Emily Molinard

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Education

University of California, Merced — **Merced, California**
PhD, Economics- Advisor Briana Ballis — *August 2022-June 2027 (expected)*
University of California, Merced — **Merced, California**
MA, Economics — *August 2022-May 2026*
University of California, Santa Barbara — **Santa Barbara, California**
Bachelors of Arts, Economics — *August 2018-December 2021*

Research Fields

Labor Economics, Economics of Education

Working Papers

Office of Civil Rights: Special Education Law Enforcement and Effects (solo author- JMP)

I link Texas education records with disability related claim data from the federal Office of Civil Rights to test what predicts claims and how claims affect special education implementation. I find that claims decrease special education enrollment, in a setting where financial incentives encouraged special education over-enrollment. I also find reduction in the portion of students enrolled in special education with more restrictive settings. Student test scores improve after Office of Civil Rights interventions, suggesting that students benefitted from special education enrollment changes.

Sibling Spillovers and Special Education Access (with Briana Ballis and Jose Rosa)
Revise and resubmit at Journal of Human Resources. Draft available

Works in Progress

Employment Discrimination Lawsuits and School District Employment (with Reanna Bromley)

Research Experience

Graduate Student Researcher- Briana Ballis and Andrew Johnston — **Merced, California**
University of California, Merced Economics Department — *Summer 2023, Winter 2023-2024*

Graduate Student Researcher- Immigration and Education — **Merced, California**
UC Merced, Economics Department — *January 2024 – August 2025*

Graduate Student Researcher- Special Education and Crime — **Merced, California**
University of California, Merced Economics Department — *June 2024 – August 2024*

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record- Introduction to Economics — **Merced, California**
University of California, Merced Economics Department — *Summer 2026*

Teaching Assistant- Statistics **Merced, California**
University of California, Merced Economics Department *Fall 2022- Fall 2023*

Teaching Assistant- Judgement and Decision-Making **Merced, California**
UC Merced, Economics Department *Summer 2025, Summer 2026*

Teaching Assistant- Macroeconomics **Merced, California**
UC Merced, Economics Department *Spring 2024*

Teaching Assistant- Introduction to Business and Finance **Merced, California**
UC Merced, Economics Department *Spring 2025*

Teaching Assistant- Introduction to Economics **Merced, California**
UC Merced, Economics Department *Fall 2025*

Undergraduate Assistant- Statistics for Economics **Santa Barbara, California**
UC Santa Barbara, Economics Department *Summer 2021- Fall 2021*

Fellowships

Perry Ellis Fellowship
University of California, Merced Economics Department: Fall 2026

Perry Ellis Fellowship
University of California, Merced Economics Department: Spring 2026

UC Merced Economics Research Grant
University of California, Merced Economics Department: Summer 2025

UC Merced Economics Summer Bridge Fellowship
University of California, Merced: Summer 2022

Presentations

Sibling Spillovers and Special Education Access **Seattle, Washington**
APPAM *November 2025*

Effects of Federal Civil Rights Investigations on Special Education Services **Chicago, Illinois**
AEFP Poster Session *March 2026*

Effects of Federal Civil Rights Investigations on Special Education Services **Berkeley, California**
ACLEC Poster Session *September 2026*

Employment Discrimination Lawsuits and School District Employment **Boston, Massachusetts**
APPAM *November 2026 (upcoming)*

Service

Graduate Representative **Merced, California**
University of California, Merced Economics Department *Fall 2026*

Grad-Excel Program Mentor **Merced, California**
University of California, Merced Economics Department *Fall 2026*

Technical Skills

Programming Languages: Stata, Python, R, and Latex

References

Briana Ballis
Assistant Professor of Economics
University of California, Merced
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Esra Kose
Assistant Professor of Economics
University of California, Merced
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Derek Rury
Assistant Professor of Economics
Oregon State University
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Jason Lee
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University of California, Merced
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