



Dr. M. Kathleen THOMAS is an Associate Professor of Economics at [Mississippi State University](#) who specializes in public finance and education policy. Prior to joining the faculty at MSU, Dr. Thomas was a researcher with the [Texas Schools Project](#) at The University of Texas at Dallas. Dr. Thomas maintains her affiliation with the Texas Schools Project and is currently using longitudinal student-level education data to examine access to arts education and how arts participation influences education outcomes using quasi-experimental techniques. Her current research is funded by the Spencer Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Dr. Thomas' research has been published in numerous peer reviewed journals including *Economics Letters*, *Southern Economic Journal*, and *Journal of Cultural Economics*. Dr. Thomas earned her Ph.D. in economics from Georgia State University in 2000.

Selection of key publications

Articles & Chapters of collectiv works

- Kathleen THOMAS, Priyanka SINGH, Kristin KLOPFENSTEIN, « Arts Education and the High School Dropout Problem », *Journal of Cultural Economics*, Forthcoming
- Kathleen THOMAS, R. Andrew LUCCASEN, « Monetary Incentives Versus Class Credit : Evidence From a Large Classroom Trust Experiment », *Economics Letters*, 123(2014), 2014, p. 232-235
- Kathleen THOMAS, Priyanka SINGH, Kristin KLOPFENSTEIN, Thomas C. HENRY, « Access to High School Arts Education : Why Student Participation Matters as Much as Course Availability », *Education policy analysis archives*, 21(83), 2013 <http://epaa.asu.edu/ojs/article/view/1224>.
- Kathleen THOMAS, R. Andrew LUCCASEN, « Simpsonomics : Teaching Economics Using Episodes from the Television Show « The Simpsons », *Journal of Economic Education*, 41(2), 2010, p. 136-149
- Kathleen THOMAS, Kristin KLOPFENSTEIN, « The Link Between Advanced Placement Experience and Early College Success », *Southern economic journal*, 75 (3), 2009, pp. 873-91