

George R. Chichirau, Ph. D.

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Summary

- **Policy research analyst** with ample experience in **quantitative research**.
- Co-author of a **public policy textbook** ([Public Policymaking - 9th Edition](#)) and an **urban development textbook** ([Supporting Shrinkage: Better Planning and Decision-Making for Legacy Cities](#)).
- **Advisor to the Director of the Division of Local Mandates** within the Massachusetts Office of the State Auditor. As such, I conducted reviews of numerous state programs, including education, school transportation, and general government aid.
- **University Lecturer** with a focus on urban sprawl, economic development, education, transportation, and housing. At Northeastern University, I teach “Current Issues in Cities and Suburbs”, and “Quantitative Techniques”. At the University of Massachusetts Boston, I have a history of teaching Analytic Methods for Urban Planning and Community Development, Research Methods for Policy Analysis (I and II), and Microeconomics for Policy Analysis, all at the graduate level (master and doctoral).

Selected Publications

Tafoya B., DeBarcelos C., Chichirau G. & Hershman H. 2022. [Five-Year Statutory Fiscal Impact Report 2022](#). Office of the Massachusetts State Auditor.

Tafoya B., DeBarcelos C., Chichirau G. & Hershman H. 2022. [Fulfilling the Promise of Local Aid by Strengthening State-Local Partnerships](#). Office of the Massachusetts State Auditor.

Anderson, J., Moyer, J., Chichirau, G. 2022. [Public Policymaking \(9th Edition\)](#). Cengage Learning.

Johnson, Michael P., Hollander, J., Kinsey, E., Chichirau, G. 2021. [Supporting Shrinkage: Better Planning and Decision-Making for Legacy Cities](#). Albany, NY: SUNY University Press.

Midgley, G., Johnson, M. P., & Chichirau, G. (2018). [What is Community Operational Research?](#) European Journal of Operational Research, 268(3), 771–783.

Johnson, M. P., Midgley, G., & Chichirau, G. (2018). [Emerging Trends and New Frontiers in Community Operational Research](#). European Journal of Operational Research, 268(3), 1178–1191.

Work Experience

Office of the Massachusetts State Auditor | 1 Ashburton Pl, Boston, MA 02108 Policy Research Analyst | 2021 – present

Designed, developed, and implemented statistical and econometric methods and techniques to undergird the agency's research agenda. Created data models (in Stata) and dashboards (in Tableau) to both measure and illustrate state policy impacts. Collaboratively authored wide-ranging research reports, including a five-year review of the entire activity of the Office of the State Auditor. Conducted reviews of numerous state programs, including energy, education, school transportation, general government aid, and more. Served as advisor to the Director of the Division of Local Mandates.

Key member of the team running the state's Municipal Finance Oversight Board. As such, researched and wrote numerous reports on municipal finances. Identified and analyzed budgetary issues, synthesized complex materials, and recommend appropriate courses of action for the agency's needs. Periodically presented program memos to senior elected officials. Planned, organized, developed and conducted analyses of both statewide and municipal budgetary strategies, policies, and practices, in order to contribute to the Office of the State Auditor's mission of preventing excess expenditures, waste, fraud, and abuse.

Northeastern University | 360 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02115 Lecturer | 2020 – present

Teaching history:

- POLS 2358: Current Issues in Cities and Suburbs (undergraduate). An in-depth introduction to pressing urban issues: urban sprawl, poverty, education, transportation, economic development, and housing, through an intensive analysis of the Boston area.
- POLS 2400 - Quantitative Techniques (undergraduate). Methods of quantitative analysis including descriptive statistics, hypothesis testing, cross-tabulation, analysis of variance, bivariate regression and correlation, and multiple regression. Examines how to generate and interpret statistical findings through use of Excel, SPSS, and/or other software programs. Uses examples from political behavior, public policy analysis, public opinion, comparative and international politics, and other areas of political and social-science inquiry to emphasize practical applications.

University of Massachusetts (McCormack Graduate School of Policy) Lecturer/Graduate Teaching Assistant | 2017 – 2020

Teaching history:

- UPCD 620: Analytic Methods for Urban Planning (graduate). An introduction to quantitative and qualitative analytic methods appropriate to propose, support and

evaluate localized and regional initiatives in planning and community development. Students use Stata to manage large datasets and produce descriptive summaries, plots, and inferential analyses (including regression).

- POLSCI 102: Government and Politics of the United States (undergraduate). A class on political principles and ideologies, public opinion, political socialization, political parties, mass media, elections, interest groups, civil rights and civil liberties, public policies and more.
- PPOL-G 621: Microeconomics for Policy Analysis (doctoral). A class focusing on consumer choices, producer behavior, and market failures, first within the neoclassical economic model and then in the context of alternative economic theories.
- GCPA 602: History of US Public Administration (graduate). A broad exposure to the intellectual history of public administration in the United States.
- PUBADM 628: Research Methods for Policy Analysis I (graduate). The course is divided into three sections, (1) quantitative methods; (2) qualitative methods; and (3) community-based participatory action research. Each section culminates in the submission of a policy brief on a topic of the student's choosing.
- PUBADM 629: Research Methods II (graduate). A focus on the Case Study Method and its related skills, including interviewing, analysis of documents/archives, analysis of prior research findings, qualitative research skills and analysis, and determination of policy implications.
- PUBADM 691: Capstone/Case Study Seminar. The completion of a final project, which may be a case study of a public policy or significant piece of legislation. While completing their case study project, students participate in a weekly seminar that focuses on case study methodology.

INFORMS (The Institute for Operations Research and Management Sciences) Research Project Manager | part-time | 2018 – 2020

Managed the [INFORMS Editor's Cut edition on diversity issues](#). I proposed relevant papers, integrated the collection with papers proposed by other committee members, and saw it through to final product. I also developed a diversity knowledge base: established technical standards, performed a wide-ranging review, collected and published materials, performed maintenance etc.

University of Massachusetts (McCormack Graduate School of Policy) Graduate Research Assistant | part-time | 2015 – 2020

I contributed to 4 publications; I notably wrote chapter 2 of "Supporting Shrinkage: Better Planning and Decision-Making for Legacy Cities", a quantitative analysis of how data and technologies can support sustainable and equitable urban planning in legacy cities (and did most of the data analysis for the entire volume). I also worked on the Public Administration Master's Program marketing in the following areas: 1) data analysis of enrollment and financial trends; 2) market analysis of comparable programs across the US; 3) lead development; and 4) social media development.

Wellington Solar LLC

Project Manager | 2014 – 2015

I re-designed the company web site, implemented a major IT systems upgrade, and re-tooled the marketing portfolio.

BRIO Local Ltd.

Director of Legal Affairs | 2010 - 2013

BRIO Local was a consulting group that facilitated transactions between Central European and Chinese companies (mostly subcontracting of manufacturing and purchases of raw materials). My role within BRIO was to identify optimal outcomes and draft agreements. Consistently worked long hours, handling numerous people, events and time zones at once.

House of Romeo School of Foreign Languages (Shenzhen, China)

General Manager | 2007-2010

Started this school of foreign languages to meet growth opportunities in the Chinese education market. I designed the course structures and scheduling; recruited a 15-person team; found a physical location, devised and implemented a marketing plan. The language center grew to be financially sound and self-sustaining by 2010.

Carleton College Student Association (Northfield, MN)

Senator | 2006 - 2007

Debated \$400,000/year budget allocations with 18 fellow senators. Worked on campus IT improvements while on the IT Services committee, assessed effectiveness of dining hall services.

Carleton College (Northfield, MN)

Computing Specialist | 2003 - 2007

Provided users with network, hardware, software, and printer support via the Student Computing Information Center; answered questions on the Student Help Line and helped maintain the campus network and laboratories.

Education

- University of Massachusetts (Boston) – Ph.D. in Public Policy
- University of Massachusetts (Boston) – M.S. in Public Policy
- Carleton College — B.A. (Magna Cum Laude) in Political Science and Classical Studies

Skills

- Strong research skills acquired through PhD-level coursework in statistics, economics and political science.
- Proficient in Stata, MaxQDA, Tableau; working knowledge of ArcGIS, Excel, R, SQL.
- Languages: French, Romanian, Portuguese.