

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Culture and Economics, Economic History, Political Economy, Labor

EDUCATION

Louisiana State University, Ph.D. in Economics, 2018
Louisiana State University, M.S. in Economics, 2016
University of Maryland at College Park, M.S. in Applied Mathematics, 2008
Xavier University of Louisiana, B.S. in Mathematics, 2006

EMPLOYMENT

American University, Assistant Professor, 2022 – Present
RAND Corporation, Associate Economist, 2020 – 2022
Economic Policy Institute, Economist, 2019 – 2020
Clemson University, Assistant Professor of Economics, 2018 – 2019
Xavier University of Louisiana, Mathematics Instructor, 2008 – 2013
Xavier University of Louisiana, Mathematics Lab Director, 2010 – 2012

BOOK

1. **Williams, Jhacova.** Blackbody: The Persistence of Lynching in the Black American Experience. Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press (*Ongoing Work*).

PUBLICATIONS AND ARTICLES IN R&R STATUS

1. Testa, Patrick & **Williams, Jhacova.** Political Foundations of Racial Violence in the Post-Reconstruction South. (R&R at *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*)
2. **Williams, Jhacova,** Franklin, Taylor, & Brown, Andre. 2025. Only See a Few Blacks the Higher I Go: Occupational Segregation and the COVID-19 Pandemic. *The Review of Black Political Economy*, 0(0).
3. Bandini, Julia I., Schulson, Lucy B., Messan Setodji, Claude, **Williams, Jhacova,** Ast, Katherine, & Ahluwalia, Sangeeta C. 2023. Palliative Care Is the Only Medical Field That I Feel Like I'm Treated As a Person, Not As a Black Person: A Mixed-Methods Study of Minoritized Patient Experiences with Palliative Care. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 26(2), 220-227.
4. **Williams, Jhacova.** 2022. Historical lynchings and the contemporary voting behavior of blacks. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 14(3), 224-53.
5. **Williams, Jhacova.** A. 2021. Confederate streets and black-white labor market differentials. In *AEA Papers and Proceedings* (Vol. 111, pp. 27-31).
6. **Williams, Jhacova.** A., Logan, Trevon D., & Hardy, Bradley L. 2021. The persistence of historical racial violence and political suppression: Implications for contemporary regional inequality. *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 694(1), 92-107.
7. Carman, Katie, Chandra, Anita, Miller, Carolyn, Nelson, Christopher, & **Williams, Jhacova.** 2021. Americans' View of the Impact of COVID-19: Perspectives on Racial Impacts and Equity. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*, 46(5), 889-924.

WORKING PAPERS

1. **Williams, Jhacova**, Perkins, Bethany, & Scott, Ashley. The Highway to Displacement: Interstate 10 and Black Communities in New Orleans.
2. Carman, Katherine, Atshan, Samer, & **Williams, Jhacova**. Disparities in Social Security Knowledge and the Role of Social Capital

POLICY REPORTS

1. *Saum-Manning, Lisa, Lytell, Maria C., **Williams, Jhacova**, Payne, Leslie A., Alvarado, Gabriela, & Huilgol, Shreya S. Army Civilian Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Addressing Barriers for Women, Racial/Ethnic Minorities, and Individuals with Disabilities. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation (*forthcoming*).
2. *Anwar, Shamera, **Williams, Jhacova**, & Lim, Nelson. 2024. Racial Disparities in the Department of the Air Force Military Justice System. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation.
3. *Griswold, Max, Holliday, Stephanie Brooks, Sizemore, Alex, Ren, Cheng, Baker, Lawrence, Howell, Khadesia, Osoba, Osonde, **Williams, Jhacova**, Ward, Jason M., & Hunter, Sarah B. 2023. An Evaluation of Crime-Free Housing Policies. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation.
4. *Finucane Melissa L., Paige Jessica W., Parker, Andrew M., Narayanan, Anu, Wilcox, Peggy, DeSmet, David, **Williams, Jhacova**, & Van Abel, Kristin. 2023. The Role of Nonprofit Organizations in Community Recovery After Nondeclared Disasters. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation.
5. *Finucane Melissa L., Clancy, Noreen, Parker, Andrew M., Paige Jessica W., Patel Karishma V., Tierney, Devin, Wilson, Michael, Wilcox, Peggy, Reese, Tucker, **Williams, Jhacova**, Reimer, Jordan, Goode, Thomas, Morales, Sam, & Harding, Alyson. 2023. How Do We Know If Federal Disaster Programs are Equitable? Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation.
6. *Finucane, Melissa L., Clancy, Noreen, Parker, Andrew M., Paige, Jessica, Patel, Karishma V., Tierney, Devin, Wilson, Michael, Wilcox, Peggy, Reese, Tucker, & **Williams, Jhacova**. 2023. The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Mitigation Grant Program: An Initial Methodology for Evaluating Social Equity Performance in Disaster Mitigation Grants. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation.
7. *Smart, Rosanna., Morral, Andrew R., Ramchand, Rajeev, Charbonneau, Amanda, **Williams, Jhacova**, Smucker, Sierra, Cherney, Samantha, & Xenakis, Lea. 2023. The Science of Gun Policy: A Critical Synthesis of Research Evidence on the Effects of Gun Policies in the United States, Third Edition. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation.
8. **Williams, Jhacova**. & Wilson, Valerie. 2019. Black Workers Endure Persistent Racial Disparities in Employment Outcomes. Washington, DC: Economic Policy Institute.

RESEARCH GRANTS

1. "Racial and Gender Disparities in Early Retirement Decisions During the COVID-19 Pandemic" (Note: A stop work order was issued on February 20, 2025, to all six RDRC centers)
 - The Michigan Retirement and Disability Research Center
 - September 2024 – September 2025
 - \$125,000
 - CoPIs – Arnold, Grace, **Williams, Jhacova Williams**, & Yu, Han

* indicates Policy Reports that are peer-reviewed according to the RAND Peer Review Process, which includes "at least two qualified reviewers" where "[a]uthors must explicitly address all reviewer concerns before the document can be published." Visit [RAND](https://www.rand.org/pubs/policy-reports/) for more information.

2. "The Highway to Displacement: Interstate 10 and Black Communities in New Orleans"
 - The Washington Center for Equitable Growth
 - September 2024 – September 2025
 - \$30,000
 - PI – **Williams, Jhacova**
3. "Only Spot a Few Blacks the Higher I Go: Occupational Segregation and the COVID-19 Pandemic" (funded)
 - The Michigan Retirement and Disability Research Center
 - March 2023 – September 2023
 - \$75,000
 - PI – **Williams, Jhacova**

PRESENTATIONS

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 2025 (scheduled)
 Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, 2024
 Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, 2024
 ASSA Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, 2024
 Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 2023
 Federal Reserve Board, Washington, DC, 2023
 Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 2023
 Yale University, New Haven, CT, 2022
 University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2021
 Federal Reserve Board, Washington, DC, 2021
 UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, 2020
 University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, 2020
 University of California San Diego, San Diego, CA, 2020
 University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 2020
 Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 2020
 APPAM Research Conference, Washington. DC, 2020
 Duke University, Durham, NC 2020
 Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 2019
 Cliometric Society, Columbus, OH, 2019
 SOLE Conference, Arlington, VA, 2019
 ASSA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, 2019
 NBER Summer Institute, Cambridge, MA, 2018
 Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2018
 The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, 2018
 Amherst College, Amherst, MA, 2018
 Williams College, Williamstown, MA 2018
 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL, 2018
 Clemson University, Clemson, SC, 2018
 Trinity University, San Antonio, TX, 2018
 Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA, 2018
 Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, 2018
 RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, CA, 2018
 University of Richmond, Richmond, VA, 2018
 ASSA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, 2018

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Boston, MA, 2017
SEA Conference, Washington, D.C., 2016
United States International Trade Commission, Washington, D.C., 2016
SEA Conference, New Orleans, LA, 2015

SELECTED BLOG POSTS/MEDIA COVERAGE

1. "Charting a Path Forward for College Athletes to Receive Pay", ProMarket, 2021
2. "Promoting Social Equity in Infrastructure Planning and Delivery", Inside Sources, 2021
3. "Laid Off More, Hired Less: Black Workers in the COVID-19 Recession", The RAND Blog, 2020
4. "Black Deaths at the hands of law enforcement are linked to historical lynchings", EPI Blog, 2020
5. "Our calls to remove racist symbols are finally being heard", Brookings Institute, 2020
6. "How lynching still affects American politics", The Economist, 2019

HONORS AND AWARDS

Most Outstanding Teacher in a Full-Time Appointment, DPAP at American University, 2024
Top 10 Featured Charts in 2022, American Economic Association, 2022
AEA Summer Fellow, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, 2017
AEA Summer Fellow, United States International Trade Commission, 2016
Graduate Certificate in Econometrics, Louisiana State University, 2016
Omicron Delta Epsilon Honor Society, Louisiana State University, 2015
Huel D. Perkins Doctorate Fellowship, Louisiana State University, 2014
Outstanding Teacher Award, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2012
Outstanding Teacher Award, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2011
NSF LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate Fellowship, University of Maryland at College Park, 2006
Honors in Mathematics, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2006
MARC Fellowship, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2004
Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2003
GAELA Fellowship, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2003
TOPS Honor Award, Xavier University of Louisiana, 2002

TEACHING

Fall 2022/2023/2024: PUAD 670 – Economics for Policy Analysis (MPP students)
Fall 2023/2024: PUAD 770 – Economics for Policy Analysis (PhD students)
Spring 2023/2024/2025: PUAD 685 – Social Welfare Policy/Programs

SERVICE

Policy Research Seminar Series, Organizer, DPAP, Spring 2025
SPA Public Administration Search Committee, Member, Fall 2024
AU's Faculty Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Co-Chair, Fall 2024-Spring 2025
AU's Faculty Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Member, Fall 2023-Present
SPA Top Prospect Day, Presenter, 2023
SPA Student Preview Day, Presenter, 2023
DC Fiscal Policy Institute, Board of Directors, 2022 – Present
Reviewer at AEA Insights, American Economic Review, Journal of Population Economics and Security Studies, National Science Foundation Economic Grants Program, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, and Review of Black Political Economy

PhD Student Advising

Ashley Scott, 2nd Year PhD Student in DPAP

1. "Assessing the Impact of Public School Closure on Local Housing Markets and Residential Sorting"
2. "School Closures and Political Participation: Evidence from Michigan"