

Curriculum Vitae

Jhacova A. Williams
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Employment

American University, Assistant Professor, 2022 – Present
RAND Corporation, Associate Economist, 2020 – 2022
Economic Policy Institute, Economist, 2019 – 2020
Clemson University, Assistant Professor of Economics, 2018 – 2020 (one-year leave at EPI)
Xavier University of Louisiana, Mathematics Instructor, 2008 – 2013
Xavier University of Louisiana, Mathematics Lab Director, 2010 – 2012

Education

Louisiana State University, Ph.D. in Economics, 2018
Louisiana State University, M.S. in Economics, 2016
University of Maryland at College Park, M.S. in Applied Mathematics, 2008
Xavier University of Louisiana, B.S. in Mathematics, 2006

Book

Blackbody: The Persistence of Lynching in the Black American Experience. Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press (Under Contract).

Publications

1. “Political Foundations of Racial Violence in the Post-Reconstruction South,” Forthcoming at *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* (with Patrick Testa).
2. “Only Spot a Few Blacks the Higher I Go: Occupational Segregation and the COVID-19 Pandemic,” 2025, *The Review of Black Political Economy*. DOI: 10.1177/00346446241308842 (with Taylor Franklin & Andre Brown).
3. “Palliative Care Is the Only Medical Field That I Feel Like I’m Treated As a Person, Not As a Black Person: A Mixed-Methods Study of Minoritized Patient Experiences with Palliative Care,” 2023, *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 26(2), 220–227 (with Julia I. Bandini, Lucy B. Schulson, Claude Messan Setodji, Katherine Ast, & Sangeeta C. Ahluwalia).
4. “Historical Lynchings and the Contemporary Voting Behavior of Blacks,” 2022, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 14(3), 224–253.

5. “Confederate Streets and Black-White Labor Market Differentials,” 2021, *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 111, 27–31.
6. “The Persistence of Historical Racial Violence and Political Suppression: Implications for Contemporary Regional Inequality,” 2021, *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 694(1), 92–107 (with Trevon D. Logan & Bradley L. Hardy).
7. “Americans’ View of the Impact of COVID-19: Perspectives on Racial Impacts and Equity,” 2021, *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*, 46(5), 889–924 (with Katie Carman, Anita Chandra, Carolyn Miller, & Christopher Nelson).

Working Papers

1. “Highway Length Matters: Unequal Racial Impacts of Interstate 10 in New Orleans,” (with Bethany Perkins & Ashley Scott).
2. “Disparities in Social Security Knowledge and the Role of Social Capital,” (with Katherine Carman & Samer Atshan).

Policy Reports

1. *Racial Disparities in the Department of the Air Force Military Justice System*, 2024, **RAND Corporation** (with Shamena Anwar & Nelson Lim).
2. *An Evaluation of Crime-Free Housing Policies*, 2023, **RAND Corporation** (with Max Griswold, Stephanie Brooks Holliday, Alex Sizemore, Cheng Ren, Lawrence Baker, Khadesia Howell, Osonde Osoba, Jason M. Ward, & Sarah B. Hunter).
3. *The Role of Nonprofit Organizations in Community Recovery After Nondeclared Disasters*, 2023, **RAND Corporation** (with Melissa L. Finucane, Jessica W. Paige, Andrew M. Parker, Anu Narayanan, Peggy Wilcox, David DeSmet, & Kristin Van Abel).
4. *How Do We Know If Federal Disaster Programs are Equitable?*, 2023, **RAND Corporation** (with Melissa L. Finucane, Noreen Clancy, Andrew M. Parker, Jessica W. Paige, Karishma V. Patel, Devin Tierney, Michael Wilson, Peggy Wilcox, Tucker Reese, Jordan Reimer, Thomas Goode, Sam Morales, & Alyson Harding).
5. *The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Mitigation Grant Program: An Initial Methodology for Evaluating Social Equity Performance in Disaster Mitigation Grants*, 2023, **RAND Corporation** (with Melissa L. Finucane, Noreen Clancy, Andrew M. Parker, Jessica Paige, Karishma V. Patel, Devin Tierney, Michael Wilson, Peggy Wilcox, & Tucker Reese).
6. *The Science of Gun Policy: A Critical Synthesis of Research Evidence on the Effects of Gun Policies in the United States*, Third Edition, 2023, **RAND Corporation** (with Rosanna Smart,

Andrew R. Morral, Rajeev Ramchand, Amanda Charbonneau, Sierra Smucker, Samantha Cherney, & Lea Xenakis).

7. *Black Workers Endure Persistent Racial Disparities in Employment Outcomes*, 2019, [Economic Policy Institute](#) (with Valerie Wilson).

Research Grants

1. “Racial and Gender Disparities in Early Retirement Decisions During the COVID-19 Pandemic” (Note: A stop work order was issued on February 20, 2025, to all six RDRC centers)
 - The Michigan Retirement and Disability Research Center
 - September 2024 – September 2025
 - \$125,000
 - CoPIs: Grace Arnold, Jhacova Williams, & Han Yu
2. “The Highway to Displacement: Interstate 10 and Black Communities in New Orleans”
 - The Washington Center for Equitable Growth
 - September 2024 – September 2025
 - \$30,000
 - PI: Jhacova Williams
3. “Only Spot a Few Blacks the Higher I Go: Occupational Segregation and the COVID-19 Pandemic”
 - The Michigan Retirement and Disability Research Center
 - March 2023 – September 2023
 - \$75,000
 - PI: Jhacova Williams

Invited Talks and Conference Presentations

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI (scheduled 2026)
University of Maryland, College Park, MD (scheduled 2025)
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 2025
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, 2024
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, 2024
ASSA Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, 2024
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 2023
Federal Reserve Board, Washington, DC, 2023
Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, 2023
Yale University, New Haven, CT, 2022
University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2021
Federal Reserve Board, Washington, DC, 2021
UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, 2020
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, 2020

University of California San Diego, San Diego, CA, 2020
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 2020
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 2020
APPAM Research Conference, Washington, DC, 2020
Duke University, Durham, NC, 2020
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 2019
Cliometric Society, Columbus, OH, 2019
SOLE Conference, Arlington, VA, 2019
ASSA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, 2019
NBER Summer Institute, Cambridge, MA, 2018
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2018
The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, 2018
Amherst College, Amherst, MA, 2018
Williams College, Williamstown, MA, 2018
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL, 2018
Clemson University, Clemson, SC, 2018
Trinity University, San Antonio, TX, 2018
Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA, 2018
Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, 2018
RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, CA, 2018
University of Richmond, Richmond, VA, 2018
ASSA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, 2018
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Boston, MA, 2017
SEA Conference, Washington, D.C., 2016
United States International Trade Commission, Washington, D.C., 2016
SEA Conference, New Orleans, LA, 2015

Teaching at American University

PUAD 670 – Economics for Policy Analysis (MPP students), Fall 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
PUAD 770 – Economics for Policy Analysis (PhD students), Fall 2023, 2024, 2025
PUAD 685 – Social Welfare Policy/Programs, Spring 2023, 2024, 2025

PhD Student Advising

Ashley Scott, 3rd year PhD Student, American University

- “Assessing the Impact of Public School Closure on Local Housing Markets and Residential Sorting”

Max Griswold, dissertation defended in 2023, RAND School of Public Policy

- “An Evaluation of Crime-Free Housing Policies”

Honors and Awards

Outstanding Teacher in a Full-Time Tenure-Line Appointment, SPA at American University, 2025
Most Outstanding Teacher in a Full-Time Appointment, DPAP at American University, 2024
Top 10 Featured Charts in 2022, American Economic Association, 2022
AEA Summer Fellow, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, 2017
AEA Summer Fellow, United States International Trade Commission, 2016
Graduate Certificate in Econometrics, Louisiana State University, 2016
Omicron Delta Epsilon Honor Society, Louisiana State University, 2015
Huel D. Perkins Doctorate Fellowship, Louisiana State University, 2014
Outstanding Teacher Award, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2012
Outstanding Teacher Award, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2011
NSF LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate Fellowship, University of Maryland at College Park, 2006
Honors in Mathematics, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2006
MARC Fellowship, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2004
Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2003
GAELA Fellowship, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2003
TOPS Honor Award, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2002

Internal Service at American University

Policy Research Seminar Series, Organizer, DPAP, Spring 2025 - Present
SPA Public Administration Search Committee, Member, Fall 2024
AU's Faculty Committee on Inclusive Excellence, Co-Chair, Fall 2024 - Spring 2025
AU's Faculty Committee on Inclusive Excellence, Vice-Chair, Fall 2023 - Spring 2024
SPA Top Prospect Day, Presenter, 2023
SPA Student Preview Day, Presenter, 2023

Selected External Service

Board Member Service

DC Fiscal Policy Institute, Board of Directors, 2022 – Present

Conference Service

Moderator ASSA Annual Meeting, 2024
Discussant, ASSA Annual Meeting, 2024
Discussant, APPAM, 2024
Chair, APPAM, 2023

Refereeing

American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, AER Insights,
Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Black Political Economy,
Explorations in Economic History, Journal of Population Economics and Security
Studies, National Science Foundation Economic Grants Program

Selected Blog Posts/Media Coverage

1. “Charting a Path Forward for College Athletes to Receive Pay”, ProMarket, 2021
2. “Promoting Social Equity in Infrastructure Planning and Delivery”, Inside Sources, 2021
3. “Laid Off More, Hired Less: Black Workers in the COVID-19 Recession”, The RAND Blog, 2020
4. “Black Deaths at the hands of law enforcement are linked to historical lynchings”, The EPI Blog, 2020
5. “Our calls to remove racist symbols are finally being heard”, Brookings Institution, 2020
6. “How lynching still affects American politics”, The Economist, 2019