

Abigail N. Devereaux

Education

Ph.D. in Economics—George Mason University, 2020

Complexity economics, game theory, macroeconomics, Austrian economics

Dissertation: “Synecological Systems Theory: An Alternative Foundation for Economic Inquiry”

Advisor: Richard Wagner

M.A. in Economics—George Mason University, 2017

M.A. in Mathematics—Boston University, 2007

Differential geometry, algebraic topology

B.A. in Physics, *summa cum laude*—Boston University, 2004

Experimental high-energy particle physics, quantum theory

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor in Economics—Wichita State University, Aug. 2020-

ECON 202: Principles of Microeconomics, ECON 622: Economies in Transition, ECON 777: Game Theory and Mechanism Design, BADM 100: Exploring the Foundations of Business, ECON 692Z: Computational Economics & Simulation

Research Fellow—Institute for the Study of Economic Growth, Aug. 2020-

Ph.D. Fellow in Economics—New York University, 2018-20

Mercatus Ph.D. Fellow in Economics, George Mason University, 2016-20

Research Assistant to Richard E. Wagner, Economics, George Mason University, 2016-20

Research areas: Macroeconomic theory, agent-based modeling, game theory

Graduate Lecturer, Economics, George Mason University, 2017-18

ECON 306: Intermediate Microeconomics, ECON 385: International Economic Policy, ECON 412: Game Theory and Institutions, ECON 380: Economies in Transition

Teaching Assistant to Carlos Ramirez, Economics, George Mason University, 2015-16

ECON 715: Graduate Macroeconomics I, ECON 871: International Monetary Economics

Departmental Tutor for PhD Students, Economics, George Mason University, 2016-17

PhD Student Math Camp Instructor, George Mason University, Summer 2016

Departmental Tutor for Undergraduates, Economics, George Mason University, 2015-16

Special Projects Technical Project Manager, Wolfram Research, Boston, MA, 2007-15

Project areas: Application development in Mathematica, complex systems science and educational technology project developer, instructor and event manager for the NKS/Wolfram Science Summer School, journal peer-review and administration.

Research Assistant, ATLAS Muon Spectrometer Project for the CERN Large Hadron Collider, Harvard University High-Energy Physics Laboratory, Cambridge, MA, 2002-4

Project areas: Wrote software in C++ to graphically track particles in real-time as they traveled through the muon detectors; helped to build, connect, trouble-shoot, fix and test detectors.

Advisor: Dr. Steve Ahlen

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Devereaux, A. (forthcoming). Costs of choice: reformulating price theory without heroic assumptions.

Public Choice. Available at: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4451750

Devereaux, A., Koppl, R., Kauffman, S. (2024). Creative evolution in economics. *Journal of Evolutionary Economics.*

Koppl, R., Gatti, R., Devereaux, A., Fath, B., Herriott, J., Hordijk, W., Kauffman, S., Ulanowicz, R., Valverde, S. (2023). *Explaining Technology* (Elements in Evolutionary Economics). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/9781009386289.

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/elements/explaining-technology/35B60E962727A42ABAB78D33CDE76B7C>

Devereaux, A. (2021), The digital Wild West: on social entrepreneurship in extended reality. *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy*, Vol. 10 No. 2, pp. 198-217. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JEPP-03-2019-0018>

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- Murphy, J., Devereaux, A., Goodman, N., & Koppl, R. (2021). Expert Failure and Pandemics: On Adapting to Life With Pandemics. *Cosmos + Taxis*, 9(5+6), 9-17.
- Goodman, N., Coyne, C., & Devereaux, A. N. (2021). Infectious diseases and government growth. *The Independent Review*, 25(4).
- Klein, D. B., Briggeman, J., Davis, W. L., & Devereaux, A. (2021). Are So-Called Normative Statements Practically the Same as Suitably Formulated So-Called Positive Statements? Evidence from a Survey of Economics Professors. *Cosmos + Taxis*, 9(1+2), 70-89.
- Devereaux, A. N., & Peng, L. (2020). Give us a little social credit: To design or to discover personal ratings in the era of Big Data. *Journal of Institutional Economics*, 1-19.
doi:10.1017/S1744137419000754
- Devereaux, A. N., & Wagner, R. E. (2020). Contrasting visions for macroeconomic theory: DSGE and OEE. *The American Economist*, 65(1), 28-50.
- Devereaux, A. (2019). The Augmented Commons: How Augmented Reality Aids Agile Self-Organization. *Journal of Private Enterprise*, 34(2), 81-101.
- Devereaux, A. N. (2019). The nudge wars: A modern socialist calculation debate. *The Review of Austrian Economics*, 32(2), 139-158.
- Devereaux, A. N. (2019). Approaching the Singularity Behind the Veil of Incomputability: On Algorithmic Governance, the Economist-as-Expert, and the Piecemeal Circumnavigation of the Administrative State. *Cosmos & Taxis*, 7(1+2), 19-29.
- Nussey, A. (2010). "Outer Median and Probabilistic Cellular Automata on Network Topologies." *Complex Systems*, Volume 18, Issue 4.

Book Chapters and Book Reviews

- Devereaux, A. N. (accepted). "Exiting ergodicity." In Alston, E. (ed), *Handbook of Institutions & Complexity*. Forthcoming.
- Devereaux, A. N. (2023). "Seven Stepping Stones to a Systems Theory of Economics." In: Coyne, Christopher, Boettke, Peter (Eds), *Festschrift for Richard E. Wagner* (working title). Mercatus Center at George Mason University.
- Devereaux, A. N. (2020). Book Review: Darcy W.E. Allen, Chris Berg, and Aaron M. Lane, *Cryptodemocracy How Blockchain Can Radically Expand Democratic Choice*: Lexington Books, Lanham, MD, 2019, 164 pp. *The Independent Review*.
- Devereaux A. (2020) *Complex and Entangled Public Policy: Here Be Dragons*. In: Hebert D.J., Thomas D.W. (eds) *Emergence, Entanglement, and Political Economy*. Studies in Public Choice, vol 38. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-56088-1_4
- Devereaux, A. N., & Wagner, R. E. (2018). "Emergence, Equilibrium, and Agent-Based Modeling: Updating James Buchanan's Democratic Political Economy." In *James M. Buchanan* (pp. 109-129). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.
- Devereaux, A. N. (2016). Book Review: David Colander and Roland Kupers, *Complexity and the Art of Public Policy: Solving Society's Problems from the Bottom Up*: Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 2016, 320 pp, USD 22.95 (cloth). *Public Choice*.

Public-Oriented Articles and Essays

- Roger Koppl and Abigail Devereaux (December 1, 2022). "[Senator Markey Takes a Dive](https://www.econlib.org/senator-markey-takes-a-dive/)." *EconLog*. Available at: <https://www.econlib.org/senator-markey-takes-a-dive/>
- Roger Koppl and Abigail Devereaux. (July 9, 2022). "[The Biden administration's latest online speech plan is as Orwellian as the last](https://thehill.com/opinion/technology/3550334-the-biden-administrations-latest-online-speech-plan-is-as-orwellian-as-the-last/)." *The Hill*. Available at: <https://thehill.com/opinion/technology/3550334-the-biden-administrations-latest-online-speech-plan-is-as-orwellian-as-the-last/>
- Roger Koppl and Abigail Devereaux. (May 1, 2022). "[Biden Establishes a Ministry of Truth](https://www.wsj.com/articles/biden-establishes-a-ministry-of-truth-disinformation-governance-board-partisan-11651432312)." *The Wall Street Journal*. Available at: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/biden-establishes-a-ministry-of-truth-disinformation-governance-board-partisan-11651432312>
- Devereaux, A. N. (May 6, 2021). "Restricting the unvaccinated sets a dangerous precedent." *The Hill*. Available at: <https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/552150-restricting-the-unvaccinated-sets-a-dangerous-precedent>

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Devereaux, A. N. (Aug 1, 2020). “Longer Lockdowns Associated with Much Worse Economic Outcomes.” *AIER*. Available at: <https://www.aier.org/article/longer-lockdowns-associated-with-much-worse-economic-outcomes/>

Devereaux, A. N. (June 5, 2020). “Unemployment Drop Due to Fewer States with Lockdowns.” *AIER*. Available at: <https://www.aier.org/article/unemployment-drop-due-to-fewer-states-with-lockdowns/>

Devereaux, A. N. (June 4, 2020). “Unemployment Far Worse in Lockdown States, Data Show.” *AIER*. Available at: <https://www.aier.org/article/unemployment-far-worse-in-lockdown-states-data-show/>

Media Appearances

Podcasts and Radio

Foltz-Smith, Russell (Host). (2023, March 21). “The adjacent possible and irrationality in economics and life.” *From there to here: a podcast for space hackers*. Titan Space Technologies. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJNhKeYqryY>

Massimo, Cory (Host). (2022, May 4). Abigail Devereaux on complexity economics. *Mutual Exchange Radio*. Available at: <https://c4ss.org/content/56631>

Kraske, S. (Host). (2021, Aug 19). A worker’s economy. *Up to Date*, KCUR 89.3 – NPR in Kansas City. “[Macroeconomics as Systems Theory Book Panel](#)” (2021, Feb 24). F. A. Hayek Program, Mercatus Original Podcast.

Comegna, A. (Host). (2020, Sep 15). Is the economy computible? with Abigail Devereaux [Audio podcast episode]. In *Ideas in Progress*. Institute for the Humane Studies. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/is-the-economy-computible-with-abigail-devereaux/id1482051492?i=1000491394722>

Comegna, A. (Host). (2020, Sep 9). What’s an algorithm, anyway? with Abigail Devereaux [Audio podcast episode]. In *Ideas in Progress*. Institute for the Humane Studies. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/what-is-an-algorithm-anyways-with-abigail-devereaux/id1482051492?i=1000490616831>

Kraske, S. (Host). (2020, Aug 3). How Lapsing Federal Unemployment Benefits Could Affect The Economy In Kansas & Missouri. *Up To Date*, KCUR 89.3 – NPR in Kansas City. <https://www.kcur.org/podcast/up-to-date/2020-08-03/how-lapsing-federal-unemployment-benefits-could-affect-the-economy-in-kansas-missouri>

Television

McKinney, K. (Host). (2020, Dec 30). Interview w/Professor & Fellow at the Independent Institute, Abigail Devereaux. *Tipping Point*. One America News Network.

McKinney, K. (Host). (2020, Dec 1). Interview w/Professor & Fellow at the Independent Institute, Abigail Devereaux. *Tipping Point*. One America News Network.

Ball, D. (Host). (2020, Nov 23). Interview W/ Professor & Fellow At The Independent Institute, Abby Devereaux, *Real America*. One America News Network.

Stephens, K., & De La Vega, J. (Hosts). (2020, Nov 20). Interview w/ Professor & Fellow At The Independent Institute, Abigail Devereaux, *Great Day*. KMPH Fox News, Fresno.

Talks and Presentations

RMIT Blockchain Innovation Hub Workshop, RMIT, Melbourne, Australia. (virtual). [December 8, 2022](#). “The Algorithmic Limits of Control.”

Institute for Liberal Studies Talk Series, ILS (virtual). [November 4, 2022](#). “Expert Failure and Pandemics.”

Southern Economic Association meetings

[Nov 17-20, 2023](#): Chaired, organized and/or presented in two complexity economics sessions. Was a co-author on a panel about my book, “Explaining Technology.” Presented: “The Use of Social Knowledge: How Polycentricity and Institutions Emerge”

[Nov 18-21, 2022](#): Chaired, organized and/or presented in four complexity economics sessions. Presented: “Inconsistency at the edge of chaos”, and “Towards an open-ended evolutionary epistemology”

[Nov. 20-22, 2021](#): Chaired Presidential session.

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Presented “The limits of control in the face of accelerating growth: a complexity economist’s view,” and “Shakespeare’s Four Ages of Academia”
Nov. 21-23, 2020: “You Can’t Get There from Here: The Economics of Organized Complexity,” “Classifying Economic Complexity: Levels & Ties and Behaviors, Oh My!”
Nov. 23-25 2019: “The Algorithmic Use of Knowledge: An Austrian Response to Cybernetic Hypernudge,” “An Agent-Based Model of Synecological Game Theory”
Nov. 17-19 2017: “Contrasting Visions for Macroeconomic Theory: DSGE and OEE”
Nov 19-21 2016: “The Nudge Wars: A Glimpse into the Modern Socialist Calculation Debate,” “Macro Theory Within An Ecological Framework”

Markets & Society Conference, Fairfax, VA

October 19-21, 2023 “The use of knowledge in a creatively evolving society”
October 21-23, 2022 “An entangled systems formalism for multilevel selection theory”

Wichita Pachyderm Club, Wichita, KS.

July 26, 2022. “Innovations in economic thinking.” Recording available at:
<https://youtu.be/5Cp12L0uHYw>

Human Progress & Flourishing Workshop, The Challey Institute at NDSU, Fargo, ND.

April 22, 2022. “The limits of control in the face of accelerating growth.” Recording available at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdgcSEca3Jo>

Public Choice Society meetings

Mar 10-12 2022: “The limits of control in the face of accelerating growth: an entangled political economy perspective.”
Mar 11-14 2021: “The Emergence and Entanglement of Economic Indicators,” and “Formalizing Polycentric Governance: Could ‘Synecological’ Systems Show the Way Forward?”
Mar. 1-3 2018: “Complex and Entangled Public Policy: Here Be Dragons”

Praxis Society, Hillsdale University, Hillsdale, Michigan

February 17, 2022. “Algorithmic Nudge: A New Cybernetics of Social Control?” Recording available at: <https://youtu.be/vkMtpUp4Xec>

Pacific Forum, Honolulu, Hawaii (virtual)

Dec. 3, 2021: Presentation on China’s Social Credit system.

Institute for the Study of Economic Growth, Wichita State University

Dec. 29, 2021: Presentation on China’s Social Credit System, ISEG Mentoring Lunch.

Mont Pelerin Society Meetings, Guatemala City, Guatemala

Nov. 15-19, 2021: “The limits of control in the face of accelerating growth: a complexity economist’s view.”

Bastiat Society of Wichita, Wichita, KS

Sep. 30 2021: “On China’s Social Credit System and other forms of algorithmic governance”

Entangled Political Economy Research Network, virtual

Apr 20 2021: “The theory of action area entanglement.” Recording available at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7QqwmzkCiE>

James Madison University Economics Seminar Series, James Madison University, hosted by J. Barkley Rosser.

Apr 2 2021: “Synecological Systems and Entangled Political Economy”

2020 Research Conference on Voluntary Governance, Arizona State University

Nov. 5-7, 2020: “Explaining Technology” with Roger Koppl

Simulation in the Social Sciences, Paris 1 Sorbonne

Oct. 10-11 2019: “Agent-based Modeling as Quintessential Tool for Open-ended Social Theorizing”

NYU Colloquium on Market Institutions and Economic Processes, New York University

Sept. 23 2019: “Multiple Games Analysis as a Petri Dish for Polycentric Orders”

Jan. 28 2019: “Give Us a Little Social Credit: To Design or Discover Personal Ratings in the Era of Big Data”

Institute for Humane Studies Summer Graduate Research Colloquium

July 12-15 2018: “Game Theory as Social Theory: The Synecological Minimum”

July 6-9, 2017: “Cascades, Cycles and Creativity: The Endogenous Dynamics of a Systems Theoretic Economics”

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Association of Private Enterprise Education meetings

April 1-4 2018: "Give Us a Little Social Credit: A Near-Future Tug of War Between Explorers and Exploiters"

April 9-12 2017: "The Augmented Commons: How Technology Could Help Solve Problems of Public Goods and Aid Agile Self-organization"

NKS Midwest Conference 2008, Indiana University

Oct 31-Nov 2 2008: "Outer Median Cellular Automaton Rules in 1D, 2D, and on Graphs."

Academic Service

Complexity Economics Workshop, founder and organizer - <https://complexityeconomists.com/> Session Chair/Organizer

Nov 17-20, 2023: Chaired and organized two complexity economics sessions.

October 19-21, 2023: Chaired and organized two complexity economics sessions.

Nov. 18-21, 2022, Southern Economic Association Meetings, Chair/Organizer of three "Complexity Economics" sessions

Mar 10-12 2022, Public Choice Society Meetings: Chair/Organizer of "Entangled Political Economy" session

Nov. 20-22, 2021: Southern Economic Association Meetings, Chair/Organizer of "Complexity Economics" session

Mar 11-14 2021, Public Choice Society Meetings: Chair/Organizer of two "Entangled Political Economy" sessions

Nov. 20-22, 2021, Southern Economic Association Meetings: Chair/Organizer of Presidential Session on "Complexity Economics"

Panel Moderator

"Panel Discussion on Politics and Economics Without Romance: Special Interests and Policy." *Foundations for the Market Economy* at New York University. March 2, 2020.

<https://wp.nyu.edu/marketfoundations/panels-and-lectures/>

Panelist

Book Panel on Richard Wagner's "Macroeconomics as Systems Theory," hosted by the Mercatus Center at George Mason University. January 28, 2021. (Video on YouTube)

University Service

Business School Exceptions Committee (faculty member), 2023-24 academic year

Organized Talks and Events

Spring 2023, Stuart Kauffman

Spring 2023, ABM Hackathon

New Curriculum Offerings

ECON 622 Economies in Transition

ECON 777 Game Theory & Mechanism Design

ECON 692Z Computational Economics & Simulation

Grants

Kansas EPSCOR Preliminary Grant – Co-PI

Summer 2023- (ongoing)

Professional Affiliations

Complexity Economics Workshop, *Founder and Senior Research Fellow*, August 2022-present

American Institute for Economic Research, *Public Choice and Public Policy Fellow*, December 2021-present

Institute for the Study of Economic Growth at Wichita State University, *Research Fellow*, August 2020-present

Classical Liberal Institute at New York University, *Fellow*, August 2018-present

Independent Institute, *Research Fellow*, November 2020-present

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Entangled Political Economy Research Network, *Founding Member*, June 2020-present
Ostrom Workshop, *External Faculty Affiliate*, March 2021-present
Southern Economic Association, *Member*, 2016-present
Society for the Development of Austrian Economics, *Member*, 2016-present

Professional Development

Santa Fe Institute's 2022 ACTioN and Board of Trustees Symposium (November 4-5, 2022), Santa Fe, NM

The 21st Century Question: Emergently Engineering the Future

Mont Pelerin Society Meetings 2022 (October 4-8, 2022), Oslo, Norway

Applied Research: Foundations of a Free Society (October 21-24, 2021), Fairfax, VA

Hosted by the Institute for the Humane Studies.

Social Innovation Framework Workshop (June 15-16, 2021), Arlington, VA

Hosted by the Stand Together Foundation.

Exploring the Frontiers: Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship (Oct. 29 & 30, 2020)

Essay: "The Case for CASE Analysis: Complex Adaptive Social Entrepreneurship"

Santa Fe Institute's Complexity Science Summer School (Summer, 2016)

Projects: "The City as an Ecology of Plans," and "Group Emergence"

Santa Fe Institute: "Exploring Complexity in Social Systems & Economics" (January 4-7, 2016)

New Kind of Science Summer School, University of Vermont (Summers 2008 & 2010).

Project: "Digital Song Composition with Cellular Automata"

Project: "Outer Median and Probabilistic Cellular Automata on Network Topologies"

Selected Awards

Young Faculty Risk Taker Award (2024)

Elinor Ostrom Prize (2021)

Israel M. Kirzner Award for Outstanding Dissertation in Austrian Economics (2020)

NYU PhD Fellowship in Economics (2019, 2018)

Mercatus PhD Fellowship (2019, 2018, 2017, 2016)

Institute for Humane Studies PhD Fellowship (2019, 2018, 2017, 2016)

Mercatus Summer Research Fellowship (2019, 2018, 2017, 2016)

Languages

Human: Native English, proficient French, tourist-level Spanish

Computer: *Mathematica*, Python, R, NetLogo, C++, STATA

Other Creative Interests and Proficiencies

Music: Proficient in operatic voice, piano, and classical and digital composition.

Writing: Proficient in speculative fiction and poetry.

Art: Painter in oils and oil pastels.