

# BENJAMIN T. SKINNER

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## *ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT*

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2018 - present      Research Assistant Professor of Education and Public Policy, University of Virginia  
2017 - 2018        Research Assistant Professor of Education, University of Virginia

## *AFFILIATIONS*

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2018 - present      Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, University of Virginia  
2017 - present      Nudge<sup>4</sup> Solutions Lab, University of Virginia  
2017 - present      EdPolicyWorks, University of Virginia

## *EDUCATION*

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2017                  Leadership and Policy Studies, Vanderbilt University                  Ph.D.  
2008                  Humanities, University of Chicago                                                  M.A.  
2006                  Music and English, Vanderbilt University                                          B.Mus.

## *RESEARCH INTERESTS*

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Education policy; community colleges and broad access universities; college access; data science/statistical computing; Bayesian methods; causal inference; data visualization; open source data analysis software

## *PUBLICATIONS*

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- Skinner, B. T. (2019). "Making the connection: Broadband access and online course enrollment at public open admissions institutions." *Research in Higher Education*, 1–40.
- Skinner, B. T. (2019). "Choosing college in the 2000s: An updated analysis using the conditional logistic choice model." *Research in Higher Education*, 60(2), 153–183.
- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2017). "Does postsecondary education result in civic benefits?" *The Journal of Higher Education*, 88(6), 863–893.
- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2016). "Estimating the education-earnings equation using geographic variation." *Economics of Education Review*, 53, 254–267.
- Heyneman, S. P., & Skinner, B. T. (2014). "The Bologna Process in the countries of the former Soviet Union: An outsider's perspective." *Journal of the European Higher Education Area*, 01/2014.

## *SUBMITTED PAPERS*

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- Baker, D. J., Skinner, B. T., & Redding, C. (2018). "Affirmative intervention to reduce stereotype threat bias: Experimental evidence from a community college."
- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2017). "Predicting postsecondary attendance by income in the American states using multilevel regression with poststratification."

## ***WORKING PAPERS***

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- Skinner, B. T. (in progress). “Policies and interventions to improve postsecondary access, persistence, completion, and workforce entry.”
- Skinner, B. T. (in progress). “Predicting degree outcomes of online course enrollment at the state level using Bayesian multilevel regression and poststratification.”
- Skinner, B. T. (in progress). “Estimating the effect of online courses on student outcomes in a statewide postsecondary system.”
- Skinner, B. T., & Doyle, W. R. (in progress). “Democratization, diversion, and profit: The impact of for-profit institutions on degree attainment.”

## ***ANALYST***

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- Institute for Research on Higher Education. (2016). *College affordability diagnosis: National report*. Institute for Research on Higher Education, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA.

## ***SOFTWARE PACKAGES***

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- Skinner, B. T. (2018). *duawranglr: Securely Wrangle Dataset According to Data Usage Agreement*.
- Skinner, B. T. (2018). *crosswalker: Rename and Encode Data Frames Using External Crosswalk Files*.
- Skinner, B. T. (2018). *rscorecard: A Method to Download Department of Education College Scorecard Data*.
- Skinner, B. T. (2017). *distRcpp: Compute Geodesic Distance and Distance-Weighted Measures Using Rcpp*.
- Skinner, B. T. (2016). *GitRoom Manager: GitHub classroom manager*.

## ***PRESENTATIONS***

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### **Peer-reviewed conference presentations**

- Bird, K., Castleman, B., Fischer, B., & Skinner, B. T. (2019). Students with some college, but no degree: A statewide descriptive analysis, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy 44th Annual Conference, Kansas City, KS.
- Skinner, B. T. (2018). Online courses and degree attainment: Estimating state-level differences using nationally representative data, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy 43rd Annual Conference, Portland, OR.
- Skinner, B. T. (2017). Virtually the same: Estimating the effect of online courses on student outcomes at open access institutions in Georgia, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy 42nd Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Skinner, B. T. (2016). How has college choice changed? An update for the 2000s using the conditional logit model, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Columbus, OH.
- Skinner, B. T. (2016). Virtually the same: Estimating the effect of online courses on student outcomes at open access institutions in Georgia, Paper presented in roundtable discussion at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Columbus, OH.
- Skinner, B. T., & Doyle, W. R. (2016). Democratization, diversion, and profit: The impact of for-profit institutions on degree attainment, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Columbus, OH.

- Skinner, B. T. (2016). Modeling college enrollment via conditional logit: How has college choice changed? Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy 41st Annual Conference, Denver, CO.
- Skinner, B. T. (2015). Estimating the relationship between broadband speed and distance education at public two-year institutions, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.
- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2015). Estimating the education-earnings equation using geographic variation, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy 40th Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Skinner, B. T. (2014). An event history analysis of delayed college enrollment as a function of employment and wage, Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy 39th Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Skinner, B. T. (2013). Estimating the connection between broadband connectivity and participation rates in college eLearning, Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, St. Louis, MO.
- Skinner, B. T. (2013). Coming up short: The European Credit Transfer System as a measure of quality in the EHEA, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Comparative and International Education Society, New Orleans, LA.

### Invited presentations

- Doyle, W. R., & Skinner, B. T. (2015). Using data science to harness the big data revolution, Presidential session presentation at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Denver, CO.

## TEACHING

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### Workshops

University of Virginia | Curry School of Education | EdPolicyWorks

- 2018                      Workshop on R  
                                   Three-day workshop on R statistical language  
                                   *Website/Course materials:* [btskinner.me/rworkshop](http://btskinner.me/rworkshop)

### Instructor

Vanderbilt University | Department of Leadership, Policy, & Organizations

- 2015                      LPO 9951: *Research Practicum (PhD)*  
                                   First-year PhD student introduction to statistical programming  
                                   *Website/Course materials:* [btskinner.me/lpo9951](http://btskinner.me/lpo9951)

University of Southern Indiana | Department of English

- 2010 - 2011              ENGL 201: *Literacy and the World* (4 sections)  
                                   Sophomore-level course on rhetoric and composition
- 2009 - 2010              ENGL 101: *Literacy and the Self* (4 sections)  
                                   Freshman-level course on rhetoric and composition

**Teaching Assistant**

Vanderbilt University | Department of Leadership, Policy, &amp; Organizations

2014	HOD 2790: <i>Introduction to Data Science</i> <i>Instructor: Will Doyle</i>
2013 - 2014	LPO 3921-3: <i>Research Practicum (PhD)</i> <i>Instructor: Will Doyle</i>

***AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS***

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2017	Emerging Education Policy Scholar	
2016 - 2017	Bonsal Applied Education Research Award	\$10,000
2016 - 2017	Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning Graduate Fellow	\$5,500
2012 - 2016	Peabody Graduate Fellowship	
2012	ExpERT Pre-Doctoral Fellow	
2005	Vanderbilt Undergraduate Summer Research Program	\$4,000

***CERTIFICATIONS***

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2014 / 2018	What Works Clearinghouse Certified Reviewer (Standards Version 3.0 & 4.0)
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***PROFESSIONAL, UNIVERSITY, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE***

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**Association for the Study of Higher Education**

2018	Member	Bobby Wright Dissertation of the Year Committee
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**Vanderbilt University**

2016 - 2017	Co-coordinator	LPO Quantitative Methods Workshop
2014	Planning Committee	Crucial Conversations

**Charlottesville, VA**

2018	Project Fellow	Smart Cville Civic Innovation Day
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***PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS***

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**Referee**

American Education Research Journal, AERA Open, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Educational Researcher, Journal of Diversity in Higher Education, Journal of Higher Education, Research in Higher Education

**Professional Memberships**

American Educational Research Association (AERA)  
 Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)  
 Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)