

# William Arbour

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**Citizenship:**

Canadian

**Research Interests:**

Applied Microeconomics, Crime, Education, Labor

## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, University of Montreal

2023 -

## AFFILIATIONS

Centre international de criminologie comparée  
Chaire de recherche en évaluation économique des programmes publics  
Cirano  
Maison des affaires publiques et internationales

## PAST ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Lecturer, Université Laval

2020 - 2023

Invited Researcher, University of Melbourne

April 2023

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Toronto

2023

*Thesis:* Essays in the Economics of Crime*Committee:* Philip Oreopoulos, David Price and Arthur Blouin

M.A. in Economics, Université Laval

2018

*Thesis:* Impact of Economic Conditions and Marriage Market on Inmates'

Recidivism: a Longitudinal Analysis

*Committee:* Guy Lacroix and Vincent Boucher

B.A. in Economics &amp; Mathematics, Université Laval

2017

## PUBLICATIONS

**Arbour, W.**, Lacroix, G., & Marchand, S. (2024). Prison rehabilitation programs and recidivism: evidence from variations in availability. *Journal of Human Resources*.

**Arbour, W.**, Brouillette-Alarie, S., Giguère, G., Lacroix, G., & Marchand, S. (2025). Beyond Traditional Risk Scores: Tackling LS/CMI Offender Misclassifications with Machine Learning. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, 1-26.

## WORKING PAPERS

Can Recidivism Be Prevented From Behind Bars? Evidence From a Behavioral Program

Can Parole Reduce Both Time Served and Crime? (with Steeve Marchand) [R&R at American Economic Journal: Economic Policy]

From Twitter to the Headlines? Uncovering Social Media's Role as a Political Agenda-Building Tool During an Election (with Jérémie Drouin, Adrien Cloutier and Yannick Dufresne) [submitted]

## WORK IN PROGRESS

What Does a Good Teacher Sound Like? (with Marlène Koffi and Philip Oreopoulos)

What Occupations Do? (with David Price)

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

CIRANO: A Prisoner's Dilemma: Inmates' Trade-off Between Incarceration and Supervision (\$54,727) 2024

CRSH Partnership Engage: Evaluating the Impact of Surveillance Cameras on Public Safety in Montreal (\$25,000) 2024

CRSH Exploration: Peer Effects in Prison (\$7,000) 2024

Mitacs: Refonte et élargissement du champ d'application de l'outil Évaluation des coûts économiques des bris d'infrastructures souterraines (\$ 10,000) 2024

CRDCN and Justice Canada: Supporting Criminally-Involved Individuals With Mental Health Issues Towards Rehabilitation (\$25,000) 2023

Best Paper Prize, Canadian Labour Economics Forum 2023

CIRANO: Parole, Reintegration and Recidivism (\$43,200) 2021

Young Economist Award, INFER International Conference 2021

## TEACHING

### Full Instructor

- ECN6370: Data Science in Economics
- ECN2260: Applied Econometrics
- ECN3550: Health Economics
- ECN-4194/6994: Introduction to Policy Evaluation (Université Laval)
- ECN-1160: Economics of Crime (Université Laval)

### Invited Lectures

- Analyse causale (École interdisciplinaire outils et méthodes)
- Introduction au *machine learning*: méthodes et applications (École de criminologie de Université de Montréal)
- Les méthodes quantitatives en recherche (École de santé publique de l'Université de Montréal)

### Teaching Assistant

- ECO 101: Principles of Microeconomics
- ECO 220: Introduction to Data Analysis and Applied Econometrics
- ECO 375: Applied Econometrics
- ECO 320: Economic Analysis of Law
- ECN-1000: Principles of Microeconomics
- ECN-1100: Health Economics

## STUDENTS SUPERVISION

- Émile Gendreau Côté (master's thesis, main supervisor)
- Félix Lachapelle (master's thesis, main supervisor)
- Rihab Bouabdallah (undergraduate thesis)
- Sophiane Babali (undergraduate thesis)
- Morgane Bocquet (internship)
- Maya Mansour (internship)

# PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS, CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

(\* = by coauthor)

Université du Québec à Montréal (Montréal), Workshop on the Economics of Crime for Junior Scholars (London), Southern Economic Association (New Orleans), Canadian Public Economics Group (Hamilton), University of Toronto (Toronto), HEC Montréal\* (Montréal), Society of Labor Economics\* (Portland) 2024

Université Laval (Québec), Université de Montréal (Montréal), University of Missouri (Columbia), Workshop on the Economics of Crime for Junior Scholars (Boston), Midwest Economic Association (Cleveland), Western Economic Association International (Melbourne), Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic & Social Research (Melbourne), Canadian Economic Association (Winnipeg), Virtual Crime Economics Seminar (online), Southern Economic Association (New Orleans) 2023

Southern Economic Association (Fort Lauderdale), Canadian Law and Economics Association (Toronto), Western Economic Association (Portland), University of Toronto (Toronto), Empirical Microeconomics Workshop (Banff), NBER Education Meeting (Palo Alto), Université Laval (Québec), Canadian Economic Association (Ottawa), University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign\* (online), University of Saint-Andrews\* (online) 2022

APPAM Fall Conference (Austin), University of Lausanne\* (online), APPAM Student Conference (online), Université Paris-Nanterre (online), Centre interuniversitaire de recherche en économie quantitative (online), Canadian Economic Association (online), International Association for Applied Econometrics (online), University of Alberta (online), University of Toronto (online), Southern Economic Association (Houston), International Network for Economic Research (Lisbon), Virtual Crime Economics Seminar\* (online), Online Student Crime Seminar (online), Society of Labor Economics\* (online) 2021

Graduate Students in Economics of Education (online), Université Laval (online), University of Toronto (online) 2020

## BOOK CHAPTERS AND REPORTS

Lacroix, G., et Arbour, W. (2024). Renoncer à la liberté : Comprendre les choix des détenus en matière de libération conditionnelle (2024PJ-01, Revue PERSPECTIVES, CIRANO.)

Lacroix, G., Marchand, S., et Arbour, W. (2023). Libération conditionnelle, réinsertion sociale et récidive criminelle (2023RP-26, Rapports de projets, CIRANO.)

Arbour, W., Marchand, S. et Lacroix, G. (2022). L'efficacité des programmes de réinsertion sociale pour adultes en milieu carcéral au Québec. Dans B. Dostie et C. Haeck (dir.), *Le Québec économique 10. Compétences et transformation du marché du travail* (18, p. 391-413). CIRANO.

Arbour, W., Lacroix, G. et Marchand, S. (2019). Évaluation des interventions axées sur la réinsertion sociale (2019RP-01, Rapports de projets, CIRANO.)

## LANGUAGES

English (fluent), French (native)  
*Programming:* Stata, R, Python