

James M Sears

CONTACT INFORMATION	1784 Alvarado Ave Walnut Creek, CA 94597 USA	<i>Phone:</i> (925) 451-6838 <i>E-mail:</i> james.sears@berkeley.edu
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Environmental and resource economics; applied microeconometrics; public finance; behavioral decision-making under uncertainty; machine learning and matching for causal inference; policy design and impact evaluation	
EDUCATION	University of California, Berkeley , Berkeley, California USA Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics (Expected May 2022) Fields: Environmental and Energy Economics (Major), Public Finance (Minor) Montana State University , Bozeman, Montana USA M.S., Applied Economics (May 2016) Thesis: “A Reputation for the Good Stuff: User Feedback Signaling and the Deep Web Market Silk Road” Advisor: Dr. D. Mark Anderson University of California, Davis , Davis, California USA B.S., Managerial Economics (June 2013)	
HONORS AND AWARDS	Outstanding GSI Award, UC Berkeley (2020); Cheit Outstanding GSI Award, Haas School of Business (2017); Mildred Livingston Presidential Award, Montana State University; Departmental Citation Award, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, UC Davis; Integrated Studies Honors Program, UC Davis; Regents Scholar, UC Davis;	
RESEARCH	<i>Under Review</i> Tree-based Matching on Structural Equation Model Parameters With Sarfaraz Serang Are we #stayinghome to Flatten the Curve? With Sofia Villas-Boas, Miguel Villas-Boas, and Vasco Villas-Boas <i>Publications</i> Describing the users: Understanding adoption of and interest in shared, electrified, and automated transportation in the San Francisco Bay Area with C. Anna Spurlock, Gabrielle Wong-Parodi, Victor Walker, Ling Jin, Margaret Taylor, Andrew Duvall, Anand R. Gopal, and Annika Todd Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment. 2019. Vol 71, 283-301 <i>Papers in Preparation</i> Culpable Consumption: Social Pressure and Excessive Water Use Food for Thought: How Food Banks Mitigate the SNAP Benefit Cycle A Reputation For the Good Stuff: User Feedback Signaling and the Deep Web Market Silk Road	
REFEREEING	American Journal of Health Economics, Economic Inquiry	

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

Instructor

EEP C118 UC Berkeley, Summer 2019
Introduction to Applied Econometrics, Environmental Economics and Policy

Graduate Student Instructor

EW MBA 200S UC Berkeley, Fall 2020

Data and Decisions, Haas Evening MBA Program
Instructor: Dr. Maximilian Auffhammer

EEP C118 UC Berkeley, Spring 2020

Introduction to Applied Econometrics, Environmental Economics and Policy
Instructor: Dr. Sofia Villas-Berto

EW MBA 201A UC Berkeley, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2019

Economics for Business Decision Making, Haas Executive Weekend MBA Program

Instructor: Dr. Maximilian Auffhammer (Fall 2016-2017), Dr. James Sallee (Fall 2019)

EMBA 201A UC Berkeley, Summer 2017

Economics for Business Decision Making, Haas Executive MBA Program

Instructor: Dr. Catherine Wolfram

IAS 106 UC Berkeley, Spring 2017

Intermediate Microeconomic Theory, Department of International and Area Studies

Instructor: Dr. Maximilian Auffhammer

Graduate Research Assistant

WholeTraveler Transportation Behavior Study Lawrence Berkeley National Lab,
August 2015 - May 2016

Composition of datasets from historical documents.

Dr. D. Mark Anderson Montana State, August 2015 - May 2016

Composition of datasets from historical documents.

Dr. Eric Belasco Montana State, August 2014 - May 2016

Reviews of literature: empirical methods for contingent valuation, climate variable specification in crop insurance applications.

Dr. Timothy Fitzgerald Montana State, August 2014 - June 2015

Writing data appendices, collaborating on estimation methodology, communicating with government agencies, acquiring data from government agencies and private data providers, string matching. Focus on oil and natural gas production, pricing, and lease data.

PAPERS IN
PREPARATION

Sears, J.M. "Culpable Consumption: Public Shame and Excessive Water Use" 2017.

Sears, J.M. "A Reputation for the Good Stuff: User Feedback Signaling and the Deep Web Market Silk Road." 2016.

Brown, J., T. Fitzgerald, J.G. Weber, and J.M. Sears. "Regional Windfalls or Beverly Hillbillies? Local and Absentee Ownership of Oil and Gas Royalties." Prepared for the 62nd Annual North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International, Portland, OR. 2015.

LANGUAGES

- English: native tongue
- Italian: professional fluency
- Spanish: elementary proficiency

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Statistical Packages: strong STATA proficiency (string matching, dataset composition, and estimation/figure production) and R (manipulating and mapping spatial data, simulation, producing figures), some experience with SAS, Matlab

- Languages: basic programming in Python, C++, Microsoft Visual Basic
- Applications: L^AT_EX, Illustrator, common Windows and Mac database, spreadsheet, and presentation software