

Melissa Gentry

Updated May 18, 2023

Email: mdgentry@tamu.edu

Office: LASB 239

LinkedIn: //mdgentry

Research interests	Labor, Public, and Urban Economics. Education, disability employment, inter-generational policy effects.	
Education	Texas A&M University	College Station, TX
	PhD in Economics	August 2021 – Present
	University of South Carolina	Columbia, SC
	MA in Economics	August 2017 – August 2018
	Mentors: Professors Blackburn, Ozturk. <i>GPA: 3.81.</i>	
	University of South Florida	Tampa, FL
	BS in Quantitative Economics	August 2014 – August 2017
	Mentors: Professors Gyimah-Brempong, Sanchez-Penalver, Loewy <i>GPA: 3.99.</i>	
Publications	“Agricultural Aid and Agricultural Production in Africa” with Kwabena Gyimah-Brempong. <i>Journal of African Development</i> , 2020.	
	“Can High School Counselors Help the Economics Pipeline?” with Danila Serra and Jonathan Meer. <i>Forthcoming in AEA: Papers and Proceedings</i>	
Working Papers	“Dynamic Sales Tax Competition: Evidence at the Border” with Nadia Greenhalgh-Stanley, Shawn Rohlin, Jeffrey Thompson.	
Work in Progress	“Going the Distance: The Impact of Accessible Transportation on Disability Employment”	
	“More Complete Income: An Update” with Timothy Smeeding and Jeffrey Thompson.	
	“What Matters for Resilience of Rural Places” with Jeffrey Thompson.	
	“School Choice and Special Education” with Olivia Edwards	
Research experience	Research Assistant at Texas A & M University	
	Mentor: Dr. Kalena Cortes	June 2022 – Current
	Provided research assistance on a project related to a texting intervention for middle school students.	
	Research Assistant at Texas A & M University	
	Mentor: Dr. Catherine Eckel	January 2023 – May 2023

Provided research assistance on a project related to behavioral determinants of decisions throughout undergraduate studies including: major switching, graduation, and pursuing higher education.

Research Assistant at Texas A & M University

Mentor: Dr. Andrew Barr August 2022 – December 2022

Provided research assistance on a project related to potential geographic disparities related to Head Start enrollment.

Research Assistant at Texas A & M University

Mentor: Dr. Danila Serra September 2021 – August 2022

Provided research assistance on behavioral and experimental working papers, mostly related to gender economics.

Research Assistant at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston

Mentor: Dr. Jeffrey Thompson September 2018 – July 2021

Worked as a full-time research assistant within the New England Public Policy Center. Provided research assistance on six working papers related to applied microeconomic topics and numerous public policy briefs.

Undergraduate Research Assistant at University of South Florida

Mentor: Professor Kwabena Gyimah-Brempong September 2015 – May 2016

Provided research assistance on two working papers related to aid to Sub-Saharan Africa.

Honors and scholarships	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
Presentations	Texas Applied Microeconomics Student Workshop	April 2023
Referee Experience	<i>Economic Development Quarterly</i>	
Professional Service	Economic Graduate Student Association Member	2022-2023