

Traviss Cassidy

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Employment

University of Alabama, Department of Economics, Finance, and Legal Studies
Assistant Professor, August 2018–present

Education

Ph.D. Economics, University of Michigan, 2018
M.A. Economics, University of Michigan, 2015
M.A. Economics, Duke University, 2011
B.S.F.S. International Political Economy, Georgetown University, 2009

Research

Research Interests: Public Finance, Development, Political Economy

Published Papers

1. “Government Fragmentation and Economic Growth” (with Tejaswi Velayudhan), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, forthcoming.
2. “Revenue Persistence and Public Service Delivery,” *Economic Journal*, 135 (670): 2017–2053, 2025.
3. “The Introduction of the Income Tax, Fiscal Capacity, and Migration: Evidence from U.S. States” (with Mark Dincecco and Ugo Troiano), *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 16 (1): 359–393, 2024.
4. “The Long-Run Effects of Oil Wealth on Development: Evidence from Petroleum Geology,” *Economic Journal* 129 (623): 2745–2778, 2019.
5. “Old and Young Politicians” (with Alberto Alesina and Ugo Troiano), *Economica* 86 (344): 689–727, 2019.

Working Papers

6. “Resource Extraction, Revenue Sharing, and Growth” (with Margaret E. Brehm, Paul A. Brehm, and Alecia Cassidy), revise and resubmit, *Journal of Development Economics*
7. “Decentralization and Development” (with Nurina Merdikawati and Tejaswi Velayudhan)
8. “The Economic Legacy of Warfare: Evidence from European Regions” (with Mark Dincecco and Massimiliano Gaetano Onorato)

Awards

Michael J. Moore Dissertation Prize for best paper in applied microeconomics, U-M, 2017
Top 10 Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Economics, U-M, fall 2014, winter 2016, fall 2016
Highest distinction, econometrics field exam, University of Michigan, 2014
Highest distinction, macroeconomics preliminary exam, University of Michigan, 2013

Grants and Fellowships

Rackham One-Term Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2018
William Haber Graduate Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2017
Rackham Summer Award, University of Michigan, 2017
Library Data Grant, University of Michigan, 2017
Graduate Research Award, University of Michigan, 2016, 2017
Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, University of Michigan, 2016

Presentations

2025: Pacific Conference for Development Economics, UC Irvine, National Tax Association Annual Conference
2024: Utah Public Finance Invitational, International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress, National Tax Association Annual Conference
2023: Development Economics in the South Workshop, National Tax Association Annual Conference
2022: Florida State University, Utah Tax Invitational, International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress
2021: Middle Tennessee State University
2020: International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress, National Tax Association Annual Conference
2019: Oberlin College, IEB VIII Workshop on Public Economics, Utah Tax Invitational, International Institute of Public Finance Annual Congress
2018: George Washington University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Wyoming, Florida International University, University of Alabama, Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting
2017: National Tax Association Annual Conference, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Development Day (Northwestern University), U.S. Department of the Treasury
2016: Midwest Economic Association Annual Meeting, Midwest International Economic Development Conference, Michigan Tax Invitational, National Tax Association Annual Conference

Referee Service

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Economic Modelling, Economica, Economics and Politics, European Journal of Law and Economics, European Journal of Political Economy, Humanities and Social Science Communications, International Tax and Public Finance, Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Economic History, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of Public Economics, Mineral Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Southern Economic Journal, The Annals of Regional Science

Teaching

University of Alabama

- EC 671: Econometrics (Ph.D.)
- EC 597: Public Economics (Ph.D.)
- EC 308: Intermediate Microeconomics

Last updated: December 12, 2025