

**Robert Letzler**  
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## Research and Teaching Fields

### Primary:

The microeconomics of public policy analysis and design  
Psychology and economics  
Public policy analysis  
Energy and environmental policy

### Secondary:

Experimental economics  
Regulation

## Education:

UC Berkeley	Ph.D. in Public Policy	Expected May 2007
	MA, Economics (concurrent with Policy PhD)	2004
	Masters of Public Policy	2003
Brown University	AB in Applied Mathematics and Public Policy	1999
Santa Fe Institute	Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science and Complexity	2004

**Dissertation:** Essays in Applying Psychology to Economic Policy Design:  
Using Incentive Preserving Rebates to Increase Acceptance of Critical Peak Electricity Pricing

**Papers:** “Understanding Free Riding and Cooperative Types in Public Goods Experiments:  
Evidence from a Psychological Test” (with George Athanaskopoulos)

## Conference Presentations:

“Applying Psychology to Economic Incentive Design in Electricity Pricing.” Poster Session. Association for Public Policy and Management Conference. Madison, WI. November 2006.

“The Free Riding Types in Public Goods Experiments Appear to be Psychology’s High Machiavellian Type” (with George Athanaskopoulos) Economic Science Association Meetings, Atlanta, GA. June 2006

“The Theory and Practice of Public Good Selection: The Case of Legal Aid” (with Lee Friedman) Association for Public Policy and Management Conference. Washington DC. November 2005.

## Research Experience:

Research Assistant, UC Energy Institute, Assisted Professors Severin Borenstein, Jim Bushnell, and Catherine Wolfram with analysis of oil markets, and the impact of regulations on power plant efficiency and power plant retirement.	August 2004 -present
Energy Market Analyst, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	Summer 2002 and Spring 2003
Research Assistant, Mathematica Policy Research	1999-2000
Evaluator, US General Accounting Office, Environmental Protection Issue Area	Summer 1997

**Teaching Experience:**

Teaching Assistant, Goldman School of Public Policy MPP program 2003-2004  
The Microeconomics of Public Policy Analysis; Professors Steve Raphael and Lee Friedman

Teaching Assistant, Brown University Department of Economics 1998  
Environmental Economics; Professor Toby Page

**Academic References**

Professor Lee Friedman (Dissertation Chair)  
Goldman School of Public Policy, UC Berkeley  
LFried@Berkeley.edu 510-642-7513

Professor Severin Borenstein  
Director, University of California Energy Institute  
and Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley  
Borenste@Haas.Berkeley.edu 510-642-5145

Professor Robert MacCoun  
Goldman School of Public Policy, UC Berkeley  
MacCoun@Berkeley.edu 510-642-7518

Professor Eugene Smolensky  
Goldman School of Public Policy, UC Berkeley  
Geno@Berkeley.edu 510-643-3979

**Fields of Concentration:**

Public Policy Exam Fields: Regulatory reform with a focus on electricity markets and policy  
Topics in micro-organizational behavior: social preferences and social dilemmas

Economics Field Exams: Behavioral economics  
Industrial organization

**Fellowships and Awards:**

Phi Beta Kappa 1998

Sigma Xi 1999

GSPP Fellowship 2001

NSF Graduate Fellowship Honorable Mention 2002

Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley 2006

**Affiliations:**

Association for Public Policy and Management  
Economic Science Association

**Citizenship:** USA