

ELIZABETH MISHKIN

<https://scholar.harvard.edu/emishkin>

emishkin@fas.harvard.edu

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Placement Director: John Campbell

JOHN_CAMPBELL@HARVARD.EDU

617-496-6448

Placement Director: Nathan Hendren

NHENDREN@FAS.HARVARD.EDU

617-496-3588

Graduate Administrator: Brenda Piquet

BPIQUET@FAS.HARVARD.EDU

617-495-8927

Office Contact Information

Littauer Center G-6

1805 Cambridge Street

Cambridge, MA 02138

Undergraduate Studies:

B.A., Quantitative Economics, Tufts University, *summa cum laude*, 2010

Visiting Student in Economics, Pembroke College, University of Oxford, 2008–2009

Graduate Studies:

Harvard University, 2013 to present

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics

Thesis Title: “Essays in Labor Market Inequality”

Expected Completion Date: May 2018

References:

Professor Edward Glaeser

Littauer Center 315A

617-495-0575, eglaeser@harvard.edu

Professor Amanda Pallais

Littauer Center 234

apallais@fas.harvard.edu

Professor Claudia Goldin

Littauer Center 229

617-613-1200, cgoldin@harvard.edu

Fields:

Labor, Public Finance

Research Papers:

“Gender and Sibling Dynamics in the Intergenerational Transmission of Entrepreneurship”

(Job Market Paper)

This project uses gender and sibling dynamics to explore the intergenerational transmission of entrepreneurship. I find that the transmission of self-employment from fathers to daughters is significantly reduced when there are sons in the family. I interpret this as evidence that the intergenerational transmission of entrepreneurship is driven at least in part by costly investments by parents, which can be crowded out by brothers. I investigate specific types of parental investments – transfers of money, businesses, and human capital – that potentially underlie this transmission and conclude that sons crowd out human capital acquisition by daughters. If all daughters of self-employed men experienced the “sisters-only” level of transmission, the overall gender gap in self-employment would be reduced by nearly 20 percent.

“Majors, Skills, and the Returns to College”

This project examines the role of occupation-specific skill accumulation and utilization in explaining differences in earnings by college major. I construct two novel indices for major specificity that are based on the mix of occupations in which graduates are employed. The measures are intended to proxy for the intensity of occupation-specific training in a major; high-ranking majors according to these measures include Nursing, Architecture, Accounting, and Education. Using the Baccalaureate & Beyond 1993/2003 study, I find that within broad fields, earnings of graduates with relatively specific majors are more sensitive to the relatedness of the graduate’s occupation to his or her major. This suggests that there are real differences in the generalizability of college skill content across majors and points to the importance of studying the returns to not just the quantity but also the content of education.

Publications:

Mishkin, Elizabeth and John Straub. “The Redistributive Effects of British Subsidies to Higher Education.” *Social Policy and Society* 13(3): 337–355, 2014.

Teaching Experience:

Spring 2016 Inequality in the Labor Market, Harvard College (Sophomore Tutorial Instructor)

Research Experience and Other Employment:

Summer 2014 Harvard University, Research Assistant to Professor Amanda Pallais
2010–2013 Cornerstone Research, Analyst/Senior Analyst
Spring 2010 New England Public Policy Center at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston,
Research Intern

Professional Activities

2017–2018 President, Graduate Economics Association, Harvard University
2017 Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp, National Bureau of Economic Research
2016 Panel moderator, Conference on Poverty and Inequality, Harvard Kennedy School

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2017–2018 Kauffman Dissertation Fellowship
2017–2018 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University
2016–2017 Weatherhead Initiative on Gender Inequality Fellowship, Harvard University
2015–2016 Inequality and Social Policy Doctoral Fellowship, Harvard Kennedy School
2014–2015 Ardis and Robert James Fellowship
2013–2016 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship