

VEDANT KOPPERA

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EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA
Ph.D. in Economics June 2016
Fields: Labor Economics and Econometrics

University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA
M.A. in Economics Dec 2010

The George Washington University Washington, DC
B.S. in Economics May 2005

WORK EXPERIENCE

Deloitte Transactions and Business Analytics LLP Chicago, IL
Senior Consultant Oct 2016-present
I am currently using my quantitative and qualitative skills on a complex model validation project.

Intellectual Capital Advisory Services Hyderabad, India
Associate Oct 2007-Sep 2008
I served as a primary researcher on a project studying water and sanitation services in India. My responsibilities included conducting interviews and site-visits with companies and non-profit organizations. I also assisted in writing a final report.

New Economy Strategies Washington, DC
Project Manager Sep 2005-Aug 2007
My role with NES was to conduct qualitative and quantitative research and develop policy recommendations for state and local governments. My responsibilities included presenting findings to clients, writing reports, and developing new business.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA
Ph.D. Student/Candidate Sept 2009-June 2016
My dissertation examines intergenerational mobility, occupational choice, and overeducation. Doctoral coursework included numerical methods and Bayesian econometrics.

Broom Center for Demography Santa Barbara, CA
Graduate Associate Sept 2013-June 2016
This position has given me the opportunity to attend an interdisciplinary seminar series, participate and present in the Broom Lab Lunch, and take Broom Center mini-courses on topics such as web scraping and ArcGIS.

University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA
Research Assistant for Dr. Aashish Mehta Dec 2011-Sep 2014
My key responsibilities included obtaining and analyzing data, writing programs to estimate wage premiums, implementing employment and wage decompositions, and preparing a working paper.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA
Head Teaching Assistant April 2014-June 2015
Served as Head TA for Introductory Macroeconomics, a class with between 500-700 students. I helped design the course syllabus and website, developed assignments, drafted exams, and calculated grades. I also helped manage the other 5-7 teaching assistants.

University of California, Santa Barbara Santa Barbara, CA
Teaching Assistant Sep 2009-Dec 2014
Courses taught: Introductory Microeconomics, Introductory Macroeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Development Economics, and Introductory Probability & Statistics.

WORKING PAPERS

[Racial Trends and Differences in the Intergenerational Transmission of Education](#)

I present estimates of the intergenerational transmission of education in the United States between 1980 and 2013. I find that intergenerational persistence in education has increased substantially among blacks in recent years while remaining stable among whites and Hispanics. This trend is using data from both the Panel Study of Income Dynamics and the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth. Much of the increase in educational persistence among blacks is due to a decrease in upward mobility. The increase in black educational persistence is found in both two-parent and single-parent households. I do not find similar trends and differences when estimating intergenerational income mobility.

[Overeducation in the U.S. During the Great Recession](#)

I use the method introduced by Gottschalk and Hansen (2003) to analyze the rate of overeducation among workers with exactly a college degree between 2006 and 2013. To my knowledge, this is the first study to use this method to analyze trends in overeducation during the great recession in the U.S. I find that the proportion of workers with exactly a college degree working in occupations offering low college premiums increased during great recession and fell afterwards. An increase in the rate in overeducation could be due to more college-educated workers working in noncollege occupations that were noncollege in the past or because there was an increase in the number of noncollege occupations. I show that changes in the rate of overeducation are mostly due mostly to the latter. When shutting the down the flexibility for occupations to change from college to noncollege (and vice versa), the rate of overeducation increases only slightly between 2006 and 2013. Regardless, these findings run contrary to the secular decline of the rate of overeducation during the end of 20th century documented by previous research.

[Gendered Employment Trends and the Female College Boom](#) (with Aashish Mehta)

We ask whether shifting male and female employment patterns can help to explain why the US college boom between 1981 and 2005 was dominated by women. We show that while a massive feminization of high-wage, high-skill occupations plausibly contributed to the female college boom, general, structural movements of labor (undifferentiated by gender) from industrial work into education-intensive services should have encouraged male college attendance. Previous work has suggested that both types of employment shifts would have contributed to the female college boom. Second, we show that women's occupational upgrading was too large and ubiquitous to be explained by their growing educational advantage. This is consistent with a causal connection running from gendered employment trends to a female college boom. Third, we show that gender specializations in many occupations deepened, with college educated women gravitating towards jobs offering institutionally protected wages.

WORK IN PROGRESS

[Characterizing Measurement Error in Education using Panel Data](#)

PRESENTATIONS

IMPAQ International	2016
U.S. Census Bureau	2016
All-California Labor Economics Conference (Poster Presentation)	2014
Southern Economic Association Annual Meetings	2014
Research Committee on Social Stratification RC28 Conference	2013
All-California Labor Economics Conference (Poster Presentation)	2013
The Santa Barbara Global Studies Conference	2013
Barcelona LeeX Experimental Economics Summer School in Macroeconomics	2011

SKILLS

Programs: Stata, R, Matlab, SAS, Excel, Word, PowerPoint
 Languages: English (native), Spanish (intermediate)

REFERENCES

Peter Kuhn (chair)

Professor

Department of Economics

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Shelly Lundberg

Leonard Broom Professor of Demography

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Heather Royer

Associate Professor

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Aashish Mehta

Associate Professor

Global & International Studies Program

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

U.S. Citizen

GRE: 800Q, 640V, 5.0W