

Ignacio Martinez, PhD

Researcher, Mathematica Policy Research
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Immigration status: U.S. Permanent Resident

Education

Ph.D. Economics, University of Virginia	2014
M.A. Economics, University of Virginia	2010
Lic. Economics, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán	2008

Positions

Researcher, Mathematica Policy Research	2015-
Research Associate, University of Virginia	2014-2015
Instructor, University of Virginia	2012-2015
Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia	2008-2011

Experience

Mathematica

Researcher, Evaluation of Transforming Clinician Practices Initiative (TCPI) (2018-). Performed Bayesian analysis to evaluate impacts of TCPI on utilization of health services and health care spending. TCPI is the largest nationwide, peer-based learning initiative that supports practice transformation to improve health outcomes; to reduce unnecessary inpatient admissions, tests, and procedures; and to generate substantial savings in the health system.

Researcher, Evaluation of the Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) Initiative (2018-). Performed Bayesian synthesis analyses of this large-scale evaluation. CPC+, a multipayer initiative for which the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has partnered with 57 public and private partners, aims to transform thousands of primary care practices spread over 14 regions. Mathematica will evaluate the effects of CPC+ on cost, quality, and patient and provider experience, and provide ongoing, rapid-cycle feedback to CMS and other CPC stakeholders.

Deputy Project Director, School Enrollment Demand Simulator (2017-). Develop and validate a predictive model of school enrollment demand using rank-ordered common school lottery applications for Washington, DC, public and public charter schools. Translate this model to an interactive data dashboard for stakeholders to simulate enrollment demand for schools in response to hypothetical policy changes, such as school relocations, capacity expansions, or new programmatic offerings. This study builds on previous work using application data to estimate choosers' preferences for school attributes and is funded by a grant from the Walton Family Foundation.

Researcher, Behavioral Health Services Information System (2017-2018). Led the design of interactive visualization tools and a quality assurance process for the public use data.

Researcher, Rapid-Cycle Tech Evaluations (RCTEs) (2015-2018). Developed, piloted and rolled out the RCE Coach. Provided support to districts in using the Coach to evaluate technology and other interventions. This project, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education (ED), Office of Educational Technology, empowers teachers and school leaders to make data-driven decisions about their school environment. The Coach uses Bayesian statistics to allow its users to determine their own goals and measure their progress towards those goals.

Researcher, Credentialing and Follow-Up Study (2015-2017). Designed and implemented the portion of the study that uses real-time labor market information. This study worked with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to identify and describe possible pilots, demonstrations, and evaluations that would enhance DOL's understanding of the credentialing system and approaches for increasing the attainment of industry-recognized credentials. The two identified priority research topics are assessing employer perceptions about credentialing value and understanding credentialing by industry. The study included qualitative data collection and analysis of real-time labor market information.

Researcher, Strengthening Relationship Education and Marriage Services (2016). Worked on the design of a behavioral insights intervention that aims to use behavioral reminder text messages to increase couples' attendance at healthy marriage education sessions. Worked to identify appropriate behavioral theories on which to base texts and designed the wording of the text messages. Worked to adapt a Bayesian adaptive approach to random assignment for the intervention.

Researcher, Evaluation of iReady for IDEA Public Schools (2015-2016). Designed and conducted a rapid-cycle evaluation to assess the effectiveness of iReady, a computer program used to supplement elementary literacy instruction in three IDEA schools. Worked closely with IDEA staff to refine research questions, assess data availability and quality, and finalize the evaluation design. The evaluation uses a matched comparison group design. Mathematica is a subcontractor to Applied Engineering Management (AEM) Corporation.

Researcher, Evaluation of Nearpod for Springdale Public Schools (2015-2016). Designed and conducted a rapid-cycle evaluation to assess the effectiveness of Nearpod, an interactive presentation and assessment tool. Worked closely with Springdale staff to refine research questions, assess data availability and quality, and finalize the evaluation design while adapting to changing district priorities. The evaluation uses a random assignment design and embeds an additional study of messaging strategies. Mathematica is a subcontractor to AEM.

Reviewer, Clearinghouse for Labor Evaluation and Research (CLEAR) (2015). Reviewed, assessed, and rated the rigor of causal and descriptive labor studies using the CLEAR systematic review guidelines. Drafted summary profiles of reviewed studies, which are posted on the external website. The goal of CLEAR is to become a central and trusted resource on the effectiveness of labor programs. The project is sponsored by DOL.

University of Virginia

Research Associate (2014-2015) in the Curry School of Education, conducted web-scraping on data to build an archive, estimated econometric models with administrative data, and designed interfaces for a randomized control trial.

Instructor (2012-2015), for Principles of Microeconomics, designed the course, lectured, and evaluated up to 80 students.

Teaching Assistant (2008-2011) for Introduction to Regression Analysis, Economics of Education, Intermediate Macroeconomics & Microeconomics, and Principles of Macroeconomics & Microeconomics, led discussion sections and held office hours.

Papers and Publications

Chandler, Jesse, Martinez Ignacio, Mariel Finucane, Alex Resch, Jeffrey Terziev. "Speaking on Data's Behalf: What researchers say, and how audiences choose. Evaluation review". Evaluation Review March 2019.

Zurovac, Jelena, Michael Barna, Mariel Finucane, Ning Fu, Dean Miller, Ignacio Martinez, Joseph Zickafoose, Angela Merrill, Lauren Vollmer, Svetlana Bronnikov, Joli Holmes, and John McCauley. "The Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative Impact Evaluation: Interim Findings." Report submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research, October 22, 2018.

Finucane, Mariel, Ignacio Martinez, and Scott Cody. "What Works for Whom? A Bayesian Approach to Channeling Big Data Streams for Public Program Evaluation." American Journal of Evaluation, vol. 39, issue 1, March 2018, pp. 109-122.

Chojnacki, Greg, Alex Resch, Alma Vigil, Ignacio Martinez, and Steve Bates. "Understanding Types of Evidence: A Guide for Educators." Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research, 2016.

Martinez, Ignacio, and Paul Diver. "MOOCs as a Massive Research Laboratory: Opportunities and Challenges." Distance Education, vol. 36, no. 1, 2015, pp. 5-25.

Martinez, Ignacio, and Sarah Turner. "The Productivity of Pell Grant Spending: Enrollment versus Attainment." Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning, vol. 47, no. 5, 2015, pp. 55-62.

Martinez, Ignacio. "The Hawthorne Effect in MOOCs." Working paper. Charlottesville, VA, 2014.

Martinez, Ignacio, Louis Bloomfield, and Sarah Turner "Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) as a Brick-and-Mortar Complement." Working paper. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia, 2014.

Martinez, Ignacio. "The Effects of Informational Nudges on Students' Effort and Performance: Lessons from a MOOC." Working paper. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia, Curry School of Education, December 2013.

Presentations

Martinez, Ignacio. "The Ed Tech Rapid Cycle Evaluation Coach: Turning Evidence into Action." Presentation at APPAM, Washington, DC, November 8, 2018.

Martinez, Ignacio. "Predictive Analytics and Early Warning Systems for End of Year Academic Performance." Presentation at the 9th DC Data Summit, Washington, DC, July 12, 2018.

Martinez, Ignacio, Alex Resch, and Mikia Manley. "Actionable Evidence: Using the Rapid Cycle Evaluation Coach to Support Education Decision Making." Presentation at the Maryland Connections Summit 2018, Towson, MD, June 6, 2018.

Martinez, Ignacio. "School Enrollment Demand Simulator: Helping Policymakers Predict the Effects of School Choice Policies on Student Sorting." Presentation at The Forum @DC, Washington, DC, February 27, 2018.

Martinez, Ignacio. "Using the Rapid Cycle Evaluation for Ed Tech Toolkit to Evaluate What Works in Your Schools." Presentation at the AEA Evaluation 2017, Washington, DC, November 8, 2017; and the iNACOL Symposium 2017, Orlando, FL, October 24, 2017.

Martinez, Ignacio. "Rapid Cycle Technology Evaluation Coach." Presentation at the Large District Fly-In, Washington, DC, May 10, 2017; and the Changing Education Together 2017 Conference, Barcelona, Spain, March 1, 2017.

Martinez, Ignacio. "Evaluation of Nearpod in Springdale Public Schools." Presentation at the American Educational Research Association 2016 Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April 11, 2016.

Martinez, Ignacio. "Never Put Off Till Tomorrow?" Presentation at the Association for Education Finance and Policy 41st Annual Conference, Denver, March 18, 2016; and the Bankard Applied Microeconomics Workshop, Charlottesville, VA, September 2014.

Martinez, Ignacio. "MOOCs: Opportunities and Challenges." Presentation at the Partners' Conference, Recent Research Panel, London, March 2014; and the GABFest, Charlottesville, VA, November 2013.

Martinez, Ignacio. "Reasoning, Logic, and Decision Making." Presentation at the Huskey Research Exhibition, Charlottesville, VA, March 2014.

Martinez, Ignacio. "Lessons from a MOOC." Presentation at EdPolicyWorks, The Center on Education Policy and Workforce Competitiveness, Charlottesville, VA, December 2013.

Honors and Awards

Robert J. Huskey Travel Fellowship, University of Virginia	2014
Parents Committee Grant, University of Virginia	2013
Big Data Initiative Award sponsored by the Jefferson Trust and the Vice President for Research	2013
Bankard Pre-doctoral Fellowship, University of Virginia	2012-2013
Snively Prize for Outstanding Dissertation Proposal, University of Virginia	2012
Department of Economics Graduate Fellowship, University of Virginia	2008-2012

Information Technology

Stan, Fortran, R, C++ (Rcpp), BASH, OpenMP, MPI, MySQL

Languages

Spanish (native), French (basic)