

LUIS HERSKOVIC

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Office Contact Information

139 MacDougal Street, New York University
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Current Employment

Economics Research Fellow, NYU Furman Center

Education

The University of Chicago, 2012 to 2017
Ph.D. in Public Policy
Thesis Title: "Essays in Urban Policy"

MA, Economics, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 2008
BA, Political Science, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 2005

References:

Professor Ofer Malamud

Northwestern University
(773) 702 - 2389
ofer.malamud@northwestern.edu

Professor Dan Black

Chicago Harris, The University of Chicago
(773) 702 - 0623
danblack@uchicago.edu

Professor Anjali Adukia

Chicago Harris, The University of Chicago
(773) 702 - 4336
adukia@uchicago.edu

Fields

Primary field: Urban Economics
Secondary fields: Education, Transportation, GIS

Research Experience and Other Employment

2015 to 2017 Research Assistant to Professor Anjali Adukia, University of Chicago
2014 to 2017 Research Assistant to Professor Ofer Malamud, University of Chicago
2014 to 2015 Graduate Research Assistant at NORC, Chicago
2010 to 2012 Research Associate at Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Observatorio Social

Publications

Book Chapters:

“Tendencias en Educación” in *Chile en Cifras: Observatorio de Tendencias Sociales*, Universidad Andrés Bello, Santiago, Chile. 2011.

Research Papers

“The Effect of Subway Access on School Choice”

One of the goals of school choice is to allow parents to send their children to higher-performing schools, but costs of transportation might make this unfeasible for some families. This paper examines school choice taking advantage of a natural experiment created by the construction of a subway line in Santiago, Chile. The high clustering of schools in certain areas of the city makes distance especially relevant for students that live in neighborhoods with low transport connectivity. I find that students that live near the new subway stations travel significantly farther to school than students living in nearby areas without subway stations, and that students near the subway are willing to travel farther to attend schools with higher scores in standardized tests.

“The Impact of Cell-Phone Use on Traffic Accidents”

Causal evidence of the relationship between cell-phone use and traffic accidents remains scarce. Despite this, laws restricting cell-phone use for drivers have been approved in numerous countries. In this paper, I take advantage of a government program implemented in Chile between 2010 and 2012, which connected rural areas to the mobile-phone network for the first time and estimate a differences-in-differences model to calculate the impact of cell-phone use on traffic accidents. As an alternative approach, I use GIS to generate random control areas that had cell-phone coverage throughout the whole period. Both methods lead to similar results: cell-phone usage leads to a significant increase in the number of traffic accidents.

Teaching Experience

Winter, 2017, Public Policy Analysis, University of Chicago, Teaching Assistant for Professor James A. Leitzel

Spring, 2016, GIS Applications in the Social Sciences, University of Chicago, Teaching Assistant for Professor Ned English

Spring, 2015, GIS Applications in the Social Sciences, University of Chicago, Teaching Assistant for Professor Ned English

2012, Quantitative Methodology: Data Analysis and Survey Design Diploma, Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Lecturer

Honors, Scholarships, Fellowships and Professional Activities

2016 to 2017 Chicago Harris Fellowship

2012 to 2016 National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research Scholarship

2015 First Place Saturday Poster Session, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Fall Research Conference

2016 Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference - Paper presentation

2016 Development Day Annual Conference - Paper presentation