

Sergio Ernesto Barrera

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Office Address:

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Education:

Ph. D. Economics, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Department of Economics. Minneapolis MN
Committee: Mariacristina De Nardi, Jeremy Lise, Joseph Mullins, Abigail Wozniak, Joel Waldfogel
Thesis: Background, Beliefs and Economic Outcomes: How Family and Peers Relate to Beliefs, Early Pregnancy, Crime and Labor Market Outcomes.
May 2022

M.A Economics, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Department of Economics. Minneapolis MN
July 2020

B. A. Mathematics & Economics, Summa Cum Laude & Honors, University of Arizona. Tucson AZ
May 2016

A.A. Persian Farsi, Defense Language Institute. Monterey CA
July 2013

Professional and Research Activities:

Assistant Professor of Economics. Virginia Tech, Department of Economics. Blacksburg VA
August 2022-Current

Research Analyst. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. Minneapolis MN
June 2017-July 2022

Instructor. University of Minnesota, Department of Economics. Minneapolis MN
June 2021-July 2021

Teaching Assistant. University of Minnesota, Department of Economics. Minneapolis MN
August 2017-May 2020

Undergraduate Research Assistant. University of Arizona, Department of Economics. Tucson AZ
June 2015 - May 2016:

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant. University of Arizona, Department of Mathematics. Tucson AZ
January 2014 - May 2016

Cryptologic Linguist. United States Marine Corps, 2nd Radio Bn. Camp Lejeune. NC
August 2008 - August 2013

Published Work

Barrera Sergio, Brianna Felegi, and Sarina Heron. "Labor Market Shocks and Immigration Enforcement." *AEA Papers and Proceedings*. Forthcoming 2025

Ryan Olivia, Susan Sajadi, Sergio Barrera, and Reza Tavakoli. Understanding the Effects of a Math Placement Exam on Calculus 1 Enrollment and Engineering Persistence." *Education Sciences* 15(2)
January 2025

Barrera Sergio, Ferrara Andreas, Fishback Price, Heggeness Misty. "The Impact of World War II Army Service on Income and Mobility in the 1960s by Ethnoracial Group." NBER Working Paper 33382. Revise and Resubmit *Explorations in Economic History*

Barrera Sergio, Marionette Holmes, Sarah Jacobson, Susan Sajadi. "Valuing Identity in the Economics Classroom: What We Can Learn from STEM Education." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 38(3), Summer 2024.

Angrisani Marcos, Sergio Barrera, Luisa Blanco, Salvador Contreras. "The Racial/Ethnic Gap in Financial Literacy in the Population and by Income." *Contemporary Economic Policy*, September 2020.

Kahn Justine, Sergia Barrera, Randy Davila, Emily Roberts, et al. "An Investigation of Toxicities and Survival in Hispanic Children and Adolescents with ALL: Results from ALL Consortium Protocol 05-001." *Pediatric Blood and Cancer*, 2017.

Working Papers:

Barrera Sergio, Brianna Felegi, and Joaquin Rubalcaba. "Eliminating the Competition? Evidence from the Great Recession and 287(g) agreements."

Barrera Sergio. "Is College Worth it For Me? Beliefs, access to funding, and inequality in higher education."

Barrera Sergio. "The relationship between teen social environment and beliefs of own education, criminal justice, early parenthood, and mortality outcomes."

Barrera Sergio. "Exposure to the Military and Later Life Outcomes."

Internal and External Grants

SOS Research Grant. Virginia Department of Veterans Services. Grant Value: \$245,000. PI
July 2023-December 2025

Faculty Mentoring Grant. Virginia Tech. Grant Value: \$1,500. PI.
March 2023

Institute for Society Culture and Environment Award, Virginia Tech. Grant Value: \$5,323.25. PI
February 2023

Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science FY23 EFO-O Seed Grant Award, Virginia Tech with Susan Sajada. Blacksburg VA. Grant Value: \$10,000. Co-PI under PI-Susan Sajadi, Department of Engineering, Virginia Tech.
October 2022

Seminars, Conferences and Events:

Allied Social Sciences Association 2025. Paper Presented: "Labor Market Shocks and Immigration Enforcement." San Francisco, CA
January 2022:

Southern Economic Association Meeting 2024. Paper Presented: "Exposure to the Military and Later Life Outcomes." Washington, DC
November 2021

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management 2024. Paper Presented: "Labor Market Shocks and Immigration Enforcement." National Harbor, MD
November 2021

NBER The Economic Impacts of World War II. Paper Presented: ““The Impact of World War II Army Service on Income and Mobility in the 1960s by Ethnoracial Group.” Cambridge MA
April 2024

NBER CRIW Race, Ethnicity, and Economic Statistics for the 21st Century. Discussant: “Ethnic Identity and Anti-Immigrant Sentiment: Evidence from Proposition 187.” Authors: Francisca Antman and Brian Duncan.” Alexandria Virginia
March 2024

Federal Statistical Research Data Center Annual Research Conference, Federal Reserve Board of Governors. Paper Presented: “The relationship between teen social environment and beliefs of own education, criminal justice, early parenthood, and mortality outcomes.” Washington DC
September 2023

TeachECONference, Center for Teaching and Learning Economics. Paper Presented: “Valuing Identity in the Economics Classroom: What We Can Learn from STEM Education.” Virtual
June 2023

Diversity Initiatives for Tenure in Economics Winter/Spring Meeting 2023. Paper Presented: “The relationship between teen social environment and beliefs of own education, criminal justice, early parenthood, and mortality outcomes.” Washington DC
March 2023

Diversity Initiatives for Tenure in Economics Workshop 2022. Paper Presented: “Learning from Your Environment: Do social networks predict beliefs and outcomes of teenage youth?” Durham NC.
August 2022:

Allied Social Sciences Association 2022. Paper Presented: “Is College Worth it For Me? Beliefs, access to funding, and inequality in higher education.” Virtual
January 2022:

Southern Economic Association Meeting 2021. Paper Presented: “Is College Worth it For Me? Beliefs, access to funding, and inequality in higher education.” Houston TX
November 2021

AEA Summer Mentoring Pipeline Conference. Presenter: Paper Presented: “Is College Worth it For Me? Beliefs, access to funding, and inequality in higher education.” Virtual
July 2021

Economy of Francesco: C02 of Inequalities Village. Virtual
November 2020

Tobin Project’s Inequality and Decision-Making Graduate Student Workshop. Virtual
October 2020

Participant of Economics & Catholic Social Thought: A Primer. Lumen Christi Institute and Catholic Research Economist Discussion Organization. Jerusalem Israel
June 2019

Midwest Economic Association. Presenter. Paper Presented: “Is College Worth it For Me? Beliefs, access to funding, and inequality in higher education.” St Louis, MO
March 2019

Participant of Harvard Summer Research Program in Biostatistics and Computational Biology. Harvard University, T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Boston MA.
Summer 2015

Referee Experience:

Explorations in Economic History. Editor: Price Fishback
Summer 2024

Economic Modeling. Editor: Sudipta Sarangi
Fall 2023.

Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization. Editor: Sudipta Sarangi
Spring-Fall 2023.

China Economic Review. Editor: Suqin Ge
Spring 2022.

Review of Economic Dynamics. Editor: Mariacristina DeNardi, Todd Schoellman
Fall 2019 & 2024

Economic Inquiry. Editor: Abigail Wozniak
Fall 2019.

Honors and Fellowships:

American Society of Hispanic Economists Dissertation Award. Allied Social Science Association. New Orleans LA
January 2023

Diversity Initiative for Tenure in Economics Fellow. Samuel Dubois Cook Center on Social Equity, Duke University. Durham NC
August 2022-Spring 2023

Review of Economics and Statistics NBER Summer Institute Fellowship. Cambridge MA
Summer 2022

Tobin Project's Inequality and Decision-Making Graduate Student Fellowship. Virtual
Fall 2020

Beverly and Richard Fink Summer Research Fellowship. University of Minnesota Twin Cities. Minneapolis MN
Summer 2017-Summer 2020

Diversity of Views and Experiences Fellowship. University of Minnesota Twin Cities. Minneapolis MN.
Fall 2016

Outstanding Graduating Senior. University of Arizona, Department of Economics. Tucson AZ
April 2016

Outstanding Senior Award. University of Arizona, Department of Mathematics. Tucson AZ
April 2016

Martin L. Reff Award. Reffonomics.com, University of Arizona. Tucson AZ
January 2014

Certificate of Commendation. United States Marine Corps, 2d Radio BN, Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan
January 2012

Outreach and Service

College of Science IDEA Committee. Virginia Tech. Blacksburg VA
Fall 2023-Present

Graduate Committee. Virginia Tech, Department of Economics. Blacksburg VA
Fall 2024-Present

Mentor: Association for Mentoring and Inclusion in Economics. Boston University. Boston MA
Fall 2023-Spring 2024

Diversity Advocate and Chair: Applied Microeconomists Search Committee. Virginia Tech, Department of Economics. Blacksburg VA
Fall 2023-Spring 2024

Hispanic Superstar and Judge for Familia Presentations. Hispanic College Institute. Virginia Tech. Blacksburg VA
July 2023

Grant Reviewer. Blacksburg VA. CSWEP-SSRC Women in Economics and Mathematics Research Consortium Grant, Social Science Research Council. New York City NY
June 2023

Financial Feasibility Working Group of Access and Affordability Initiative. Virginia Tech. Blacksburg VA
Spring 2023

Applied Microeconomist Search Committee. Virginia Tech, Department of Economics. Blacksburg VA
Fall 2022-Spring 2023:

Undergraduate Committee. Virginia Tech, Department of Economics. Blacksburg VA
August 2002-Spring 2024

Presentation on "Impact of the Minimum Wage." Virginia Latino/Latinx Advocacy Board. Blacksburg VA.
August 2022

Volunteer, translator, and English Instructor: Afghan Refugee Resettlement. Catholic Charities La Crosse. Ft McCoy WI
August 2021-January 2022:

Mentor and Tutor, Family Mentorship Partnership. Ascension Catholic School and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. Minneapolis MN
January 2021-May 2021

Spanish Translator and Interpreter. Christo Rey Jesuit High School. Minneapolis MN
Fall 2020: Spring 2022

Coordinator of C02 of Inequalities Village. Research and Publications Pillar, Economy of Francesco. Virtual
April 2020-September 2021:

Social Justice Committee Member. Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. Minneapolis MN
Fall 2019

Mathematics Spanish Language Tutor. St. John Paul II Catholic School, Catholic Tutor Corps. Minneapolis MN
Fall 2018-Spring 2022

Other Qualifications:

Special Sworn Status. US Census Bureau, Georgetown University Federal Research Data Center
Spring 2020-Present

Top Secret SCI Security Clearance. 2d Radio Bn, United States Marine Corps
Winter 2009-August 2013

Citizenship: USA

Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Native), Persian/Farsi (Fluent), Baluchi (Conversational).

Computer Programming: Stata, R, Python, Julia, ArcGIS