

Zed Higgs

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EDUCATION

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| University of Maryland, College Park <i>PhD Candidate in Behavioral/Experimental Economics</i> Dissertation: Increasing Charitable Donations Using Subsidies: Theory and Experiments | Aug 2017 – Present |
| Washington State University <i>B.S. in Economics, magna cum laude</i> 2017 Outstanding Senior of the Year in Quantitative Economics | Sept 2014 – May 2017 GPA: 3.8/4.0 |

AWARDS

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| National Science Foundation <i>Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant in Economics (Award No. 2315706)</i> | 2023 |
| University of Maryland <i>Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant</i> | 2022 |
| <i>The Bruce and Mary Ann Gardner Dissertation Enhancement Award</i> | 2020 |
| <i>The Bessie H. DeVault Award for the best paper by a second-year student</i> | 2019 |
| <i>Dean's Fellowship</i> | 2017 – 2022 |
| Washington State University <i>Outstanding Senior of the Year in Quantitative Economics</i> | 2017 |
| <i>President's Honor Roll</i> | 2014 – 2017 |

SKILLS

Methods: Experimental Design, Causal Analysis, A/B Testing, Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) Models, Discrete Choice Models, Simulation, Applied Statistics, Econometrics, Panel Data, Time Series, Economic Theory
Causal Inference: Diff-in-Diffs, Regression Discontinuity (Fuzzy and Sharp), Instrumental Variables, Synthetic Controls
Machine Learning: Regularization, Ensemble Methods (Boosting and Bagging), Cross-Validation, Hypothesis Testing
Languages: Python, Matlab, Stata, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, L^AT_EX
Tools: Qualtrics, Anaconda, Jupyter Notebook

PROJECTS

- Comparing the Effects of Rebates and Matches on Charitable Giving**
- Designed an experiment to study how donors respond to rebates and matches
 - Recruited subjects using ORSEE and conducted experiments in Qualtrics
 - Used a Tobit regression model to estimate rebate- and match-price elasticities of demand for giving
- The Effect of Federal Student Aid Funding on the Market for Higher Education**
- Developed a Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) model of the market for higher education to simulate the impact of an increase in federal student aid funding on college expenditures
 - Built model to include heterogeneous consumers (students) and producers (schools)
 - Students use a Discrete Choice model to select which school to attend, accounting for their budget constraint
 - Found that an increase in aid causes lower quality private schools to shift expenditures toward luxury items

EXPERIENCE

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| University of Maryland <i>Instructor</i> • Taught undergraduate courses at UMD (AREC240 and AREC250) | 2021 – 2023 |
| University of Maryland <i>Research Assistant</i> • Verified theoretical results and conducted experiments to collect data | 2017 – 2021 |
| StudentEdge Painting <i>Senior Branch Manager</i> • Managed all aspects of business, including marketing, sales, production, and payroll • Interviewed, hired, and managed a marketing team, resulting in the largest number of cold-call leads and estimates given for the US division of the company • Interviewed, hired, and trained crew members, successfully completing around \$100,000 of paintwork | 2013 – 2014 |