

Matías Axelrod Del Campo

Curriculum Vitae, January 2026

Contact Information

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Education

Ph.D.	Economics, Michigan State University	2019 – 2026 (Defended)
M.S.	Computational & Behavioral Economics, Chapman University	2015 – 2017
B.S.	Mathematics, Chapman University	2012 – 2016
B.A.	Economics, Chapman University	2012 – 2016

Fields of Interest

Public Economics, Labor Economics, Economics of Crime, Microeconometrics

Working Papers

“In the ‘Right’ Place at the Right Time: Prison Labor Compensation and Recidivism in Arizona”

[Job Market Paper]

Despite their ubiquity in prisons across the United States, relatively little is known about forced prison labor programs and their impacts on post-release outcomes. Program evaluation in this context is empirically challenging due to lack of accessible data, lack of clear variation over time, and the familiar self-selection issues that plague most research designs. I address these challenges using a novel administrative dataset from the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR) by exploiting cross-prison variation over time in the availability of higher-paying *correctional industry* (CI) work assignments to see how varying levels of mandatory savings from CI impact recidivism rates I instrument observed levels of mandatory savings with the number of weeks remaining in their incarceration spell and find significant short-term reductions in the probability of recidivating, which quickly dissipate after 3 months. On average, a \$1,000 increase in mandatory savings decreases the probability of reincarceration within 3 months by 1.01 (↓9.7%) and 1.47 (↓18.4%) percentage points, for men and women respectively. The dynamics of these effects and suggestive evidence on reducing new drug and property felonies highlight short-term poverty alleviation as a likely mechanism.

"How Do Inmates 'Do' Time? Recidivism Impacts of within-Prison Programs"

I evaluate the impacts of several programs offered to inmates held at various prison facilities in the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation, and Reentry (ADCRR) through a novel application of a quasi-experimental shift-share IV (SSIV) research design, which leverages plausibly exogenous variation across facilities over time in how exposed inmates were to three different programs. I find that a cognitive-behavioral therapy program, *Changing Offender Behavior* (COB), reduced one-year reincarceration rates by 3.4 percentage points (↓14%) and that these impacts did not dissipate by the third year. I also find suggestive evidence that this program reduced new violent felonies within two years. Substance-use disorder treatment reduced reincarceration rates by 3.7 percentage points (↓15%) within the first year but dissipated thereafter. Heterogeneity analyses reveal that most of the COB program's recidivism effects were due to fewer new felonies, while the substance-use disorder treatment's shorter-term effects were entirely due to fewer technical violations.

Teaching Experience

Instructor, EC 301 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory, MSU	Spring '22
Instructor, EC 201 Introduction to Microeconomics, MSU	Fall '21
Instructor, MGSC 209 Introduction to Business Statistics, Chapman University	Spring '19
Instructor, MATH 109 Business Calculus, Chapman University	Fall '18 – Spring '19
Teaching Assistant, EC 330, Money and Banking, MSU	Spring '23
Teaching Assistant, EC 201, Intro. to Microeconomics, MSU	Fall '22
Teaching Assistant, EC 202, Intro. to Macroeconomics, MSU	Summer '23

Work Experience

Consultant, Resolution Economics LLC	Summer 2017-Spring 2018
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Fellowships and Awards

Criminal Justice Administrative Records System (CJARS) Fellow – U. of Michigan	2022
University Enrichment Fellowship - MSU	2019,2023
Early Start Research Fellowships – College of Social Science, MSU	Summer 2021,2020,2019

Professional Memberships and Conference Presentations

Memberships: Southern Economic Association

Presentations: Transatlantic Workshop on the Economics of Crime (TWEC) September 2025, Texas Economics of Crime Workshop (TxECW) April 2025, Virtual Economics of Crime (ViCE) Seminar Series April 2025, Southern Economic Association 2023 (Session Organizer), AEA Committee on the Status of LGBTQ+ Individuals in the Economics Profession 2023

Attendance: High Dimensional Inference Workshop MSU 2024, Southern Economic Association (Discussant) 2024, Transatlantic Workshop on the Economics of Crime (TWEC) 2023, CJARS Training Workshop 2023

Service

Professional Service

Session Organizer, Southern Economic Association Conference Fall 2023

University Service

College of Social Science, DEI Stakeholder Group	Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
Graduate Student Advisory Council (Chair)	Fall 2021 – Spring 2022
Graduate Student Advisory Council (Member)	Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

References

Stacy Dickert-Conlin

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