

# VALENTINA DIMITROVA-GRAJZL

*Curriculum Vitae, May 2022*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Virginia Military Institute  
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[ECBU Department Webpage](#)  
[Personal webpage](#)

## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT and AFFILIATIONS

Professor, Department of Economics and Business, Virginia Military Institute, since 2019  
Visiting Scholar (non-resident), The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, August 2013-present

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor with tenure, Department of Economics and Business, Virginia Military Institute, 2017-2019  
Associate Professor, Department of Economics and Business, Virginia Military Institute, 2015-2017  
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and Business, Virginia Military Institute, 2011-2015  
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Washington and Lee University, 2010 – 2011  
Assistant Professor, Department of Public Policy and Department of Economics (joint position) Central European University, 2007 –2010  
*Guest Lecturer*, Summer School, Faculty of Management, Koper, Slovenia, June 2010  
Institutions and Development (MA level, part of the Economy and Institutions course)  
*Guest Lecturer*, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Nova Gorica, Slovenia, January 2009  
Institutions and Development (PhD level, Sociology Department)  
*Guest Lecturer*, University Centre for Euro-Mediterranean Studies (EMUNI), Slovenia, July 2008  
Institutions for Good Governance and Growth (part of the Economic Policy course)  
Visiting Professor, Department of Public Policy, Central European University, 2005 –2007

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, USA, 2006  
Dissertation: "Essays on the Historical and Current Institutional Development of the South East and Central European States"  
Committee: Peter Murrell (Chair), John Wallis, Roger Betancourt  
M.A. Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, USA, 2002  
B.A. Economics and East Asian Studies, Wittenberg University, USA, 1998, *summa cum laude*

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economics of Institutions, Post-Socialist Economies and Politics, American Indian Economic Development, Law and Economics, Economic History

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

"The Great Divide Revisited: Ottoman and Habsburg Legacies on Transition" *Kyklos*, 60(4), pp. 539-558 (2007)

"The Choice in the Law-Making Process: Legal Transplants vs. Indigenous Law" with Peter Grajzl, *Review of Law & Economics*, 5(1), Article 26 (2009)

"Political Trust and Historical Legacies: The Effect of Varieties of Socialism" with Ester Simon, *East European Politics and Societies*, 24(2), pp. 206-228 (2010)

"Political Efficacy of Emerging Elites in Post-Socialist Countries: The Impact of Disciplinary Culture and Political Opportunity Structure" with Ester Simon and Alex Fischer, *Transition Studies Review*, 14(4), pp. 807-821 (2010)

"Trust, Path Dependence and Historical Legacy: The Second Decade after Transition" in: *Twenty Years after the Collapse of Communism: Expectations, achievements and disillusion of 1989*. Eds: Nicolas Hayoz, Leszek Jesień, Daniela Koleva (2011)

"Trust, Perceptions of Corruption, and Demand for Regulation: Evidence from Post-Socialist countries" with Peter Grajzl and Joseph Guse, *Journal of Socio-Economics*, 41(1), pp.292-303 (2012)

"Court Output, Judicial Staffing, and the Demand for Court Services: Evidence from Slovenian Courts of First Instance " with Peter Grajzl, Janez Sustersic, Katarina Zajc, *International Review of Law and Economics*, 31(1), pp. 19-29 (2012)

"Judicial Incentives and Performance in Lower Courts: Evidence from Slovenian Judge-Level Data" with Peter Grajzl, Janez Sustersic, Katarina Zajc, *Review of Law and Economics*, 8(1), pp. 215-252 (2012)

"Jurisdiction, Crime and Development: The Impact of Public Law 280 in Indian Country" with Peter Grajzl and Joseph Guse, *Law and Society Review*, 48(1), pp. 127-160 (2014)

"Understanding Modes of Civil Case Disposition: Evidence from Slovenian Courts" with Peter Grajzl and Katarina Zajc, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 42(4), pp. 924-939 (2014)

"The Ottoman Economic Legacy on the Balkans" (*in French*), *Anatoli*, numéro 5, Automne (2014)

"Consumer Credit on American Indian Reservations" with Peter Grajzl, Joseph Guse, and Richard Todd, *Economic Systems*, 39(3), pp.518-540 (2015)

"Inside Post-Socialist Courts: The Determinants of Adjudicatory Outcomes in Slovenian Commercial Disputes" with Peter Grajzl and Katarina Zajc, *European Journal of Law and Economics*, 41(1), pp. 85-115 (2016)

"Courts in a Transition Economy: Case Disposition and the Quantity-Quality Tradeoff in Bulgaria" with Peter Grajzl, Atanas Slavov and Katarina Zajc, *Economic Systems*, 40(1), pp. 18-38 (2016)

"Racial Group Affinity and Religious Giving: Evidence from Congregation-Level Panel Data" with Peter Grajzl, Joseph Guse and Taylor Smith, *The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy*, 16(2), pp. 689-725 (2016)

"The Longevity of National Identity and National Pride: Evidence from Wider Europe" with Jonathan Eastwood and Peter Grajzl, *Research and Politics*, April – June, 1-9 (2016)

"The Duration of Judicial Deliberation: Evidence from Belgium" with Samantha Bielen, Wim Marneff and Peter Grajzl, *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, 174(2), pp. 303-333 (2018)

"Neighborhood Characteristics and Bankcard Credit in Indian Country: Evidence from Individual-Level Credit Bureau Records" with Peter Grajzl, Joseph Guse, Richard Todd and Michael Williams, *Comparative Economic Studies* 60:3, 410-441 (2018).

"Should Immigrants Culturally Assimilate or Preserve Their Own Culture? Individual Beliefs and the Longevity of National Identity" with Peter Grajzl and Jonathan Eastwood, *Social Science Research*, 75, 96-116 (2018).

"From Gaming to Justice? A Note on the Effect of American Indian Casinos on Tribal Judicial Systems" with Randall Akee, Peter Grajzl and Richard Todd, *Native American and Indigenous Studies* 6.1, 32-42 (2019).

"Do Parliamentary Gender Quotas Decrease Gender Inequality? The Case of African Countries" with Iyabo Obasanjo, *Constitutional Political Economy* 20:3, 149-176 (2019).

"Community Development Financial Institutions and Individuals' Credit Risk in Indian Country" with Peter Grajzl, Joseph Guse, and Michou Kokodoko, *Journal of Economic Issues* 56:1, 184-208 (2022).

"Grit, Fit, Gender, and Academic Achievement among First-Year College Students" with Sara Whipple *Psychology in the Schools* 58:2, 332-350 (2021).

"Sanctions for Intimate Partner Sexual Violence: Is the Law on the Books the Law in Action?" with Samantha Bielen and Peter Grajzl, accepted at *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*

## **WORKING PAPERS**

"The Evolution of Grit" with Sara Whipple, submitted for review

"Leader Gender, Country Culture, and the Management of COVID-19" with Janelle Gornick and Iyabo Obasanjo, revise and resubmit

"Unveiling the Checkered Fortunes of the Ottoman Empire" SSRN Working Paper No. 983738 (Mimeo, University of Maryland, 2006)

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

"Blessed are the peacemakers: Does Gender Inclusiveness in Formal Institutions Reduce Civil Conflict" with Atin Basuchoudhary and Iyabo Obasanjo

"In Search of an Objective Measure of Grit" with Sara Whipple

"Measuring the Impact of Certified Community Health Workers in the Richmond/Henrico Health District of Virginia" with Iyabo Obasanjo, Alison Scott and Monica Griffin.

"Native CDFIs and Lending: A Loan-Level Analysis" with Michou Kokodoko, Lauren Wheeler, Peter Grajzl and Joseph Guse

"Native CDFIs: Cultural Fit" with Michou Kokodoko, Peter Grajzl, Joseph Guse and Laurel Wheeler

### **POLICY BRIEFS**

"Native CDFIs Improve Credit Outcomes for Indian Country Residents" with Michou Kokodoko, Peter Grajzl, Joseph Guse, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, April 28, 2021

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Present (at Virginia Military Institute)

EC435XW: Institutions and Economic Development\*

EC436X: Economic Development in Indian Country\*

EC306: International Economics

EC304: Econometrics

EC202: Principles of Macroeconomics

EC450X: The Economics of Transition and Institutional Development in Central and South East Europe (summer study abroad class in Slovenia and Hungary)\*

EC313X: The Economics of Transition and Institutional Development of the New EU Member States (summer study abroad class in Slovenia, Germany and Belgium)\*

Past (at Washington and Lee University, Central European University, University of Maryland, Wittenberg University)

Principles of Macroeconomics (BA level), Washington & Lee

Principles of Microeconomics (BA level), Washington & Lee

Quantitative Methods (MA level, Public Policy Department), CEU

Microeconomics for Public Policy (MA level, Public Policy Department), CEU

Macroeconomics for Public Policy (MA level, Public Policy Department), CEU

Institutions and Economic Development (MA level, Public Policy Department), CEU\*

Economic History (MA level, Economics Department), CEU\*

European Economic History (BA), UMD\*

American Economic History (BA), UMD, Teaching Assistant

Principles of Microeconomics (BA), UMD, Teaching Assistant

Math Workshop, Wittenberg University, Assistant Director

Principles of Microeconomics, Wittenberg University, Teaching Assistant

Mathematics and Economics, Math Workshop, Wittenberg University, Tutor

\*New Course

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Faculty Development Leave, Fall 2022 (forthcoming)

Omicron Delta Kappa, 2019

The Nanette & Thomas Watjen 1976 Chair in Economics and Business, Spring 2019

Outstanding Faculty Award, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), 2019

The Jackson-Hope VMIRL Matthew Fontaine Maury Prize for Excellence in Research, Spring 2018  
The Dr. Rae Carpenter Award for Best Research Proposal submitted to the VMI Research Committee, Spring 2018  
Nominated by VMI for the SCHEV Outstanding Professor Award for the State of Virginia, Fall 2015  
VMI Award for Distinguished Teaching, Spring 2015  
Wilbur S. Hinman Jr.'26 Research Award: Social Science, Spring 2015  
Faculty Development Leave, Fall 2014  
VMI Dean's Travel Funding Award (every year since 2011)  
Phi Kappa Phi, 2013  
Omicron Delta Epsilon, 2013  
Teaching Award, University of Maryland, Spring 2004  
Graduate Assistantship, University of Maryland, 2001-2005  
Graduate Fellowship, University of Maryland, 1999-2001  
Summa Cum Laude, Wittenberg University, 1998  
Award for Best Senior in Economics, Wittenberg University, 1998  
Award for Best Senior in East Asian Studies, Wittenberg University, 1998  
Ezra Keller Presidential Scholar, Wittenberg University, 1997  
Phi Beta Kappa, Wittenberg University, since 1996

## **GRANTS**

VMI Grant in Aid of Research, \$2200, Spring 2019, joint with Sara Whipple  
VMI Grant in Aid of Research, \$2250, Spring 2018, joint with Sara Whipple  
American Sociological Association, Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline Award, \$5400,  
Project Title: "Tracing the Global Spread of National Identity: A Pilot Study" joint with  
Jonathan Eastwood, Peter Grajzl and Nicolas Prevelakis, Fall 2013

## **CONFERENCE AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

American Economic Association, January 2022 (virtual)  
Southern Economic Association, November 2021 (virtual)  
American Economic Association, January 2021 (virtual)  
Southern Economic Association, November 2020 (virtual)  
NBER Conference on the Economics of Indigenous Peoples and Institutions, November 2018  
Southern Economic Association, November 2018  
Midwest Economic Association, March 2017  
Southern Economic Association, November 2016  
Economic Analysis of Litigation Conference, Montpellier, France, June 2016  
Southern Economic Association, November 2015  
Economic Analysis of Litigation Workshop, Torino, Italy, June 2015  
Wittenberg University, April 2015  
Southern Economic Association, November 2014  
Southern Economic Association, November 2013  
Honors Week Faculty Presentation, Virginia Military Institute, March 2013  
Southern Economics Association, November 2012  
Society of Government Economists, November 2012  
Virginia Military Institute, Roberts Lunch Seminar, September 2012  
ASSA/ACES, January 2012

Southern Economic Association, November 2011  
Washington and Lee University, January 2011  
Southern Economics Association, November 2010  
Virginia Military Institute, October 2010  
American Law and Economics Association, May 2008  
Central European University, February 2007

### **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS (ATTENDED)**

6<sup>th</sup> Annual Native CDFI Capital Access Convening, June 2021  
Unsettling Economics, June 2018  
UNCW Annual Teaching Workshop, October 2017  
Economic Analysis of Litigation Workshop – Catania, Sicily, June 2014  
Good Native Governance: Innovative Research in Law, Education, and Economic Development –  
UCLA School of Law, March 2014  
AACSB Critical Thinking Workshop – Florida, February 2013  
AACSB Global Business Workshop – Florida, February 2013  
AACSB Conference– Texas, March 2012  
UNCW Annual Teaching Workshop, October 2011

### **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ADVISING**

#### (1) Institute Honors Thesis Advising:

- Simone Jimenez (2012-13)  
Paper received the Philpott Economics Research Medal for undergraduate research in the ECBU department
- Gianluca Mangiapane (2014 -15)  
Paper received the Philpott Economics Research Medal for undergraduate research in the ECBU department
- John O'Donnell (2018-2019)
- Drew Melusen (2021-2022), second reader
- Harris Burton (2022-2023)

#### (2) Summer Undergraduate Research Advising:

- Gianluca Mangiapane (Summer 2014)
- Thomas Muldowney (Summer 2020)

#### (3) Department Honors Advising

- Isaac Lewis (2015 - 16)  
Paper presented at the Virginia Association of Economists Annual Meeting and at the VCUR Conference; received Philpott Economics Research Medal
- Avery Richardson (2017-18)  
Paper received the Philpott Economics Research Medal
- Jack Langkafa (2018-19)

#### (4) Independent Study work:

Travis Klein (Spring 2016)  
Marissa Linkous (Fall 2021)

**STUDENT ADVISING and DEVELOPMENT**

- (1) Academic Advisor to 20 + students, annually
- (2) Faculty Advisor for "Building BRIDGES" VMI Service Club, since September 2014
  - a. Community service projects with Project Horizon, Rockbridge Area Habitat for Humanity, SPCA, Boxerwood Gardens, Discovery Children's Museum, Rockbridge Area Relief Association, Rockbridge Area Community Services Board, local public schools and pre-schools, vaccination clinics during the pandemic, holiday cards for people in assisted living facilities during the pandemic
  - b. Training modules, Films, Speaker events
  - c. College debates (facilitated by the Braver Angels organization, joint with VMI Center for Leadership and Ethics)
  - d. Life, Culture and Society Film Series (joint with Spanish Honor Society and VMI Preston Library)
- (3) Faculty participant, VMI Women's Focus Group, since September 2019
- (4) Faculty Facilitator, VMI Bystander Intervention Program, since September 2019
- (5) Faculty Facilitator, VMI Inclusive Excellence Training, since September 2021
- (6) Faculty participant, VMI Gender Diversity and Inclusion Program, since July 2021
- (7) Habitat for Humanity Initiative "VMI Women Build with Habitat", Spring 2013-Summer 2014
- (8) Academic Advisor for Omicron Delta Epsilon, Economics Honor Society, May 2013 – May 2021

**SERVICE****Service to the university**

Present (at Virginia Military Institute)

## Institute-level committees

- (1) Member, VMI Institute Honors Committee, since August 2021
- (2) Member, VMI Institute Scholarship Selection Committee, since August 2021
- (3) Member, Follett Access Committee (ad hoc), AY2021-2022
- (4) Member, VMI Committee on Academic Technologies, AY2020 – 2021
- (5) VMI Committee on Civic Engagement, 2014 – 2021
  - Interim Chair, Fall 2019
  - Chair, Practicum Sub-committee, Feasibility Study for Civic Engagement at VMI, January 2016 – May 2017
  - Member, Sub-Committee for a civic engagement minor
- (6) VMI Faculty Committee to Review Tenure and Promotions and Faculty Expectations/evaluation, August 2019 – May 2020
- (7) VMI Institute Honors Committee, August 2018 – May 2020
- (8) VMI Faculty Handbook Committee, Academic Program Subcommittee, March 2018 – May 2019
- (9) VMI Faculty Development Committee, August 2017 – August 2018
- (10) Coordinator, VMI Brown Bag Seminar, August 2017 – May 2019
- (11) Distinguished Speaker Committee, 2011 – 2017
  - Chair of committee, Fall 2013 – Spring 2017
- (12) IWP Publication Board Committee, 2013 – 2015
- (13) Committee on Academic Advising, 2012 - 2013

## Department-level committees

- (14) Member, ECBU committee on minors and concentrations, since November 2019
- (15) Program Coordinator, Watjen Leadership Development Program (WELD), since 2020
- (16) Chair, Robert Research Assistantship Grant Committee, since 2015
- (17) Department Honors Committee, 2017 - present
  - Chair, 2017-2020
  - Member, 2020 - present
- (18) Chair, Watjen Fund Committee, 2019 - 2020
- (19) AACSB Accreditation Departmental Committee: Learning and Teaching, since 2018
- (20) Goal Assessment Team on Critical Thinking, ECBU, 2011-present
- (21) Mentor to junior faculty member, since May 2013
- (22) Program Director, Summer Study Abroad Program in Europe “The Economics and Politics of the European Union” (launched in Summer 2019)
- (23) ECBU Hiring Committee, 2011/2012; 2012/2013, 2018/19, 2019/20
- (24) AACSB Accreditation Departmental Committee: Participants – Students, 2012 – 2016

## Past (at Central European University)

DPP Hiring Committee, 2009

Departmental Committee on Academic Dishonesty, 2008/2009

Departmental Admissions Committee, 2008/2009, 2007/2008

MUNDUS MAPP Scholarship Committee, 2008/2009

M.A. Thesis Advising (All at DPP, CEU), 2006-2009:

Aziz Atamanov (2006), Jonathan Ozarow (2006), Katherine Bancs (2007), Peter Csicsai (2007), Irakli Khmaladze (2007), Kelsey Vaughan (2007), Diana Ursachi (2007), Elizabeth Brown (2008), Sinziana-Elena Poiana (2008), Ana Nutu (2008), Daniela Bolganschi (2008), Isa Aliyev (2008), Olga Zelinska (2008), Mirna Skrbic (2009), Shane McCollam (2009), Katina Pancheva (2009), Andreea Leru Raluca (2009), Aysel Soltanova (2009), Maya Nikolova (2009)

**Service to the profession:**

Founding Board Member, Association for Economic Research of Indigenous Peoples

Secretary, 2019 – 2021

President-Elect, since 2021 (July)

Consulting Editor, European Journal of Law and Economics, since Spring 2019

Ad Hoc Referee: *Journal of Law and Courts*, *Post Soviet Affairs*, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *American Political Science Review*, *International Political Science Review*, *Political Studies*, *International Journal of Social Economics*, *Virginia Social Science Journal*, *World Development*, *European Journal of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Economics and Business*, *Urban Studies*, *Journal of the European Economics Association*, *Applied Economics Letters*, *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*, *American Indian Culture and Research Journal*, *Journal of Institutional Economics*, *American Indian Quarterly*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Telecommunications Policy*

Discussant: Southern Economic Association: 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2021

Session chair: Southern Economic Association: 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2021

Session organizer: Southern Economic Association: 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2021



**Service to the community:**

Kendal College lectures (forthcoming in Summer 2022)  
Co-organizer, Afterschool Math Club, Waddell Elementary School, Spring 2022  
Community Partner, Maury River Middle School YAS After School Program, since 2019  
Member, Board of Directors, FOR Swimming, since January 2018  
    Member, Finance Committee, 2018 - present  
    President, January 2019 - December 2020  
    Chair, Finance Committee, January 2021 – present  
Member, 50 Ways Mentoring Initiative, August 2018 – June 2020  
Co-chair, 50 Ways Anti-gerrymandering Initiative, 2017 - 2020  
Co-President, Rockbridge County High School PTSA Board, Summer 2018 – June 2020  
Co-organizer, Maury River Middle School Math Circle (÷ and Conquer), Spring 2020  
Tutor, After School Program at Maury River Middle School, 2018-2019  
Member, Board of Directors, Woods Creek Montessori, Summer 2015 – Summer 2018  
    President of the Board: August 2016-August 2017  
    Secretary of the Board: August 2017-August 2018  
Member, Swim Team Parent Booster Club, Spring 2015 – Spring 2017  
Co-chair, Reflections Committee, LDMS, AY 2014/15, 2015/16

**CONTINUING EDUCATION**

“Constitutions of Indigenous Nations,” Native Nations Institute, January 2021  
“Indigenous Data Sovereignty,” Native Nations Institute, January 2022

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Economic Association, Association for Economic Research of Indigenous Peoples,  
National Economic Association, Southern Economic Association

**CONSULTING**

Institutional Research Officer, Central European University, April 2008 – August 2010

**TRAINING**

Emerging Leaders Pilot Course, VMI, 2018-2019  
Mindfulness Basics, UVA, 2021  
Project Horizon Training, Lexington VA, 2020-2021  
Adverse Childhood Experiences Training, Lexington VA, 2021