

# **LUIS HERSKOVIC**

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## **Office Contact Information**

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## **Education**

The University of Chicago, 2012 to present  
Ph.D. Candidate in Public Policy  
Thesis Title: "Essays in Urban Policy"  
Expected Completion Date: June 2017

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

References:

### ***Professor Ofer Malamud***

Chicago Harris, The University of Chicago  
(773) 702 - 2389  
malamud@uchicago.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 present Research Assistant to Professor Anjali Adukia, University of Chicago  
2014 to present 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.

## **Working Papers**

### “The Effect of Urban Transportation on Business Displacement”

### “The Geography of School Choice: A Spatial Analysis”

## **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