanda Kowalski, Yale Univ., Fall, 2016.
ECON 881 Learning (doctoral). Guest lecturer for Peter Arcidiacono, Duke Univ., Spring 2015.
ECON 208D Econometrics (undergraduate). TA for Duncan Thomas, Duke Univ., Fall 2012.

Service

Economics Diversity Committee Member, Yale Univ., Fall, 2016 – Spring, 2017.
Economics Graduate Student Council President, Duke Univ., Fall, 2013 – Spring, 2014.