# Tom Swiderski

# Research Associate Education Policy Initiative at Carolina Department of Public Policy, UNC Chapel Hill <u>tswid@live.unc.edu</u> | <u>tswiderski.web.unc.edu</u>

#### **RESEARCH EMPLOYMENT**

| 2024 -      | Research Associate, Education Policy Initiative at Carolina, UNC Chapel Hill                 |
|-------------|--|
| 2022 - 2024 | Postdoctoral Research Associate, Education Policy Initiative at Carolina, UNC<br>Chapel Hill |
| 2017 - 2020 | Research Assistant to Dr. Douglas Lauen, Department of Public Policy, UNC Chapel Hill        |
| 2018 - 2019 | Research Assistant to Dr. Steven Hemelt, Department of Public Policy, UNC Chapel Hill        |
| 2016 - 2017 | Social Research Specialist, The Urban Institute at UNC Charlotte                             |
| EDUCATION   |  |

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Public Policy, UNC Chapel Hill, 2022 Dissertation: "The impacts of three college-preparatory policies and programs on secondary and postsecondary education outcomes"
- M.S.W., UNC Chapel Hill, 2016
- B.A., Psychology, Boston College, 2013

## **PUBLICATIONS**

§ Peer-reviewed journal publications

- Swiderski, T. (in press). "Testing the way forward: The impact of statewide ACT or SAT testing on postsecondary outcomes." *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. <u>https://doi.org/10.3102/01623737241241260</u>
- Swiderski, T. (in press). The effect of Early College High Schools on STEM Bachelor's degree attainment: Evidence from North Carolina. *Education Finance and Policy*. <u>https://doi.org/10.1162/edfp\_a\_00404</u> (Author's final pre-publication PDF: <u>Here</u>)
- Hemelt, S., & Swiderski, T. (2022). College comes to high school: Participation and performance in Tennessee's innovative wave of dual-credit courses. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 44(2), 313-341. DOI: <u>https://doi.org/10.3102/01623737211052310</u>

Swiderski, T., Lauen, D. L., Fuller, S. C., & Unlu, F. (2021). A path towards citizenship: The effects of Early College High Schools on criminal convictions and voting. *Social Science Research*, 99. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2021.102584</u>

#### § Selected policy briefs, program evaluations, and research reports

- Fuller, S. C., Bastian, K. C., Swiderski, T., & Lauen, D. L. (2024). Post-pandemic changes in absences and chronic absence rates through 2022-23. Chapel Hill, NC: Education Policy Initiative at Carolina. LINK
- Swiderski, T. (2024). *Math outcomes in GEAR UP high schools through the 2023-24 school year*. Chapel Hill, NC: Education Policy Initiative at Carolina. Research report prepared for GEAR UP North Carolina.
- Swiderski, T., Fuller, S. C., & Black, D. (2023). Effects of the pandemic on high school STEM course-taking and performance. Chapel Hill, NC: Education Policy Initiative at Carolina. LINK
- Swiderski, T., Fuller, S. C., & Bastian, K. C. (2023). Community college transfers and the pipeline of prospective teachers in North Carolina. Chapel Hill, NC: Education Policy Initiative at Carolina. Policy brief and research report prepared for the University of North Carolina System. LINK (for policy brief).
- Fuller, S. C., Miesner, R., Rana, R., Swiderski, T., Capers, S., D'Amico, E., Huang, C., Palermo, E., Petry, K., & Redmond, T. (2023). *GEAR UP North Carolina implementation and impact: Mid-grant report*. Chapel Hill, NC: Education Policy Initiative at Carolina. Research report prepared for GEAR UP North Carolina.
- Fuller, S. C., Bastian, K., Swiderski, T., & Mikkelsen, C. (2023). Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on student attendance, grades, grade retention, and suspensions in North Carolina through the 2021-22 school year. Chapel Hill, NC: Education Policy Initiative at Carolina. LINK
- Fuller, S. C., Swiderski, T., Mikkelsen, C., Bastian, K. C., & McDonnell, J. (2022). Effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on student absences, grades, and grade retention. Chapel Hill, NC: Education Policy Initiative at Carolina. LINK
- Swiderski, T., & Lauen, D. L. (2019). Comparing survey information on student postsecondary intentions and administrative data on observed enrollments. Research brief prepared for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the University of North Carolina System.
- Swiderski, T., & Lauen, D. L. (2019). Postsecondary degree completion among students who attended traditional, charter, and Early College High Schools in North Carolina. Research brief prepared for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the University of North Carolina System.

Swiderski, T., & Gavarkavich, D. (2017). *Career & Technical Education and Industry Survey*. Charlotte, NC: Urban Institute at UNC Charlotte. Survey report for the Cabarrus County Schools' and Kannapolis City Schools' CTE programs.

## § Media publications & blog posts

- Swiderski, T., & Fuller, S. C. (Nov. 3, 2023). Student GPA and test score gaps are growing and could be slowing pandemic recovery. *Brookings Brown Center Chalkboard*. <u>https://www.brookings.edu/articles/student-gpa-and-test-score-gaps-are-growing-andcould-be-slowing-pandemic-recovery/</u>
- Swiderski, T. (June 12, 2023). How (and why) to expand the Career and College Promise. *EdNC*. <u>https://www.ednc.org/perspective-how-and-why-to-expand-n-c-s-career-and-college-promise/</u>
- Swiderski, T., Fuller, S. C., Mikkelsen, C., & Bastian, K. (Feb. 15, 2023). New research shows uneven impacts of pandemic on student attendance and grades. *EdNC*. <u>https://www.ednc.org/perspective-new-research-shows-uneven-impacts-of-pandemic-on-student-attendance-and-grades/</u>
- Swiderski, T. (April 12, 2017). One county, different views on opportunity. *Urban Institute at UNC Charlotte*. <u>https://ui.uncc.edu/story/mecklenburg-survey-finds-different-black-white-attitutudes</u>
- Swiderski, T. (Sep. 19, 2016). Will last year's stagnant economic hopes change? Urban Institute at UNC Charlotte. <u>https://web.archive.org/web/20170728004516/https://ui.uncc.edu/story/uncc-urban-institute-annual-survey-economy</u>

# § Manuscripts in preparation

- Fuller, S. C., Swiderski, T., Mikkelsen, C., & Bastian, K. "In school, engaged, on-track? The effect of the pandemic on student attendance, course grades, and grade retention in North Carolina." (Revise & Resubmit at *Educational Researcher*). Working paper: <u>https://doi.org/10.26300/58h9-3r54</u>
- Swiderski, T., Fuller, S. C., & Bastian, K. C. "Increased absenteeism and post-pandemic test scores: A mediation analysis."

## **Research Presentations**

§ Peer-reviewed conference presentations

- 2024 Association for Education Finance and Policy: "Testing the way forward: The impact of statewide ACT/SAT testing on postsecondary outcomes."
- 2023 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management: "The effect of Early College High Schools on STEM Bachelor's degree attainment: Evidence from North Carolina."

Association for Education Finance and Policy: "The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on high school student course-taking and progression."

- 2022 Association for Education Finance and Policy: "Algebra too? The effects of raising high school math and science graduation requirements on secondary and postsecondary outcomes."
- 2021 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management: "A path towards citizenship: The effects of early college high schools on criminal convictions and voting" (held in March 2022)

Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness: "A path towards citizenship: The effects of early college high schools on criminal convictions and voting"

Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness: "Testing the way forward: The effect of universal ACT/SAT testing on college enrollment" (poster presentation)

2020 Association for Education Finance and Policy: "College comes to high school: Participation and performance in Tennessee's innovative wave of dual-credit courses"

## § Other selected research presentations

2024 University of North Carolina and North Carolina Community College System, Early Childhood Education Birth through Kindergarten Transfer Advisory Committee: "Community college transfers in the teacher workforce: Teaching readiness, employment, and performance outcomes" (with Kevin Bastian)

Dual Enrollment Conference (hosted by the Early College Research Center at UNC Greensboro): "The effect of Early College High Schools on STEM Bachelor's degree attainment: Evidence from North Carolina."

2023 University of North Carolina and North Carolina Community College System, Early Childhood Education Birth through Kindergarten Transfer Advisory Committee & Associate's in Teacher Preparation Transfer Advisory Committee: "Community college transfers and the pipeline of prospective teachers in North Carolina" (with Kevin Bastian)

GEAR UP North Carolina Learning Summit 2023: "GEAR UP NC Evaluation Update" (with Sarah Crittenden Fuller & Rosie Miesner)

- 2021 Education & Inequality Seminar, UNC Chapel Hill: "Algebra too? The effects of raising high school math and science graduation requirements on secondary and postsecondary outcomes"
- 2020 Policy Research Group, UNC Chapel Hill Department of Public Policy: "College comes to high school: Participation and performance in Tennessee's innovative wave of dual-credit courses"

2019 Education & Inequality Seminar, UNC Chapel Hill: "College comes to high school: Participation and performance in Tennessee's innovative wave of dual-credit courses"

# MEDIA MENTIONS & COVERAGE

City Journal; The Fordham Institute; WRAL News; EdNC; The Education Gadfly Show

#### HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

| 2023        | EdResearch for Action Writing Fellowship                        |
|-------------|---|
| 2021 - 2022 | The UNC Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$18,000)           |
| 2021        | The Kenneth G. Smith Summer Research Fellowship (UNC) (\$5,000) |
| 2017 - 2018 | The UNC Graduate School Merit Scholarship                       |

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

# <u>§ Teaching Assistantships</u>

PLCY 460/460H: Quantitative Methods for Public Policy

- Spring 2021 (teaching assistant & recitation lead instructor for 2 sections, 44 students)
- Fall 2020 (teaching assistant & recitation lead instructor for 2 sections, 48 students)
- Spring 2020 (teaching assistant & recitation lead instructor for 2 sections, 48 students)
- Spring 2018 (course assistant providing homework and project support, 23 students)

#### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

#### § Organizational Service

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|-----------------------------|---|
| 2024 -                      | Member, EPIC Committee on Professional Development and Learning |
| 2022 -                      | Co-Chair, AEFP "First-Gen" Community Group                      |
| 2023                        | Member, EPIC Committee on Research Communication and            |
|                             | Dissemination   |
| 2023                        | Proposal Reviewer, SREE Conference                              |
| 2018 - 2020                 | Student Advisor, Pre-Graduate Education Advising Program, UNC   |
|                             | University Career Services                                      |
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## § Ad-Hoc Journal Referee

AERA Open; Education Finance and Policy; Educational Policy

## **OTHER SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

| 2015 - 2016 | Community Impact Intern | , United Way of the Greater | <sup>•</sup> Triangle |
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2014 – 2015 Social Work Intern, Durham Nativity School

2013 – 2014 Child Care Worker, Walker (School and Residential Facility)

*Updated 4-12-24*