

Erik Nesson

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Employment and Affiliations

Chair, Department of Economics, Wake Forest University	2026-Present
FM Kirby Family Faculty Fellow, Wake Forest University	2025-Present
Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Wake Forest University	2023-Present
Associate Chair, Department of Economics, Wake Forest University	2025-2026
Chair, Department of Economics, Ball State University	2022-2023
Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Ball State University	2018-2023
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Ball State University	2012-2018
Faculty Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research	2021-Present
Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research	2019-2021

Education

Ph.D., Economics, Emory University	2012
M.A., Economics, Emory University	2011
B.B.A.,B.S., Finance and Economics, University of Wisconsin Madison	2004

Journal Publications

1. “The Effects of E-Cigarette and Cigarette Policies on Queer Youth,” with Anthony Chuo, Chad Cotti, Charles J. Courtemanche, Johanna Catherine Maclean, and Joseph J. Sabia. 2026. Journal of Health Economics 107(May)103116
2. “Standardizing the Measurement of E-cigarette Tax Rates in the United States, 2010-2023,” with Chad Cotti, Michael Pesko, and Serena Phillips. 2026. Tobacco Control 35 (2), 173-178
3. “The Effect of E-Cigarette Flavor Bans on Tobacco Use,” with Chad Cotti, Charles J. Courtemanche, Yang Liang, Johanna Catherine Maclean, and Joseph J. Sabia. 2025. Journal of Health Economics (99)8 103013
4. “The Effects of Tobacco 21 Laws on Smoking and Vaping: Evidence from Panel Data and Biomarkers,” with Chad Cotti and Philip DeCicca. 2024. Journal of Health Economics (98)12 102932
5. “The Hot Hand in the NBA 3-Point Contest: The Importance of Location, Location, Location,” with Robert Lantis. 2024. Journal of Sports Economics 25(3) 283–321
6. “Rockefellers and Goldwaters? The Effect of Compulsory Schooling on Voting Preferences,” with Philip DeCicca and Harry Krashinsky. 2023. Economics of Education Review (96)10 p.102431.
7. “Standardizing the Measurement of E-cigarette Taxes in the USA, 2010-2020,” with Chad Cotti, Michael Pesko, Serena Phillips, and Nathan Tefft. 2023. Tobacco Control 32:e251–e254

8. "The Effects of E-Cigarette Taxes on E-Cigarette Prices and Tobacco Product Sales: Evidence from Retail Panel Data," with Chad Cotti, Charles Courtemanche, Catherine Maclean, Michael Pesko, and Nathan Tefft. 2022. Journal of Health Economics, 86(December):1-22
9. "The Effects of False Identification Laws on Underage Alcohol-Related Traffic Fatalities," with Vinish Shrestha. 2021. Health Economics, (30)9: 2264-2283
10. "Hot Shots: An Analysis of the 'Hot Hand' in NBA Field Goal and Free Throw Shooting," with Robert Lantis. 2021. Journal of Sports Economics, (22)6: 639-677
11. "The Relationship between In-Person Voting and COVID-19: Evidence from the Wisconsin Primary," with Chad Cotti, Bryan Engelhardt, Joshua Foster, and Paul Niekamp. 2021. Contemporary Economic Policy, (39)4: 760-777
12. "The Association Between Mobile Phones and the Risk of Brain Cancer Mortality: A 25-year Cross-country Analysis," with Hugo Mialon. 2020. Contemporary Economic Policy, (38)2: 258-269
13. "On the Measurement of Health and Its Effect on the Measurement of Health Inequality," with Joshua J. Robinson. 2019. Economics & Human Biology, 34(12): 207-221
14. "The Effects of Employment on Influenza Rates," with Sara Markowitz and Joshua J. Robinson. 2019. Economics & Human Biology, 34(8): 286-295
15. "Do Pimples Pay? Acne, Human Capital, and the Labor Market," with Hugo Mialon. 2019. Journal of Human Capital, 13(1): 39-55.
16. "Impacts of the ACA Medicaid Expansion on Health Behaviors: Evidence from Household Panel Data," with Chad Cotti and Nathan Tefft. 2019. Health Economics, 28(2): 219-244.
17. "Looking Down the Barrel of a Loaded Gun: The Effect of Mandatory Handgun Purchase Delays on Homicide and Suicide," with Griffin Edwards, Joshua J. Robinson, and Frederick Vars. 2018. The Economic Journal, 128(616): 3117-3140.
18. "The Relationship between Cigarettes and Electronic Cigarettes: Evidence from Household Panel Data," with Chad Cotti and Nathan Tefft. 2018. Journal of Health Economics, 61(September): 205-219.
19. "Stock Prices and Inflation Hedged Firms," with Kris Kemper and Kevin Gatzlaff. 2018. Applied Economics Letters, 25(20): 1454-1457.
20. "Interaction Terms in Poisson and Log Linear Regression Models," with Shengwu Shang and Maoyong Fan. 2018. Bulletin of Economic Research, 70(1): E89-E96.
21. "The Impact of Tobacco Control Policies on Adolescent Smoking: Comparing Self-Reports and Biomarkers." 2017. American Journal of Health Economics, 3(4) 507-527.
22. "Heterogeneity in Smokers' Responses to Tobacco Control Policies." 2017. Health Economics, 26(2): 206-225.
23. "The Effects of Tobacco Control Policies on Tobacco Products, Tar, and Nicotine Purchases among Adults: Evidence from Household Panel Data," with Chad Cotti and Nathan Tefft. 2016. American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, 8(4): 103-123.
24. "Crystal Clear? The Relationship between Methamphetamine Consumption and Sexually Transmitted Infections," with Hugo Mialon and Michael Samuel. 2016. Health Economics, 25(3): 292-313.

25. “An Information Theory Based Framework for the Measurement of Population Health,” with Joshua Robinson. 2015. Economics & Human Biology, 17(4): 86-103.
26. “Estimating the Relationship Between Alcohol Policies and Criminal Violence and Victimization,” with Sara Markowitz, Eileen Poe-Yamagata, Curtis Florence, Tracy Roberts and Sarah Beth Link. 2012. German Economic Review, 13(4): 416-435.

Other Publications

1. “Hot Hands in the Home Run Derby,” with Robert Lantis. 2025. American Behavioral Scientist
2. “Does Pressure Affect Performance? An Evaluation of the Yerkes-Dodson Hypothesis with NCAA Basketball Performance and a Continuous Measure of Pressure to Win,” with Dylan Blechner, Wayne Grove, Robert Lantis, and Shane Sanders. 2025. American Behavioral Scientist
3. “How does Stakes-Based Pressure Affect Performance? A Literature Review of the Yerkes-Dodson Hypothesis in Sport and other Labor Settings,” with Wayne Grove, Robert Lantis, and Shane Sanders. 2025. American Behavioral Scientist
4. “Innovations in Evaluating Statin Benefit and Efficacy in Staphylococcus aureus Intracellular Infection Management,” with Sue McDowell. 2022. International Journal of Molecular Sciences, 13006
5. “The Dark and the Light: Investigating the Impact of Social Media Addiction and Attachment on Student Performance,” with Kesha Coker and Rebecca VanMeter-Brown. 2020. Journal of the Academy of Business Administration (21) p.69
6. “Don’t Just ‘Like’ Me, Promote Me: How Attachment and Attitude Influence Brand-Related Behaviors on Social Media,” with Rebecca VanMeter-Brown, Holly Syrdal, Susan Powell-Mantel, and Douglas Grisaffe. 2018. Journal of Interactive Marketing, 43(August): 83-97.
7. “The Economics of Smoking Prevention,” with Philip DeCicca, Donald Kenkel and Michael Lovenheim. 2018. In Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance
8. “Tobacco Control Policies and Smokers’ Responses,” with Philip DeCicca. 2019. In The Neuroscience Of Nicotine: Mechanisms And Treatment
9. “Directions in the Economics of Smoking,” with Philip DeCicca, Donald Kenkel, and Michael Lovenheim. 2017. ASHEcon Newsletter

Working Papers

“Nicotine Vaping and Mental Health: New Evidence from ENDS Regulations,” with Chad Cotti, Tessie Krishna, Johanna Catherine Maclean, and Joseph J. Sabia (Revise and Resubmit)

“Do Informal Social Markets and Online Sellers Help Youths to Avoid E-Cigarette Taxation?” with Chad Cotti, Dhaval Dave, Tessie Krishna, and Joseph J. Sabia (Revise and Resubmit)

“Education and Gender Voting Polarization: The Effect of Compulsory Schooling on Sex-Based Preferences for the Democratic and Republican Parties,” with Philip DeCicca and Harry Krashinsky

Works in Progress

“Is the Anxious Generation Vaping, or is the Vaping Generation Anxious?” with Chad Cotti, Tessie Krishna, Johanna Catherine Maclean, and Joseph J. Sabia

“The Effects of Education on Long-Run Mortality: New Evidence from Compulsory Schooling Laws,” with Philip DeCicca and Harry Krashinsky

“Tobacco Control Policies, Vaping, and Smoking: Evidence from Self-Reports and Biomarkers,” with Chad Cotti, Johanna Catherine Maclean, and Joseph J. Sabia

“Under Pressure: The Effects of Added Incentives on NCAA Shooting Performance,” with Wayne Grove, Robert Lantis, and Shane Sanders

“The Effect of COVID-19 Diagnoses on NBA Player Performance,” with Wayne Grove, Robert Lantis, and Kacper Piekarek

“Big Shots on Campus: Examining the Hot Hand in NCAA Men’s Basketball,” with Robert Lantis

Presentations

- 2026.** American Society of Health Economists Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- 2025.** CINCH Economics of Mental Health Workshop, University of Virginia
American Society of Health Economists Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN
- 2024.** American Society of Health Economists Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
Triangle Health Economics Workshop, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2022.** American Society of Health Economists Annual Meeting, Austin, TX
- 2019.** American Society of Health Economists Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
- 2018.** The Ohio State University
- 2017.** International Health Economics Association Boston 2017 Congress, Boston, MA
Midwestern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, OH
- 2016.** American Society of Health Economists Biannual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
Xavier University (Invited)
Midwestern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Evanston, IL
- 2015.** Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
NBER Health Economics Spring Program Meeting, Cambridge, MA
Midwestern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN
Indiana University Purdue University - Indianapolis (Invited)
- 2014.** Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
American Society of Health Economists Biannual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA
Midwestern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Evanston, IL
- 2013.** Midwestern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Columbus, OH

- 2012.** Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
American Society of Health Economists Biannual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011.** Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
APPAM Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
Illinois Economic Association Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL

Grants

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2014
“Developing and Applying New Methods to the Measurement of Health Inequality”
(with Joshua J. Robinson), Amount Funded: \$357,689

Teaching

Principles of Microeconomics, Business Statistics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Health Economics, Law and Economics

Scholarships and Awards

Miller College of Business Outstanding Service Award	2022
Miller College of Business Outstanding Research Award	2019
Miller College of Business Outstanding Teaching Award	2018
Miller College of Business Outstanding Teaching Award	2017
Miller College of Business Outstanding Year Award	2016
Miller College of Business Outstanding Service Award Nominee	2016
Miller College of Business Outstanding Teaching Award Nominee	2015
Miller College of Business Outstanding Teaching Award Nominee	2014
Emory University Department of Economics Graduate Student Teaching Award	2012
Emory University Department of Economics Graduate Student Research Award	2012
First Place in Illinois Economic Association Ph.D. Student Paper Competition	2011
Dissertation Research Grant, Emory University Graduate School	2010
Emory University Arts and Sciences Fellowship	2007-2012

Service

Professional Activities

Member, American Economic Association
Member, American Society of Health Economists/iHEA
Member, Southern Economic Association
Member, Midwestern Economic Association

Journal Refereeing

Review of Economics and Statistics, American Economic Journal - Economic Policy, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Health Economics, Health Economics, American Journal of Health Economics, European Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Economic Inquiry, Southern Economic Journal, Economics and Human Biology, Applied Economics, Contemporary Economic Policy, Public Finance Review, National Tax Journal, Canadian Journal of Economics, Eastern Economic Journal, Economica, Education Economics, Tobacco Control, Nicotine and Tobacco Research, Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics, PLOS One, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, Social Science

Journal, BMC Public Health, Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment, Advances in Public Health

Significant University-Level Service

Member, Ball State University Advisory Council on Scholarship	2019-2023
Member, Ball State University Research Committee	2018-2020
Member, Ball State University Assessment Committee	2018-2020
Member, Ball State University Senate	2014-2016
Member, Ball State Faculty Council	2014-2016
Member, Ball State Faculty Governance and Elections Committee	2014-2016
Member, Ball State Senate Finance and Budgetary Affairs Committee	2014-2016
Member, Ball State University Demographic/Labor Market Projections Working Group	2018

Advising

Honors Thesis Adviser: Sasha Skinner and Minxing Liu (2026), Honors Thesis Adviser: Aman Khemlani (2024), Dawn Zhong (2024), Ryan Hollingsworth (2023), Amy Wyse (2023), Hannah Pitzer (2022), Briana Kesler (2022), Lena Hayes (2022), Samuel Kinghorn (2021), Haley Elgin (2020), Rebecca Conrad (2020), Riley Liechty (2020), Grace McLain (2019), Rebecca Cooper and KateLin Doyle (2018), Shelby Leichty (2015), Cassandra Dehning (2014), Sean Ratkus (2014), Christopher Rosene (2013)

Other Experience

Analyst , NERA Economic Consulting (New York City, NY)	2004-2007
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