

Julia A. Turner

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EDUCATION

Northwestern University	2021 - 2027 (<i>Expected</i>)
Ph.D. Candidate in Human Development and Social Policy	
<i>Dissertation Committee: Kirabo Jackson (chair), Rajeev Darolia, Ofer Malamud, Simone Ispa-Landa</i>	
Amherst College	2015 - 2019
B.A. in Economics, English (<i>with Honors</i>)	

WORKING PAPERS

- “[The Labor Market Value of Community College Bachelor’s Degrees: Initial Evidence from a Resume Audit Study in Early Childhood Education](#)” (with Riley Acton, Camila Morales, Lois Miller, and Kalena Cortes)
- “[Community College Bachelor’s Degrees: How CCB Graduates’ Earnings Compare to AAs and BAs](#)” (with Riley K. Acton , Camila Morales , Kalena Cortes , and Lois Miller )
- “[Universal Pre-K as Economic Stimulus: Evidence from Nine States and Large Cities in the U.S.](#)” (with Kirabo Jackson and Jacob Bastian), *Under Review*
- “Theoretical Foundations of the Minimum Wage and Post-Secondary Investment”

PUBLICATIONS

- Darolia, R. and **J. Turner**. (2025). “[Apprenticeships in the United States: Emerging Opportunities and Evidence Gaps](#)” *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 45, no. 1.
- Schanzenbach, D., **J. Turner**, and S. Turner. (2024). “[Raising State Minimum Wages, Lowering Community College Enrollment](#)” *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- “Degrees within Reach: Who Benefits from Community College Baccalaureate Introduction?”
Job Market Paper
- “Apprenticeship and Postsecondary Education are Intertwined: New Evidence on Apprenticeship Pathways in the United States (with Rajeev Darolia, Lora Dufrense, and Tomás Monarrez)”
- “Estimating the Value of a New Postsecondary Credential: An Audit Study of Community College Bachelor’s Degrees” (with Riley Acton , Camila Morales , Lois Miller , and Kalena Cortes )
- “Understanding Student Debt Relief: Insights from SAVE”
- “Gender Gaps in Student Loan Repayment” (with Meredith Welch)
- “Bachelor’s Degrees at Community Colleges: An Interview Study of Student Decision-Making”

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia , Consumer Finance Institute Dissertation Fellow	2025 - 2027
National Science Foundation , NSF Graduate Research Fellowship	2021 - 2024
Amherst College Economics Department , James R. Nelson Prize	2019

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Office of the Chief Economist, Department of Education

PhD Intern

Washington, DC

August 2024 - May 2025

Council of Economic Advisers

Staff Economist

Washington, DC

July 2023 - August 2024

Blueprint Labs at MIT

Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow (Josh Angrist, David Autor, Amanda Pallais)

Cambridge, MA

April 2019 - August 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Quantitative Methods III (HDSP 412, Required Graduate Course)

Teaching Assistant to Ofer Malamud, Spring 2023

Graduate Quantitative Methods I (HDSP 410, Required Graduate Course)

Teaching Assistant to Hannes Schwandt, Fall 2022

Introduction to Statistics and Research Methodology (SESP 210, Required Undergraduate Course)

Co-Instructor with Sugat Dabholkar, Spring 2022

Economics of Health, Human Capital, and Happiness (SOCPOL 333, Undergraduate Course)

Teaching Assistant to Hannes Schwandt, Winter 2022, Winter 2023

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

2026: Northwestern University, Strada Education Foundation, Duke Labor Reading Group, AEFPP 2026, Blueprint Labs (MIT) Economics of Higher Education (*scheduled*)

2025: Northeastern University, Brookings Institute, Department of Education, NBER Summer Institute, APPAM Fall Research Conference, MidSouth Education Policy Workshop, Midwest Sociology of Education Conference

2023: Northwestern University, IZA Labor Summer School

2019: Williams College (Women in Economic Research)

GRANTS RECEIVED

2026: Ascendium Education: “Assessing Returns to Community College Bachelor’s Degrees.” (Co-PI with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, Lois Miller, and Camila Morales), \$739,700

2026: Strada Education Foundation: “Phase 2: Understanding Enrollment In and Returns to Community College Bachelor’s Degrees.” (Co-PI with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, Lois Miller, and Camila Morales), \$199,686

2026: Arnold Ventures: “Long-Run Impacts of CCB Introduction and Expansion: Evidence from Washington State,” \$24,984

2025: Strada Education Foundation: “Understanding Enrollment In and Returns to Community College Bachelor’s Degrees.” (Co-PI with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, Lois Miller, and Camila Morales). \$49,680

2025: [JPAL North America Racial Equity Grant](#): “Estimating the Value of a New Post-Secondary Credential: An Audit Study of Community College Baccalaureate Degrees” (Co-PI with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, Lois Miller, and Camila Morales), \$44,575 + Research Management Support of \$28,804.99

2025: Texas Higher Education Foundation: “PSEO Research Grant” (Co-PI with Riley Acton, Kalena Cortes, Lois Miller, and Camila Morales), \$15,000 ; “PSEO Research Grant” (Co-PI with CJ Libassi), \$15,000

SERVICE

Referee: *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Education Finance and Policy, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*

Student co-organizer, Northwestern HDSP Brown Bag Seminar

2024-2026

Student organizer, Northwestern HDSP Economics Workshop (EconLab)

2022-2023

SELECTED OTHER WRITING

- “[Study Guide: Public Service Loan Forgiveness](#)” with Kathryn J. Blanchard (PEER Center, September 2025)
- “[Debt and Earnings in Graduate School: Moving Beyond Standard Measures for the Typical Student in the Short Term](#)” with CJ Libassi (Report for the PSEO Coalition, June 2025)
- “[Where Do Borrowers Who Benefit from Public Service Loan Forgiveness Work?](#)” with Kathryn Blanchard and Rajeev Darolia (Office of the Chief Economist (OCE), Department of Education, January 2025)
- “[A First Look at 2024-2025 FAFSA Race and Ethnicity Data](#)” with Brent Evans and Rajeev Darolia (OCE, Department of Education, January 2025)
- “[Educational institutions poised to meet the workforce generated by the Investing in America agenda](#)” with Matthew Guzman, Shaun Dougherty, Rajeev Darolia (OCE, Department of Education, November 2024)

REFERENCES

Kirabo Jackson (Chair)

Northwestern University
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Rajeev Darolia

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rajeev.darolia@uky.edu

Ofer Malamud

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Simone Ispa-Landa

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