

Justin Contat

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phillips Annex Hall 102
Department of Economics
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27516 USA

Personal: (352) 281-1417
Department: (919) 966-2383
E-mail: contat@email.unc.edu
WWW: www.unc.edu/~contat

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Ph.D., Economics, May 2012

- Dissertation Topic: “Location as a Signal of Quality: Can Product Differentiation replace Advertising?”
- Advisor: Sergio O. Parrieras

M.S., Economics, August 2010

- Thesis Topic: “War of Attrition with Reentry”

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

B.S., Mathematics (Pure & Applied Mathematics), May 2007

- Thesis Topic: “Fractals as Electronic Circuits”
- GPA: 3.59

HONORS AND AWARDS

Undergraduate Teaching Award, UNC 2011
Graduate Research Consultant, UNC 2010
UNC Future Faculty Fellow, UNC 2010
Graduate Teaching Award, UNC 2008
National Society of Collegiate Scholars, UF May 2006

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Microeconomic Theory: Signaling and Advertising, Behavioral Economics, Online Auctions, General Equilibrium Price Discrimination, Non-transitive and Context-Dependent Preference Theory, Terrorism Modeling

Discrete Choice Theory: Theoretical Modeling of Individual Decision Making. Empirical Estimation of Individual Decisions and Preferences

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Introduction to Industrial Organization, UNC

August 2009 - Present

Taught senior level undergraduate class. Developed all materials including lectures, exams, homework assignments, and grading. Organized a student-lead research symposium for industry specific research.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Principles of Microeconomic Theory, UNC

August - December, 2008

Taught for first year PhD students. Shared administrative responsibilities with faculty instructor, fielded all student inquiries, collaborated with faculty to create lesson plans, and grading.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Economics, UNC

January - May , 2009

Held office hours, collaborated with faculty to create lesson plans, lead monthly review sessions, and grading.

COMPUTER SKILLS • Statistical Packages: MATLAB, Stata; some experience with SAS
• Applications: L^AT_EX, common Windows database, spreadsheet, and presentation software

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP **Omicron Delta Epsilon, UNC** August 2010 - May 2011
Elected President (and member) of this Graduate Economics Honor Society. Duties include sending out grant opportunities, starting an online research-assistance database for graduate students, and organizing an annual banquet.

Economics Graduate Student Association, UNC January - May , 2009
Elected President. Duties included organizing bi-semester meetings, addressing general graduate student needs, acquiring new office equipment when necessary, approving funding reimbursement, and indoctrinating new graduate students.

Johnston Scholars, UNC January - May , 2009
Tutored UNC Johnston Scholars. Monitored students' performance, planned academic goals, submitted progress reports, and reviewed the material/curriculum.

WORKING PAPERS Contat, Justin. "The Attraction Effect and Context-Dependent Preferences" (2010).

Contat, Justin. "Location as a Signal of Quality: Can Product Differentiation replace Advertising?" (2010).

Contat, Justin and Peter Malaspina. "Hearts and Minds: Two-Front Optimization Warfare" (2009).