

# Kevin Winseck

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## Technical skills

### Causal inference techniques

Instrumental variables (IV), difference-in-differences (DiD), synthetic DiD, regression discontinuity (RD), spatial RD, randomized control trials (RCT), propensity score and nearest neighbor matching, causal forest, double machine learning, surrogate model

### Programming languages

Advanced in: Stata, R; familiar with: SQL, Python, Matlab

### Software

Google Earth Engine, ArcGIS, QGIS, Git, Linux, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Microsoft Office

## Education

- 2019 – **University of California, San Diego** PhD candidate in Economics, anticipated Dec 2023 or Mar 2024  
Present Committee: Judson Boomhower (chair), Joshua Graff Zivin, Prashant Bharadwaj, Julian Betts  
2015 – 2019 **Arizona State University, Barrett Honors College** *Summa Cum Laude with Honors*  
B.S. Economics, B.S. Mathematics, Minor in Music Performance (French Horn)  
Advisers: Bart Hobijn, Basit Zafar, Gregory Veramendi, Sebastien Motsch

## Research interests

Environmental and Labor Economics, Causal Inference, Behavioral/Experimental Economics

## Research & Experience

- 2023 Upcoming: **Meta (Facebook) Research Scientist Intern**
- 2023 **Amazon Economist Intern**  
*Alexa Economics and Measurement, with Mingyu Chen and Xin Tang*
- Causal economic value of Alexa engagement
  - Utilizes recent advances in DiD literature for heterogeneous treatment effects & staggered adoption
  - Productionized code to automate analysis
- 2022 **Amazon Economist Intern**  
*Labor Economics with Dara Lee Luca and Jess Pinnock*
- Privileged and Confidential research on the Employee Relations Research and Development team.
  - Stata and R for IV, k nearest neighbor matching, and causal forest analysis of employee data.
  - Presented findings to Vice President of Employee Relations and 4 ER Directors.
- 2022 **Benjamin C. Horne Memorial Prize** in peace, international cooperation, development, and environmental protection (UCSD Department of Economics)
- 2022 **Heat Islands in a Sea of Water Conservation: Heat Costs of Turf Replacement Programs**  
*Working Paper, under review at Resource and Energy Economics*  
<https://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4378199>
- Identifying heat effects of lawn conversion rebates and the associated costs due to electricity, heat mortality, and hedonic valuation.
  - Event study, DiD with staggered rollout, 1:1 matching using remotely sensed imagery from Landsat 7.
  - Data processing in Google Earth Engine, cleaning, spatial analysis, and plots in R, regressions in Stata, mapping and geocoding in QGIS/ArcGIS.
- 2021 **Human Capital and Climate Change**, with Noam Angrist, Joshua Graff Zivin, and Harry Patrinos  
*NBER/World Bank Working Paper, under review at Review of Economics and Statistics*  
<https://www.nber.org/papers/w31000>
- Estimating causal effects of education on climate and environmental beliefs using European Social Survey, Eurobarometer, and schooling reforms.
  - Repeated cross-sectional data, instrumented RD, fuzzy and sharp RD with optimal bandwidth selection.
  - Data cleaning, regressions, and figures in Stata.

2021 **Takeup, Neighbor Effects, and Heterogeneity in Water-Wise Landscaping Incentive Programs**

*Job Market Paper*

[Download](#)

- Analyzing rebate takeup with GIS methods: rebate demand, network spillovers, and environmental justice using identifying variation in rebate generosity.
- Panel data, IV, spatial RD, peer spillovers.

2021 **Leaving Fossil Fuels Behind: Micro-level Wage Effects of Leaving the Oil and Gas Industry**

*Working Paper*

- Estimating individual-level wage effects of leaving the fossil fuel industry using restricted access Census data: Current Population Survey and Longitudinal Employer Household Dynamics.
- Panel data, repeated cross-sectional data, Dif-in-Dif, IV, data cross-validation, leave-one-out estimation, propensity score matching.
- Data cleaning in R and Stata, regressions and figures in Stata.

2019 **Leveraging Low-Cost Incentives to Encourage Student Performance in Online Courses**

*Honors Thesis*, <https://repository.asu.edu/items/52471>

- Panel data, RCT (with institutional review board), Dif-in-Dif.
- Data preparation in Python, cleaning, regressions, and figures in Stata.

### Additional research experience

Dec 2021– **Graduate Student Researcher, with Joshua Graff Zivin** (UCSD) *Innovation Economics*

Jun 2022 Analysis of the role of philanthropy in the U.S. innovation enterprise.

Jun 2020– **Graduate Student Researcher, with Judson Boomhower** (UCSD) *Environmental, Energy, Resource Economics*

Sep 2021 Spatial analysis of wildfire risk and damage, historical oil and gas infrastructure; correspondence study on electoral consequences of fracking.

Jan 2018– **Research Assistant, with Basit Zafar** (ASU) *Experimental Economics*

May 2019 Gender differences in negotiation, education decisions; information campaign on polio vaccination in Pakistan.

May 2017– **Research Assistant, with Gregory Veramendi** (ASU) *Labor Economics*

May 2018 Buyer-seller network analysis with administrative data from online marketplace; job displacement using Current Population Survey.

Jan 2016– **Mentoring through Critical Transitions Program, with Sebastien Motsch** (ASU) *Computational Mathematics*

Jan 2017 Math research program sponsored by NSF/ASU. Matlab simulation of flocking models with boundary conditions and optimal control.

### Other work experience

2020–2021 **Teaching Assistant Excellence Award** (UCSD)

Sep 2019– **Teaching Assistant** (UCSD)

Current TA for 4 graduate and 4 undergraduate courses, grader for 3 undergraduate courses.

May–Aug **Data Technician** (University of Colorado Office of Contracts and Grants)

2019 Managed university research proposal data and archives.

Aug 2016– **MOOC Course Developer, ECN 286 Principles of Macroeconomics, with Bart Hobijn** (ASU)

Aug 2017 Used Python to develop interactive data charts, visuals, programming; authored math and data review unit.