

NICHOLAS MARTENS

martensn.github.io |  martensn@ucla.edu | [Google Scholar](#) | [ORCID](#)

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles <i>Ph.D. in Economics</i>	Los Angeles, CA 2026-Present
University of California, Los Angeles <i>M.A. in Economics</i>	Los Angeles, CA 2026-Present
University of Michigan <i>A.B. in Economics + Philosophy, Politics, and Economics — Highest Honors in Economics</i>	Ann Arbor, MI 2020-2024

WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Chicago – Becker Friedman Institute for Economics <i>Research Professional for Dr. Evan Rose [40 hours per week]</i>	Chicago, IL Jul 2024-Jul 2026
- Developed workflow for processing EEOC administrative data files and federal court documents into integrated, replicable datasets and evaluating potential sources of exogenous variation in the EEOC investigative process - Leveraged machine learning techniques (XGBoost) to construct novel dataset of geocoded labor demand shocks, model incidence of labor demand shocks, and match shocked neighborhoods to appropriate controls - Unearthed a novel finding from Survey of Consumer Expectations, then updated Burdett-Mortensen search model to accommodate it	
University of Michigan – Department of Economics <i>Research Assistant for Dr. Dean Yang [8 hours per week]</i>	Ann Arbor, MI Jan 2023-Apr 2024
Automated geospatial data processing and visualization, reducing runtime and improving replicability of the analysis at the heart of NBER Working Paper 33482	
University of Michigan – Population Studies Center <i>Research Associate for Dr. William Frey [4 hours per week]</i>	Ann Arbor, MI Sep 2020-Jun 2024
Managed all analytical work for NICHD-funded project, developing training materials on SAS and allocating work to six student-employees	
University of Michigan – Department of Political Science <i>Research Assistant for Dr. Edie Goldenberg [6 hours per week]</i>	Ann Arbor, MI Apr 2022-Aug 2024
Created four presentations on public policy, presenting complex topics such as redistricting and state ballot initiatives while remaining digestible to more than 1,000 students	
University of Michigan – Department of Sociology <i>Research Assistant for Dr. Robert Manduca [3 hours per week]</i>	Ann Arbor, MI Oct 2022-Apr 2023
Automated collection of BEA regional accounts and demographic data for all US counties with R script, reducing manual downloads and improving replicability	
Brookings Institution – Workforce of the Future Initiative <i>Research Intern [40 hours per week]</i>	Washington, DC Jun 2022-Aug 2022
Conducted preliminary validation of resume data, assessing quality of variables and developing documentation eventually used for honors thesis	
W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research – Place-Based Research Initiative <i>Research Intern [15 hours per week]</i>	Kalamazoo, MI Jun 2021-May 2022
Developed R script to generate synthetic microdata, reweighting PUMA-level microdata based on tract-level benchmarks to model demographic interactions too complex for summary data	

WORKING PAPERS

Martens, Nicholas. "Plugging the [Brain] Drain: Evidence from LinkedIn Profiles." Revision in progress.

Bolter, Kathleen, Zach, Kathleen Bolter, and **Nicholas Martens.**"Beyond Published Tables: Generating and Validating Custom Census Tract Demographics for Policy Analysis." Under review.

PUBLICATIONS

Bolter, Kathleen and **Nicholas Martens.** "Can Anyone Learn to Code? A Qualitative Study of Promising Practices for Information Technology Training Programs." *Economic Development Quarterly.* 39 no. 1 (August 28, 2024): 37-48.

PRESENTATIONS

2024 University of Michigan, Population Association of America Annual Meeting [flash session], University of Chicago

2025 Population Association of America Annual Meeting [poster session], University of Chicago

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2026	UCLA Departmental Award	Fellowship during the first year of PhD coursework	\$25,000
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2026	NextGenPop Travel Award	Supplemental award to cover travel costs of former NextGenPop Fellows presenting at 2026 Population Association of America Annual Meeting	\$599
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2025	NextGenPop Travel Award	Supplemental award to cover travel costs of former NextGenPop Fellows presenting at 2025 Population Association of America Annual Meeting	\$500
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2024	Highest Honors in Economics	Awarded by the Department of Economics at the University of Michigan based on quality of honors thesis	
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2024	Harold Osterweil Memorial Prize	Six senior economics majors at the University of Michigan with the most outstanding academic record and the greatest social awareness.	\$1,000
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2024	John E. Parker Memorial Prize	Most outstanding undergraduate writing on labor economics or human resources.	\$1,000
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2024	Sweetland Undergraduate Writing Prize	Top two upper-level social science papers written by University of Michigan undergraduates in 2023-24 academic year	\$300
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2023	NextGenPop Fellow	Year-long population research pipeline program for 20 fellows from under-represented groups, including two-week intensive camp at Cornell University and attending the 2024 Population Association of America Annual Meeting.	\$2,515
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2023	James B. Angell Scholar	University of Michigan undergraduates who only receive As for two consecutive semesters	
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