

# Caroline E. Tompson

Nelson Hall 4331  
2801 Founders Dr Raleigh, NC 27607, US

Email: [ctomps@ncsu.edu](mailto:ctomps@ncsu.edu)

Phone: +1 (215) 219 - 0652

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/carolinetompson/home>

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. in Economics, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 2020 – May 2025 (Expected)

- Dissertation: *"Essays on School Transportation Preferences and Valuation"*
- Committee: Profs. Roger H. von Haefen (Chair), H. Spencer Banzhaf, Zachary S. Brown, & Melinda Morrill

M.A. in Economics, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 2020 – 2022

B.A. in Economics (High Honors), Wake Forest University 2016 – 2020

- Honors Thesis: *"What the Frack? An Analysis of the Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing on the Public Education System in North Dakota"*
- Thesis Advisor: Dr. Amanda L. Griffith, Department of Economics

## RESEARCH FIELDS

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*Primary:* Non-Market Valuation, Economics of Education

*Secondary:* Environmental Economics, Labor Economics

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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*"Household Preferences for School Bus Transportation: Survey Evidence from Wake County, North Carolina"*

- **Abstract:** Despite widespread recognition and availability, the yellow school bus is not how the majority of American public schoolchildren get to and from school each day. Rather, the private vehicle dominates school transportation and this trend shows little to no signs of changing. Increased private vehicle usage generates significant costs to the individual student's household, as well as the surrounding community. This suggests a friction between existing school bus service and potential bus riders. To investigate preferences for school transportation, I designed and fielded a web survey investigating household preferences for school bus transportation in the Wake County Public School System, the largest school district in North Carolina. Leveraging double-bounded dichotomous choice information, I find that survey respondents value their students' time at a rate of \$25.20 per hour. Additionally, respondents would be willing to pay \$18.79 to avoid a delay or cancellation of school bus service.

## PUBLICATIONS

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*"Mental Health Symptoms Among US College Students Before, Early, and Late Into the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Longitudinal Analysis"* with Jane Cooley Fruehwirth, Lu Huang, & Krista Perreria, **Journal of Adolescent Health** (Nov. 2024)

## WORKING PAPERS

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*"Geographic variation of school transportation preferences in the Southeastern United States"*

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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*"Swimming against the crowd? Congestion effects in beach demand and valuation, with Andrew Earle, Frank Lupi, and Roger H. von Haefen*

*"School choice with indifferent student preferences," with Umut Dur*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- Pathways Intern, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. May 2023 - August 2023
- \* Analyzed internal and public documents to determine audit risk for entities in the wholesale electricity market and support ongoing audits
- Graduate Research Assistant for Prof. Roger H. von Haefen, NC State University January 2022 - May 2023
- \* Projects included survey development, literature reviews on thermal inversions, recreation demand, and school transportation, analysis of survey data
- Undergraduate Research Assistant for Prof. E. Mark Curtis, Wake Forest University May 2019 - September 2019
- \* Compiled datasets on non-utility energy production from Annual Survey of Manufacturers for comparative analysis

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- Head Teaching Assistant, NC State University 2024 – Present
- \* Principles of Microeconomics: Spring 2024, Fall 2024
- Instructor of Record, NC State University 2022
- \* Intermediate Microeconomics: Fall 2022
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, NC State University 2021 - 2024
- \* Intermediate Macroeconomics: Fall 2024
  - \* Fundamentals of Microeconomics: Fall 2023
  - \* Introduction to Resource and Environmental Economics: Fall 2022, Spring 2023
  - \* Fundamentals of Economics: Fall 2021, Spring 2022
- Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Wake Forest University 2018
- \* Applied Econometrics: Fall 2018

## FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

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- Center For Environmental and Resource Economic Policy Research Fellowship January 2023 - May 2023,  
January 2022 - May 2022
- Toussaint Scholarship, NC State University January 2022 - May 2022
- Owens Graduate Fellowship, NC State University August 2021 - December 2021
- Provost's Doctoral Fellowship, NC State University July 2020 - July 2021
- Dean's List, Wake Forest University 2016 - 2020

## PRESENTATIONS

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- Camp Resources (Asheville, NC), W5133 Annual Meeting (Fort Collins, CO), Guest Speaker - ECG 515 (NC State University) 2024
- CEnREP Colloquia (NC State University), CenREP Brown Bag (NC State University) 2023
- Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting (Virtual) 2020

## SERVICE

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- Mentor, Wake Forest University Women in Economics March 2024 - Present
- Representative, Teaching Effectiveness Committee, NC State University September 2023 - July 2024
- President, Economics Graduate Student Association, NC State University May 2023 - July 2024
- Graduate Program Ambassador August 2022 - Present

## SKILLS

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Programming: Stata, R , MATLAB

Other:  $\LaTeX$ , Qualtrics

## REFERENCES

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Prof. Roger H. von Haefen (Advisor)  
Associate Department Head, Professor  
Dept. of Agricultural & Resource Economics  
NC State University, Raleigh, NC  
[rhaefen@ncsu.edu](mailto:rhaefen@ncsu.edu)

Prof. Zachary Brown  
Associate Professor  
Dept. of Agricultural and Resource Economics  
NC State University, Raleigh, NC  
[zsbrown2@ncsu.edu](mailto:zsbrown2@ncsu.edu)

Prof. Melinda Morrill  
Jenkins Family Distinguished Professor  
Dept. of Economics  
NC State University, Raleigh, NC  
[msmorrill@ncsu.edu](mailto:msmorrill@ncsu.edu)

Dr. Allison Lowe Reed  
Senior Lecturer in Economics  
Dept. of Economics  
NC State University, Raleigh, NC  
[a\\_lowereed@ncsu.edu](mailto:a_lowereed@ncsu.edu)