

Miguel E. Cuellar Chavez

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EDUCATION

PhD in Economics

University of Arkansas – Walton College of Business
Applied Economics

Exp. Summer 2025

Fayetteville, AR

M.A. in Economics

University of Arkansas – Walton College of Business | *Summa Cum Laude*

May 2021

Fayetteville, AR

B.S. in Economics and International Business | Minors in Mathematics and Sociology

University of the Ozarks

May 2018

Clarksville, AR

Honors:

- *Summa Cum Laude*
 - *Outstanding Student in Economics (2018), and Outstanding Student in Sociology (2017)*
 - *First Place State Competition in Statistical Analysis (2017)*
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RESEARCH

Job Market Paper [See working paper [here](#)]

- *Mass Shootings, Community Mobility, and the Relocation of Economic Activity*
Event study and DiD analysis of panel foot-traffic data for 150 thousand locations surrounding 40+ mass shooting sites from 2018 to 2022, evaluating the impact of these events on short-run community mobility. Results reveal significant relocation of economic activity within a 5-mile radius from shooting sites, with nearby locations experiencing decreases in visits and farther-away locations experiencing increases in visits. The effect is quite generalized for a variety of location types and appears to be driven by substitution. Furthermore, a variety of analyses suggest the impact on mobility is associated with the psychological effects of mass shootings.

Publication

- “Where Are the Masks?” Was There a Shortage of Medical Supplies During the COVID-19 Crisis in El Salvador? (2022). *ConsCiencia Sanitaria*, 1, pp. 86-93.
Time series analysis of restricted weekly data on nationwide pharmacy stocks of medical supplies from February 2020 to May 2021 in El Salvador, a country of international renown for its implementation of hard policies on mobility and its early intervention in all aspects of the economy during the pandemic, including its active role in the local production of supplies. Results reveal that, despite the high degree of intervention, the country experienced difficulties sustaining stocks of supplies in the face of increases in COVID-19 cases.

Working Paper

- *Immigrants’ Labor Market Outcomes in the European Union: The Roles of Identity, Culture, and Natives’ Openness*
Analyses of EU-wide survey data using both parametric (Heckman probit) and nonparametric (propensity score matching) techniques reveal that, even after accounting for selection into the labor force, immigrants are less likely to find employment than natives. A strong country-of-origin identity harms immigrants’ employment chances, and evidence suggests this is regulated by cultural differentials and by natives’ attitudes.

Work in Progress

- *Diversity, Newcomers, and Team Performance in a Dynamic Setting (with Sherry Li and Jingping Gu)*
 - *Lab experiment designed to study work team integration and performance in a variety of settings, with the key variables being gender/race composition and physical proximity (resembling in-person vs work-from-home scenarios). 160+ sessions and counting, with 650+ participants.*
- *The Media Effect: How News Exposure Affects Trust*
- *Is Trade Policy in the US Pro-Poor or Pro-Rich?*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

Mass Shootings, Community Mobility, and the Relocation of Economic Activity

- Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Conference (November 2024)
- Mary Ann Greenwood Economics Research Seminar, University of Arkansas (November 2024)
- Missouri Valley Economic Association Annual Conference (October 2024)
- Applied Economics Brownbag Seminar, University of Arkansas (October 2024)

From Undergrad to PhD: Conversations with Economics Graduate Students

- Missouri Valley Economic Association Annual Conference (October 2024)
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TEACHING

Instructor/Lecturer, University of Arkansas

- Courses:
 - ECON 21403: Basic Economics
 - ECON 22003: Principles of Microeconomics
- Sections ranging from 40-90 students

Aug 2020 – Present
Fayetteville, AR

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Arkansas

- Courses:
 - ECON 30303: Microeconomic Theory
 - ECON 38403: Economic Development
 - ECON 44203: Behavioral Economics
 - ECON 47503: Forecasting
 - ECON 53403: Managerial Economics

Aug 2019 – Present
Fayetteville, AR

Academic Tutor, Student Success Center, University of the Ozarks

- Subjects: Finance, Statistics, Economics, Mathematics, and Sociology
 - Provided supplemental individual and group-based instruction to 10-15 students per semester
 - *Honors: Business Tutor of the Year, 2016 & 2018*
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Aug 2015 – May 2018
Clarksville, AR

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant, University of Arkansas

- Implemented parametric and non-parametric analyses using **R, Stata, and MATLAB**
- Developed **Otree (Python) applications** to run economic laboratory experiments in multiplayer settings, following economic theory-based designs
- Cleaned and analyzed **large datasets** of varied structures and complexities, with size up to several TBs

Aug 2019 – Present
Fayetteville, AR

Manager and Supervisor, Unit of Price Regulation, National Directorate of Medicines

- Managed a team of 10 at government agency regulating drugs, overseeing price controls
- Supervised **nationwide activities of market intelligence** for the products regulated by the institution, including **data collection, consolidation, and maintenance of a large proprietary database using MySQL**
- Coordinated the **resolution of requirements** regarding drug price regulation and market intelligence

Jun – Dec 2022
El Salvador

Analyst, Unit of Price Regulation, National Directorate of Medicines

- Prepared analyses related to drug regulation
- Participated in the improvement of internal processes

Feb – May 2022
El Salvador

International Coordinator, Lorenzana & Dental Associates

- Managed processes for foreign patient acquisition and retention at prestigious dental clinic
- Implemented online presence improvements and conducted A/B testing on ad campaigns

Sep 2018 – Mar 2019
El Salvador

HONORS AND AWARDS

Adam Smith Fellowship (2024-2025)
Mercatus Center at George Mason University

Elinor Ostrom Fellowship (2023-2024)
Mercatus Center at George Mason University

Outstanding Graduate Student in Economics (2024)
University of Arkansas/Southern Economic Association

Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship (2019-2024)
University of Arkansas

Graduate School Presentation Travel Grant (2024)
University of Arkansas

Graduate Professional Student Congress Travel Grant (2024)
University of Arkansas

Behavioral Business Research Lab Small Grant (2023)
University of Arkansas

Diversity and Inclusion Summer Research Grant (2023)
University of Arkansas

SKILLS

Language: English – full professional proficiency | Spanish – native

Computer: MATLAB, Python, R, SQL, Stata, Power BI, LaTeX

LEADERSHIP

Committee Member, Walton Arts & Ideas Series, University of the Ozarks

2017 – 2018

- Represented student body in committee organizing special events on campus
- Managed university budget designated for special event series

Clarksville, AR

Secretary, Student Government Association, University of the Ozarks

2017 – 2018

- Served as a communication bridge between SGA, students, faculty, and staff
- Allocated funds to university organizations
- Guided SGA to improve conditions for students, such as better illumination around campus and a more favorable credit hours limit policy at the base full-time tuition cost

Clarksville, AR

Vice-President, Enactus, University of the Ozarks

2015 – 2016

- Led a team of 33 students in a business and leadership international organization
- Participated in the creation of an ESL program to benefit the community
- Served as a speaker to showcase the organization's projects, helping the team advance to national competitions

Clarksville, AR

MISCELLANEOUS

National Model United Nations

Mar 2018

Participated in the world's largest Model UN, drawing participants from more than 130 UN Member States

NYC, NY

University Scholars Leadership Symposium

Aug 2017

Represented El Salvador/University of the Ozarks at leadership conference on humanitarian affairs

Bangkok, Thailand

World Business Dialogue

Mar 2017

Participated in leadership conference gathering students and business leaders from around the world

Cologne, Germany

Central American Youth Ambassadors

Mar 2017

Represented El Salvador in 3-week leadership program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State

DC, ID, & AL

REFERENCES

Dr. Hyunseok Jung

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Dr. Sherry Li

Lewis E. Epley Jr. Professor of Economics
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