TIMOTHY A. HYDE

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CURRENT APPOINTMENT

Assistant Professor, Oberlin College Department of Economics, 2024 - present

PRIOR APPOINTMENTS

Gloria T. and Melvin J. ("Jack") Chisum Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, 2022 - 2024

EDUCATION

- Carnegie Mellon University, Ph.D. in Economics, 2022
- Yale University, M.A. in Economics, 2014
- Stanford University, B.A. in Economics with Honors and Distinction, 2010

PUBLICATIONS

- Hopkins, Caroline and **Timothy Hyde** (2026). "How do risk perceptions change with new information? Evidence from a survey of flood-prone counties." *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*. [link]
- **Hyde, Timothy** and Dolores Albarracín (2023). "Record-breaking heat days disproportionately influence heat perceptions." *Nature: Scientific Reports*. [link]
- Bhattacharya, Jay, **Timothy Hyde**, and Peter Tu (2013). *Health Economics* (textbook), Bloomsbury Publishing. [link]

WORKING PAPERS

- Information versus attention in flood risk disclosure (with Dolores Albarracín), *under review* [link]

  Flood risk disclosure is expanding rapidly in real estate markets, but if disclosures move demand by commanding attention rather than by conveying information, their welfare effects are ambiguous. We examine this tension in a discrete choice experiment where 1,498 respondents make hypothetical choices among real Gulf Coast properties under a control condition and four disclosure formats varying in informational content and presentation. Absent disclosure, insurance costs barely influence choices; by contrast, when respondents are shown precise flood insurance estimates, they are willing to pay $3.34 in annualized housing costs to avoid each annual premium dollar. Using a separate beliefs elicitation, we estimate each format's technical information content and construct a Bayesian benchmark for how much choices should respond. Observed responses exceed this benchmark by a factor of four to six; informational content accounts for at most 30 percent of the response to any format.

- Neglect at your own risk? Evidence on risk-taking prevalence and motives from the field (with Saurabh Bhargava), *in progress* [link]

  We study risky choice in a large field setting where employees choose among goal-reward contracts resembling financial lotteries and where we observe both choices and beliefs. We find risk aversion and choice heterogeneity far exceeding expected utility predictions and unexplained by prominent behavioral motives like overconfidence, nonlinear decision weights, and loss aversion. We propose and experimentally validate a heuristic explanation for risk taking involving contingency neglect during pairwise evaluation. The heuristic fits the field and lab data better than competing models and offers a potential explanation for insurance puzzles involving under-insurance and excess heterogeneity.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- Flood me once, shame on you? Distant disaster experience and subsequent demand for coastal housing in Florida

- The value of a statistical life and demand for others' survival at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic in the United States (with Nicholas Z. Muller)
- Bayesian conspiracy theorists? Equivocal signals and persistent polarization (with Javier A. Granados Samayoa)
- Pricing the "Heat Katrina": How do Arizonans perceive risk of power grid failure? (with Mikhail Chester)
- Behavioral erosion of private knowledge in insurance risk (with Saurabh Bhargava)
- Regulating the insurance menu: Coverage caps, underinsurance, and uncovered flood losses (with Shana Cui)

EMPLOYMENT

- Web Editor, American Economic Association (2015-2017)
- Staff Economist, Council of Economic Advisers (2014-2015)
- Research Assistant, Stanford School of Medicine (2011-2012)
- Research Assistant, Stanford Law School (2010-2011)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Presentations:

- 2025: Kent State University, Northeast Ohio Economics Workshop
- 2024: Oberlin College, Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference
- 2023: Oberlin College, Wharton Summer Urban and Real Estate Lunch
- 2022: Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings (virtual), Northeast Workshop on Energy Policy and Environmental Economics, Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference
- 2020: Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference (virtual)

Referee Service: *Journal of Human Capital*

TEACHING

- Seminar in Behavioral Economics and Public Policy (Oberlin College, Spring 2026, Spring 2025)
- Health Economics (Oberlin College, Spring 2026, Spring 2025)
- Principles of Economics (Oberlin College, Fall 2024, Fall 2025)
- Behavioral Economics in the Wild (Carnegie Mellon University, Spring 2021, virtual)