

Cooper Desmond

EDUCATION

Biology and Religion, BA, Williams College, GPA: 3.93

Aug. 2020 – May 2024

- Linear algebra, abstract algebra, data structures, biostatistics, differential equations (audited)

Economics, Statistics, and Mathematics, Graduate Student-at-Large, University of Chicago

Sep. 2025 – Jun. 2026

- Honors microeconomics core, honors econometrics, statistical theory core, real analysis

RESEARCH

In-progress

Disability Insurance, Legal Aid, and Prenatal Care: Evidence from a Farmworker Health Center

Working Paper

Long Term Effects of Felony Conviction on Voter Registration and Recidivism: Evidence from Harris County

Co-Author

[Multiple-context extinction strengthens fear suppression through hippocampal dopamine D2R-dependent memory updating](#)

Neuropsychopharmacology

October 6, 2026

First Author

[Shared Success Midpoint Evaluation Overview](#)

Aspen Institute

April 21, 2025

First Author

[The association of patient and disease characteristics with the overtreatment of low-risk prostate cancer from 2010 to 2016](#)

Prostate Cancer and

Prostatic Diseases

March 30, 2024

WORK EXPERIENCE

UChicago Booth School of Business, *Research Professional (Prof. Jack Mountjoy)*

Jul. 2025 – Present

- Estimated the long-run effects of charter school attendance on civic participation, criminal justice involvement, and labor market outcomes using lottery-based instrumental variables, building the pipeline that assembled student, court, voter, and employment records into an analysis-ready dataset
- Developed diagnostics for the research design and redesigned the record linkage using probabilistic models to preserve analytic validity

Salud Para La Gente, *Upstream Health Analyst*, Watsonville, CA

Jan. 2024 – Present

- Conducted a pilot analysis of health and administrative records that identified language-based disparities in disability benefit access and pregnancy outcomes among farmworker patients; building on the pilot, co-wrote and won a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant to evaluate whether the clinic's medical-legal partnership and state disability insurance enrollment improve prenatal care access and birth outcomes
- Led an interdisciplinary research team of physicians, clinical staff, and administrators on the funded study; linked internal health and disability benefits data, and designed an evaluation using synthetic and within-clinic controls

EA Consultants, *Research Analyst*, New York, NY

Oct. 2023 – Jun. 2025

- Led quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis to evaluate the impact of the Aspen Institute's Shared Success program on job quality at 11 CDFIs across the United States; authored the midterm and final evaluation reports delivered to the Aspen Institute and the Gates Foundation

Central Coast Overdose Prevention, *Researcher & Community Advocate*, Santa Cruz, CA

Jun. 2023 – Sep. 2024

- Led development of overdose surveillance dashboards for three California counties, abstracting data from medical examiner case files with forensic pathologists and collating cleaned drug death records from partner counties into a unified dataset used by county officials and stakeholders

Salinas Valley Hospital, *Health Scholar*, Salinas, CA

May 2023 – Aug. 2023

- Assisted care teams in the Progressive Care, Mother and Baby, ONS, Medical-Surgical, and Oncology Units by collecting vital signs and helping patients with toileting, bathing, feeding, and ambulation.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, *Research Assistant (Prof. Boris Gershman)*, Boston, MA

Jun. 2022 – Aug. 2023

- First-authored a published study of overtreatment in low-risk prostate cancer using the National Cancer Database, designing the analysis, interpreting regression results, and drafting the manuscript; findings identified patient, disease, and facility level characteristics associated with disparities in surgical overtreatment

- Assisted in autopsy procedures and dissection of decedents; helped preserve and organize medical records; promoted to researcher and performed statistical analyses with county-level data on suicides and drug-related deaths to inform government officials on where to direct resources

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation research grant with Salud Para La Gente to evaluate whether a medical-legal partnership and California State Disability Insurance enrollment improve prenatal care access and birth outcomes among farmworker patients, 2026
- Highest Honors in Biology awarded for senior thesis, Williams College, 2024
- Magna cum laude, Williams College, 2024
- Harry S. Truman Scholarship Finalist, 2023