

Brent I Norwood

University of Oklahoma
Department of Economics
308 Cate Center Drive, Room 336
Norman, OK 73019

cell: 409-739-2397
bnorwood09@ou.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, Economics, University of Oklahoma, December 2020

Dissertation Title: "*3 Essays in Local Public Finance through Housing and Education*"

M.A., Economics and Entrepreneurship, University of Delaware, 2015

B.S., Economics, Texas A&M University, December 2009

TEACHING AND RESEARCH FIELDS

Fields: Education, Housing, Public Policy

Sub-Fields: Urban Development, Fracking

Select Publications

"I am Jane. Do I pay more in the housing market?" Economic Bulletin (2019)

Do women pay more than men in the housing market? We utilize repeat-sales housing data from ZTRAX to examine if gender gaps exist in house purchase prices and loan-to-price ratios. We find that female home buyers pay a 2% premium on average. In addition, female home buyers' loan to price ratio is 3 percentage points lower than that of male buyers. We also show that female buyers pay less when the seller is female than when the seller is male. However, the gender price differentials and loan-to-price differentials are disappearing in more recent years. One possible explanation for the disappearing gender price differentials in house prices and loan-to-price ratios is the shrinking of the gender wage gap in recent years.

WORKING PAPERS

Breakfast of Champions, Universal Free Breakfast and Conflict in Texas Schools

Job Market Paper. *Under review at Education Finance and Policy*

This paper investigates the relationship between student test scores and conflict outcomes in Texas public schools and whether or not schools participated in the Universal Free Breakfast Program (UFB). Eating a routine breakfast leads to increased physical and mental performance, as well as test scores. Surprisingly, there has been little focus on how eating a routine breakfast affects behavior, such as violence, truancy, and classroom disruptions at school. I

compile a panel data set from two administrative sources in Texas, spanning years 2009-2017. Using fixed effects models, I find that schools that offer UFB do indeed have higher test scores and also have reduced conflict outcomes such as fights, substance abuse, and truancy, at all levels of schooling. Using quantile regressions I compare the magnitude of the total effect between schools with low and high preexisting conflict reports, and show that higher conflict schools do receive a great benefit from taking part in UFB. These results suggest that the benefit schools receive from taking part in the UFB help their students achieve better potential outcomes in both schooling, behavior, and general well being.

Fracking and Tracking: The Effects of Oil and Natural Gas Wells have on the housing market.

The technique of hydraulic fracturing or "fracking", has made it possible to produce vast new quantities of oil and natural gas. States like Colorado, Texas, and Oklahoma have seen a dramatic increase in the number of wells for both oil and natural gas. In this study, the main source of exogenous variation to be explored is the location of injection well sites. With that I estimate the effect hydraulically fractured natural gas and oil injection sites have on both urban and rural residential home prices between years 2000 to 2018 in 9 different states. The data is coming from two rich data sets, one from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that listed all oil and natural gas wells. The second comes from Zillow's ZTRAX data base and that contains home transaction and administrative data. ArcGis is used to combine the data and created varying buffer zones sizes around injection well sites to see how average home prices and the average number of transactions changed before and after a well is put in, and as distance from the well site increases. Both ordinary least squares (OLS) with fixed effects, a spatial differences in differences, and unconditional quantile regressions are used. Self selection bias is solved through the use of the spatial difference in difference. My results show that homes that are within .5 mile of a well have a \$3.7% increase in selling price, as well as a \$3.3% increase in price per square foot.

Is the Housing Market getting High: Recreational Marijuana Legalization and its effects on Local Housing Markets (with Donggeun Kim and Sean O'Connor)

Despite federal law, a number of states have legalized the recreational use of marijuana. Using a national housing data set from Zillow.com, we identify the cross and inter-state effect of marijuana legalization on the housing price distribution. Across states we find large positive effects in the bottom half of the distribution following the success of a vote to legalize and in the top half following the opening of dispensaries which provide a legal means of buying marijuana. Within Colorado, the introduction of dispensaries to a neighborhood similarly results in the appreciation of nearby home values. Considered together, this research suggests that there are second order benefits associated with marijuana legalization that policy makers and voters should be aware of when deciding the drug's legal status.

In Progress:

Flat Rate Tuition and Student Choice and Performance: Evidence from the University of Oklahoma.

The cost to attend college has risen drastically over the past decade. This sharp increase has cause more divided political debate, and numerous schools are looking for new ways to change how they charge tuition in efforts to keep enrollments and revenues high. One way is by switching to flat rate tuition

(FRT). This is when a school charges any full-time student a flat rate of 15 credit hours a semester regardless if they take between 12-19 hours. This effectively means that for any student taking more than 15 credit hours there is a zero-marginal cost for each additional credit hour. This new tuition plan has caused the behaviors and school performance of the student body it effects. Using a linear probability model and fixed effects regressions we are able to see how under FRT students register for more classes, attempt more credit hours a semester, and have higher semester, yearly, and graduation GPA's compared to students that were under per credit hour tuition.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

2023-Fall Principles of Macroeconomics, The University of Oklahoma
2023-Fall Business Statistics, The University of Oklahoma
2023-Fall Honors Principles of Macroeconomics, The University of Oklahoma
2022, 2023 Sports Economics, The University of Oklahoma
2022, 2023 Principles of Macroeconomics, The University of Oklahoma
2022, 2023 Business Statistics, The University of Oklahoma
2022, 2023 Honors Principles of Macroeconomics, The University of Oklahoma
2022, 2023 International Trade, The University of Oklahoma
2022, 2023 Honors Principles of Macroeconomics, The University of Oklahoma
2021, 2022 Sports Economics, The University of Oklahoma
2021, 2022 Principles of Macroeconomics, The University of Oklahoma
2021, 2022 Business Statistics, The University of Oklahoma
2021, 2022 Honors Principles of Macroeconomics, The University of Oklahoma
2021, 2022 International Trade, The University of Oklahoma
2021-Spring- International Trade- Oklahoma State University
2021-Spring-Business Economics for Business Majors- Oklahoma State University
2019, 2020 Principles of Macroeconomics, The University of Oklahoma
2019, 2020 Principles of Microeconomics, The University of Oklahoma
2018, 2019 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory, The University of Oklahoma
2015, 2016 Principles of Macroeconomics, Lone Star College
2015,2016 Principles of Microeconomics, Lone Star College
2011,2016 Principles of Macroeconomics Dual Credit Lone Star College/Cypress Lakes High School

Directed Readings, Mentorships, and Honors Research

2023 Fall- Honors Research in Economics with 1 student
2023 Fall- Master Research in Economic Problems with 1 student
2023 Fall- Master Research in Economic Problems with 1 student
2023 Fall- Master Research Readings in Select Fields with 2 students
2023 Fall- Directed readings in the Fall with 21 students
2022, 2023 Honors Research with 6 honors students
2022, 2023 Directed readings with 34 students
2021, 2022 Directed readings with 22 students

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Conferences and Presentations:

November, 2019 Fracking and Tracking, Southern Economics Association Conference
November, 2018 Breakfast of Champions, Missouri Valley Economic Association Conference

Course Redesign:

Summer 2019 I was put in charge of redesigning the online platform, course, videos, and all materials needed

to run and teach the online Principles of Macroeconomics and Principles of Microeconomics classes at the University of Oklahoma. This involved creating all new video-based content, interactive activities and discussions, bridging the Canvas and Connect pages to interface correctly with each other, and having a template built for future instructors to leverage and personalize when they teach the course.

Awards:

- Student Leadership Award for most inspiring professor to new and first-generation students
- Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity Outstanding Professor Spring 2023
- Awarded the Bullard Dissertation Fellowship for 2020-2021
- 1st place winner of the Chong Liew Research Award, University Oklahoma 2018
- Top Graduate Research Assistant Award, University of Oklahoma 2018-2019
- Chong Liew Research Award 2019, University Oklahoma 2019

REFERENCES

Gregory Burge
Associate Professor of Economics
University of Oklahoma
405-325-2358
gburge@ou.edu

Samantha Johnson
Lecturer in Economics
University of Oklahoma
605-641-4571
samrjohnson@ou.edu

Cindy Rogers
Professor of Economics
University of Oklahoma
405-397-3067
crogers@ou.edu