

JOSH YARDLEY

Using technology to make quantitative reasoning accessible to policy audiences

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EDUCATION

Harvard University

PhD in Public Policy, 2019

Dissertation: "Essays on Technology in Education"

MPA in International Development (MPA/ID), 2012

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

SB in Computer Science and Engineering (Artificial Intelligence concentration), 2004

SB in Management Science (Marketing concentration); Minor in Economics, 2004

TEACHING

Harvard Kennedy School

2012–Present

Adjunct Lecturer in Public Policy

- Politics and Policies: The Power of Data and AI, Fall 2026
- Quantitative Methods, Mid-Career MPA Summer Program, 2012–Present
- Quantitative Analysis and Empirical Methods, PPIA Junior Summer Institute, 2024–Present
- Empirical Methods II, graduate level, Spring 2021
- Information, Data, and Decisions, Mason Fellows Program, 2018–2019

Tufts University

2023

Adjunct Professor, Global Affairs

- Econometric Impact Evaluation, graduate level

Brown University

2015–2016

Adjunct Professor, International and Public Affairs

- Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation, graduate and undergraduate levels

Manhattan Prep

2009–Present

Classroom GMAT Instructor and Tutor

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Center for Partnership Systems

Carmel, CA · 2021–2022

Co-Principal Investigator

- Developed the Social Wealth Index, a cross-national measure of how well countries foster a caring economy across health, education, the environment, and democratic governance.
- Co-led a team of eight economists and researchers in identifying and integrating appropriate indicators.

World Bank

Washington, DC · 2012–2013

Impact Evaluation Coordinator

- Designed the impact evaluation for a universal health insurance pilot in Nepal using matched difference-in-differences and instrumental variable methods.
- Coordinated parallel indicators across four health evaluations (Nepal, Georgia, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria) under the Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund; led cross-study knowledge-sharing workshops.
- Conducted data analysis for education and early childhood development evaluations in Africa.

Innovations for Poverty Action

Accra, Ghana · 2011

Teacher Community Assistant Initiative Intern

- Supported a randomized controlled trial comparing remedial-education interventions for primary school students.

- Developed project monitoring and teacher-training materials and managed teaching and learning materials for 400 schools.

American Institutes for Research

Washington, DC / Islamabad · 2007–2010

Project Associate

- Provided home-office support to a \$90M USAID education reform project (ED-LINKS) in Pakistan; managed partner relationships, work plans, budgets, and monitoring and evaluation; oversaw project reporting to USAID.
- As Acting Director of Finance and Administration, streamlined local procurement processes; managed procurement of \$2.5M in U.S.-sourced equipment.
- Coordinated Pakistani student and teacher exchange programs to the U.S. for 80 students and 35 teachers.

United States Peace Corps

Bomborokuy, Burkina Faso · 2005–2007

Mathematics Teacher

- Taught over 600 village secondary school students; developed a curriculum emphasizing critical thinking, gender equity, and HIV/AIDS awareness.
- Trained 20 volunteers in effective teaching practices and strategies for sustainable development.

TEACHING AND LEARNING INNOVATION

MIT edX

2016–2017, 2019–2020

Course Developer

- Developed the AP Microeconomics MOOC — lecture scripts, practice problems, solutions, and visual design; managed development and editing of over 100 lecture videos.

Harvard Center for International Development, Evidence for Policy Design

2013–2016

Training Developer

- Built interactive online modules on policy analysis, cost-benefit analysis, and commissioning evidence for civil servants in India and Pakistan, funded by the UK's DFID Building Capacity to Use Research Evidence (BCURE) program.

Harvard Kennedy School

2012–2013

Presidential Instructional Technology Fellow

- Produced interactive video modules for a graduate-level econometrics course and ran randomized experiments evaluating their effect on student learning relative to assigned readings.

PUBLICATIONS

- Levy, Dan, Josh Yardley, and Richard Zeckhauser (2017). “Getting an Honest Answer: Clickers in the Classroom.” *Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*, 17(4), 104–125.

WORKING PAPERS

Essays from the doctoral dissertation, Essays on Technology in Education:

- Yardley, Josh. “Laptops in the Classroom: Using Synthetic Controls to Evaluate Maine’s One-to-One Program.”
- Yardley, Josh. “Clicking or Classrooms? A Comparison of Online and In-Person Courses.”

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard Kennedy School, 2018
- Dubin Emerging Leaders Summer Fellowship, Harvard Kennedy School, 2011
- Public Service Fellowship, Harvard Kennedy School, 2010
- Frederick G. Fassett Jr. Undergraduate Man of the Year, MIT, 2004
- United States Presidential Scholar, presented by President Clinton at the White House, 2000