

Calvin Isley

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Research Interests: *AI in education, university admissions, and algorithmic decision-making*

EDUCATION

Harvard Kennedy School

Ph.D. in Public Policy

Cambridge, MA

August 2024 – Present

Washington University in St. Louis

Bachelor of Arts – Economics and Computer Science (magna cum laude)

St. Louis, MO

August 2018 – May 2022

Minors: Mathematics, Chinese

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- [1] **Assessing the Quality of AI-Generated Exams: A Large-Scale Field Study.** Calvin Isley, Joshua Gilbert, Evangelos Kassos, Michaela Kocher, Allen Nie, Emma Brunskill, Ben Domingue, Jake Hofman, Joscha Legewie, Teddy Svoronos, Charlotte Tuminelli, Sharad Goel. *Proceedings of the Fortieth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI 2026)*. Oral Presentation. 2026.
- [2] **Money Market Fund Repo and the ON RRP Facility.** Samuel J. Hempel, Calvin Isley, R. Jay Kahn, Patrick E. McCabe. *FEDS Notes*. 2023.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- [1] **Mitigating Label Bias with Interpretable Rubric Embeddings.** Calvin Isley, Johann D. Gaebler, Sharad Goel. *Preprint*. 2025.
- [2] **Reassessing the Role of Standardized Tests in University Admissions.** Johann D. Gaebler, Calvin Isley, Christopher Avery, Sharad Goel. *Working paper*.
- [3] **AI Use in Graduate Admissions Essays is Common but Penalized.** Calvin Isley, Johann D. Gaebler, Sharad Goel. *Working paper*. 2025.
- [4] **AI Tutoring and Teacher Support Tools for Elementary Education.** Madison Coots, Calvin Isley, Elisa Xi Chen, Nick Masi, Joe Nudell, Charlotte Tuminelli, Teddy Svoronos, Sharad Goel. *Working paper*.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2)

"AI Use in Graduate Admissions Essays is Common but Penalized" (Parallel talk)

Burlington, VT

2026

TeachECONference

"Evidence on the Quality of Verbal and Written AI-Generated Assessments" (Invited talk)

Online

June 2026

TEACHING

Harvard Kennedy School of Government

- **Teaching Fellow.** DPI 681: Public Problem Solving with Generative AI: Challenges and Opportunities (Spring 2026). *Designed assignments and course materials; led breakout sections teaching coding fundamentals.*
- **Teaching Fellow.** DPI 681M: The Science and Implications of Generative AI (Spring 2025, Fall 2025). *Designed and taught the technical complement to the course on data analysis, RAG, agents, and fine-tuning.*

Howard University

- **Teaching Assistant.** ECON 181: Data Analysis and Financial Literacy in R (Fall 2022, Fall 2024).
Assisted with lecture delivery and developed course AI use policy.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad Hoc Reviewer: *ACM Web Conference (The WebConf 2025), Responsible Web Track*

SKILLS SUMMARY

Languages: R, Python

AI: LLM prompt and response evaluation, AI-generated content assessment, text data processing and information extraction, RAG and agent system design, chatbot design and user experience for AI systems

Methods: Statistical inference, causal inference, machine learning, econometric analysis, experimental design

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Research Assistant

Federal Reserve Board of Governors, Division of Research and Statistics

Washington, DC

August 2022 – August 2024