BENJAMIN TARASKEVICH

University of Connecticut | Department of Economics
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Connecticut — May 2027 (expected)

M.A. in Economics, University of Connecticut — 2025

B.Sc. in Finance and Economics, Central Connecticut State University — 2010

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Public Policy

JOB MARKET PAPER

Medicaid Expansion and Dementia in Nursing Home Admissions

This paper examines whether Medicaid expansion following implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) causes an increase in the proportion of people admitted to nursing homes who have Alzheimer's disease or dementia using a difference-in-differences model and data from the American Community Survey (ACS), the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), and LTCFocus. This proportion is found to increase by 0.749 percentage points or 2.72 percent in response to Medicaid expansion, based on conditional difference-in-difference estimation with staggered implementation.

WORKING PAPERS

The Residential Location of Older Americans with Dementia: Co-Morbidities, Finances, and Kinship Networks with Kenneth A. Couch
(In preparation for journal submission)

This analysis makes use of Health and Retirement Study (HRS) data to examine characteristics of older Americans with dementia and their mode of residence. The association of dementia and other measures considered in the study with residence in a formal care setting is explored with linear probability models that show a diagnosis of dementia. The number of helpers last month, and the number of Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) performed with difficulty are most predictive of residence in a formal care setting.

"The Right to Read": Evaluation of Science of Reading-Aligned Curriculum Implementation in Connecticut with Kristin Rainville, Katie Cunningham, and Jinhai Yu (Research report in progress)

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Connecticut Fall 2025
Research Assistant, Dr. Jinhai Yu

- Kristin Rainville, Katie Cunningham, Jinhai Yu, Benjamin Taraskevich, 2026. "The Right to Read": Evaluation of Science of Reading-Aligned Curriculum Implementation in Connecticut, Center for Connecticut Education Research

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Southern Economic Association Conference 2025

- "The Residential Location of Older Americans with Dementia: Co-Morbidities, Finances, and Kinship Networks." Family Economics session

HONORS AND AWARDS

Eleanor Bloom Summer Fellowship in Economics 2026
CLAS Summer Fellowship in Economics 2025
Eleanor Bloom Summer Fellowship in Economics 2024
Eleanor Bloom Summer Fellowship in Economics 2023
Eleanor Bloom Summer Fellowship in Economics 2022
Economics Department General Scholarship 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Connecticut Spring 2024 to Fall 2024
Instructor of Record

- Econ 1201: Principles of Microeconomics (instructor rating: 3/5) Fall 2024
- Econ 2500W: Writing in Economics (instructor rating: 5/5) Spring 2024

University of Connecticut Fall 2019 to Fall 2023
Teaching Assistant

- Econ 3438W: Contemporary Problems in Economics Fall 2023
- PP 5331: Quantitative Methods for Public Policy Spring 2023
- PP 5375: Economic Analysis for Public Policy and Management Spring 2023
- PP 5375: Economic Analysis for Public Policy and Management Fall 2022
- PP 5370: Applied Research Design Fall 2022
- PP 5331: Quantitative Methods for Public Policy Spring 2022
- PP 5375: Economic Analysis for Public Policy and Management Fall 2021
- PP 5370: Applied Research Design Fall 2021
- PP 5347/5350: Applied Policy Issues/Urban and Regional Policy Fall 2021

- PP 5331: Quantitative Methods for Public Policy — Spring 2021
- PP 5375: Economic Analysis for Public Policy and Management — Spring 2021
- PP 5375: Economic Analysis for Public Policy and Management — Fall 2020
- PP 5370: Applied Research Design — Fall 2020
- Econ 1201: Principles of Microeconomics — Spring 2020
- Econ 1201: Principles of Microeconomics — Fall 2019

University of Connecticut — Fall 2019
Tutor

Central Connecticut State University — Fall 2007 to Spring 2008
Tutor

SKILLS

Languages: English (native)

Software: EViews, LaTeX, MATLAB, Python, R, Stata

OTHER

Citizenship: United States

REFERENCES

Dr. Kenneth Couch, Professor (Major Advisor)
Department of Economics
University of Connecticut
325 Herbst Hall
365 Fairfield Way, U-1063
Storrs, CT 06269
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Dr. Delia Furtado, Professor (Associate Advisor)
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Dr. Patricia I. Ritter, Associate Professor in Residence (Associate Advisor)
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