

Melissa Gentry

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Email: mdgentry@tamu.edu

Office: TAMU, WCSS 239

LinkedIn: //mdgentry

Research interests	Labor and Public Economics. Education, disability employment, inter-generational policy effects.	
Education	Texas A&M University	August 2021 – Present
	PhD in Economics, Committee: Professors Barr (<i>Chair</i>), Meer, Eckel, and Lahey	
	University of South Carolina	August 2017 – August 2018
	MA in Economics	
	University of South Florida	August 2014 – August 2017
	BS in Quantitative Economics	
Publications	“Can High School Counselors Help the Economics Pipeline?” with Danila Serra and Jonathan Meer. <i>AEA: Papers and Proceedings</i> , 2023 “Agricultural Aid and Agricultural Production in Africa” with Kwabena Gyimah-Brempong. <i>Journal of African Development</i> , 2020. (Pre-doctoral work)	
Working Papers	“Driving Inclusion: The Impact of Uber on Quality of Life for People with Disabilities” <i>Revise and Resubmit</i> “Divergent Paths: Differential Impacts of Minimum Wage Increases on Individuals with Disabilities” with Jeffrey Clemens and Jonathan Meer. <i>Forthcoming at National Tax Journal</i> “Dynamic Sales Tax Competition: Evidence at the Border” with Nadia Greenhalgh-Stanley, Shawn Rohlin, Jeffrey Thompson. (Pre-doctoral work)	
Work in Progress	“Going the Distance: The Contemporaneous and Intergenerational Effects of Accessible Transportation” “Beyond the Text: Understanding Opt-Out, Dosage, and Response Disparities in an SMS Intervention” with Miranda Lambert, Kalena Cortes, and Brian Holzman “The Resilience of Local Economies: What Helps Rural Communities and Small Towns Survive Economic Shocks?” with Jeffrey Thompson. (Pre-doctoral work)	
Research experience at Texas A&M	Research Assistant for Dr. Andrew Barr	August 2022 – July 2025
	Research Assistant for Dr. Kalena Cortes	June 2022 – August 2023
	Research Assistant for Dr. Catherine Eckel	January 2023 – May 2023
	Research Assistant for Dr. Danila Serra	September 2021 – August 2022
Other experience	Research Assistant at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Dr. Jeffrey Thompson September 2018 – July 2021	

Undergraduate Research Assistant at University of South Florida

Professor Kwabena Gyimah-Brempong

September 2015 – May 2016

Honors and scholarships	S. Charles Maurice Graduate Fellowship (Texas A&M University)	2025
	Gail Frey Monson Memorial Scholarship (Texas A&M University)	2025
	Retirement and Disability Policy Research Graduate Fellow (NBER)	2024
	Retirement and Disability Dissertation Grant (UMBC and SSA)	2024
	MJ Grove Scholarship (Texas A&M University, PERC)	2024
	Aviles-Johnson Diversity Fellowship (Texas A&M University)	2021
	Darla Moore Fellowship (University of South Carolina)	2017
	Student Research Award (University of South Florida)	2016
	Robert H Burton Memorial Scholar (University of South Florida)	2016
	Seide Research Honors College Scholar (University of South Florida)	2015
	Chip Weiner Uncommon Scholar (University of South Florida)	2015
	Annette L Raymund Scholar (University of South Florida)	2015
	Provost's Scholar (University of South Florida)	2014
Teaching experience	Public Economics (ECON412), Texas A&M	Spring 2025
	Two guest lectures on social insurance. <i>Average student rating: 4.7/5.</i>	
	Personnel Economics (ECON419), Texas A&M	Spring 2025
	One guest lecture on disability topics. <i>Average student rating: 3.8/4.</i>	
	Labor Economics (ECON418), Texas A&M	Summer 2024
	Instructor of Record. <i>Average student rating: 4.9/5.</i>	
	Hullabaloo U (ECON285), Texas A&M	Fall 2023
	Instructor of Record. <i>Average student rating: 4.2/5.</i>	
Presentations	EEA 2025 Annual Meeting	February 2025
	ASSA 2025 Annual Meeting	January 2025
	APPAM	November 2024
	STATA Texas Empirical Microeconomics Conference	November 2024
	Texas Applied Microeconomics Student Workshop	April 2024
	Association for Education Finance and Policy Conference	March 2024
	Southern Economics Association Conference (Co-presented)	November 2023
	Texas Applied Microeconomics Student Workshop	April 2023
Referee Experience	<i>Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Health Economics, Educational Researcher, Economic Development Quarterly, Feminist Economics, Journal of Behavioral Public Administration</i>	
Professional Service	Texas Applied Microeconomics Student (TEAMS) Workshop Coordinator	2025
	Public-Labor-IO PhD Student Brown Bag Coordinator	2023-24
	Economic Graduate Student Association 2nd Year Representative	2022-23
	Economic Graduate Student Association 1st Year Representative	2021-22