
Max B. Norton

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Ph.D. candidate
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FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Public Economics, Urban Economics, Economics of Education

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics – Vancouver School of Economics (UBC) in progress
Committee: Kevin Milligan and Marit Rehavi, co-supervisors, and Victor Couture.

M.A. Economics – California State University, Sacramento 2017

B.A. Film Studies – Columbia College (Columbia University) 2006

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Work in progress

“School bonds, sorting, and the distribution of school capital: Evidence from California” (job market paper).

“Social insurance non-compliance in China: A synthesis and new results” (with Wei Cui and Jeffrey Hicks).

Publications

“[How well-targeted are payroll tax cuts as a response to COVID-19? Evidence from China](#)” (with Wei Cui and Jeffrey Hicks). *International Tax and Public Finance* 29, 2022.

“[Happiness at different ages: The social context matters](#)” (with John F. Helliwell, Haifang Huang and Shun Wang). In *The Economics of Happiness*, ed. M. Rojas. Springer, 2019.

Working papers

“[Well-being analysis favours a virus elimination strategy for COVID-19](#)” (with John F. Helliwell, Shun Wang, Lara B. Akinin and Haifang Huang). NBER Working Paper 29092, August 2021.

Contributions to the World Happiness Report

(From 2020 through 2023, I contributed to Chapter 2 of the annual *World Happiness Report*, co-authoring with John F. Helliwell, Haifang Huang, and Shun Wang.)

“[World happiness, trust, and social connections in times of crisis](#)” (also with Len Goff). 2023.

“[Happiness, benevolence, and trust during COVID-19 and beyond.](#)” 2022.

“[Happiness, trust, and deaths under COVID-19.](#)” 2021.

“[Social environments for world happiness.](#)” 2020.

Pre-doctoral

“[Managing grapevine trunk diseases in California’s Southern San Joaquin Valley](#)” (with Kendra Baumgartner, Vicken Hillis, Mark Lubell, and Jonathan Kaplan). *American Journal of Enology and Viticulture* 70, 2019.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

John F. Helliwell, Vancouver School of Economics, UBC	Sept 2017 - present
Wei Cui, Allard School of Law, UBC	Jan 2020 - Dec 2020
Munir Squires, Vancouver School of Economics, UBC	Oct 2019 - Sept 2020
Jonathan Kaplan, CSU Sacramento	2015 - 2016

TEACHING TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Training at the UBC Centre for the Integration of Teaching, Research and Learning

Foundations of Pedagogy, Sept - Nov 2022

Graduate Online Instructional Skills Workshop, Jan - Feb 2021

Teaching assistantships

Economics of Public Expenditures (4th year undergraduate), 2021

Introduction to International Trade (3rd year undergraduate), 2019

Principles of Microeconomics (1st year undergraduate), 2019

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowship in Happiness Economics, UBC	2018 - 2023
Four-Year Doctoral Fellowship, UBC	2017 - 2021
Dean’s Award given to the best graduate student in the College of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies, CSU Sacramento	2017
Robert and Chi-Ming Dana Curry Scholarship in Economics, CSU Sacramento	2016

CONFERENCES AND INVITED MEETINGS

International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress 2021, scheduled for 2023

NBER Business Taxation in a Federal System Meeting, 2020*, 2021*, 2022*

Urban Economics Association 2022 Summer School*

Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, 2021

NBER Graduate Student Workshop on Business Income Taxation, 2020*

*Non-presenting invitee

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee for *Journal of Public Economics*, *European Journal of Health Economics*, *International Journal of High School Research*, *International Journal of Wellbeing*, *International Review of Economics – Journal of Civil Economy*

Editorial advisor, *Global Happiness Policy Report 2022*

Graduate Studies Committee Representative, Vancouver School of Economics, 2019-2020

PERSONAL

Citizenship: United States

Languages: English (native), Spanish (advanced)