

MICHAEL LAFOREST

Pennsylvania State University
404 Oswald Tower
University Park, PA 16802

Cell: (269) 470-0958
mlaforest@psu.edu
<https://michaellaforest.github.io/>

CURRENT POSITION

Post Doctoral Scholar, Criminal Justice Research Center, Pennsylvania State University 2020 - Present

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Affiliate, Crime & Education Lab, University of Chicago 2020 - Present
Research Director, Crime & Education Lab New York, University of Chicago 2017 - 2020
Research Assistant, for Professor Benjamin Castleman, University of Virginia 2016 – 2017
Strategy and Change Consultant, IBM Global Business Services 2007 – 2010

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Virginia 2017
M.A. Economics, University of Virginia 2012
B.S. Economics & Political Science, Mathematics minor, University of Michigan 2007

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Crime, Education, Labor, Applied Econometrics

PUBLICATIONS

“Variation in Mental Illness and Provision of Public Services” (with William C. Johnson, Brett Lissenden, and Steven Stern, *Health Services and Outcomes Research Methodology*)

WORKING PAPERS

“The Effects of High School Career and Technical Education for Non-College Bound Students”
“Perceptions of Known Strangers” (with Hannah Furstenberg-Beckman and Anuj Shaw)
“Street Light Outages, Public Safety and Crime Displacement: Evidence from Chicago” (with Aaron Chalfin and Jacob Kaplan)
“Wald Test for Common Mean Probabilities across Geographic Areas” (with Steven Stern)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Increasing the Reach of Promising Individualized Academic Supports: Experimental Evidence of a Lower-Cost Technology-Infused Intervention” (with Monica Bhatt and Jonathan Guryan)
“Evaluating the Effects of Parole Forums in New York: Expanding the Evaluation of the New York State Gun Violence Reduction Project” (with Benjamin Hansen and Patrick Sharkey)
“Can Precision Policing Reduce Gun Violence? Evidence from Gang Takedowns in New York City” (with Aaron Chalfin and Jacob Kaplan)
“The Effects of Mandatory Minimum Sentence Laws on Crime, Incarceration, and Plea Bargaining”

“A Comparison of the Effects of High School Career and Technical Education over the Past Four Decades”

AWARDS & GRANTS

“Increasing the Reach of Promising Individualized Academic Supports: Experimental Evidence of a Lower-Cost Technology-Infused Intervention” (co-PIs: Monica Bhatt, Jonathan Guryan, and Michael LaForest), Laura and John Arnold Foundation (\$350,505), Overdeck Family Foundation (\$122,000)	2018 – 2023
Bankard Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Virginia	2014 – 2015
Radulovacki Summer Research Fellowship, University of Virginia	2013
Quantitative Collaborate Fellowship, University of Virginia	2012 – 2013

PEER REVIEWER

Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization; Law & Policy; Educational Researcher; Journal of Comparative Economics; Criminal Justice Review

REFERENCES

Jonathan Guryan	j-guryan@northwestern.edu	(773) 848-9408
Jens Ludwig	jludwig@uchicago.edu	(773) 834-0811
John Pepper	jvp3m@virginia.edu	(434) 924-3402
Steven Stern	steven.stern@stonybrook.edu	(631) 632-1328
Lee Coppock	coppock@virginia.edu	(434) 924-6747

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<i>Instructor</i> , University of Virginia Economics of the Public Sector	2014
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , University of Virginia Graduate Microeconomic Theory II	2012 – 2013
Graduate Microeconomic Theory I	2011
Game Theory	2012
Principles of Macroeconomics	2011, 2015 – 2016
Principles of Microeconomics	2010

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

<i>Founder and Officer</i> , UVA Economics Graduate Club Founded bi-weekly graduate student research collaboration meetings, a yearly graduate student-run seminar, and a graduate fellowship directory	2011 – 2016
<i>Vice President of Operations</i> , UVA Graduate Student Council Oversaw all committees; chaired a committee which organized a university-wide graduate student conference; chaired a committee which organized monthly social events for graduate students	2013 – 2016

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Undergraduate Activities, University of Michigan

Executive Board, College Democrats

Director of Disarmament & International Security Committee, Model United Nations Conference

External Relations Committee, Michigan Student Assembly

Board Member and Actor, Residential College Players

Intern, FTI Consulting, Washington, DC

Intern, United States House of Representatives, Washington, DC

Branch Operator, College Works Painting, Ann Arbor, MI

Computing Proficiency

Stata, Matlab, R, Fortran 95, Microsoft Office