

# ALLAN DAVIDS

School of Economics, University of Cape Town

allan.davids@uct.ac.za · allandav.github.io

Housing · Household Finance

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## EMPLOYMENT

- 2023– Senior Lecturer, School of Economics, University of Cape Town  
2025– Director, Financial Innovation Hub, University of Cape Town  
2022–2023 South African Reserve Bank Research Chair in Financial Stability  
2020–2022 Lecturer, School of Economics, University of Cape Town
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## AFFILIATIONS

- 2025– Research Fellow, Centre for Household Finance, Stellenbosch University
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## EDUCATION

- 2022 PhD in Economics, University of Cape Town  
2017 Visiting PhD student, Stern School of Business, New York University  
2016 MCom Economics *with distinction*, Stellenbosch University
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## VISITING POSITIONS

- 2019 Visiting Researcher – Department of Finance, Imperial College Business School  
2017 Visiting Researcher – Institute for New Economic Thinking, University of Oxford
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## RESEARCH

### Publications

“Social learning in a Covid-19 Network Model” (with Gideon du Rand, Co-Pierre Georg, Tina Koziol, Joeri Schasfoort) - **Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization** 213, 2023, p. 271–304

### Working Papers

“Home Foreclosure Discounts in Auctions Without Reserve Prices: Evidence from Cape Town”, December 2025 - **Resubmitted, Real Estate Economics**

“Diffuse Bunching with Frictions: Theory and Estimation” (with Santosh Anagol, Ben Lockwood and Tarun Ramadorai), October 2025 - **NBER Working Paper 32597**

“The Cape of Good Homes: Exchange Rate Depreciations, Foreign Demand and House Prices”, May 2020

## In Progress

When the Lights Stay On: Electricity Reliability and House Prices (with Joshua Budlender)

The Impact of Airbnb on Cape Town's Residential Property Market (with Kristoff Potgieter)

## Policy-related

1. "The distributional impact of liquidity regulation on mortgage lending", *South African Reserve Bank Financial Stability Topical Briefing*, 2025
  2. "The consumer credit landscape in South Africa" (with Esti Kemp), *South African Reserve Bank Financial Stability Topical Briefing*, January 2017
  3. "Understanding Housing Markets: using municipal data" (with the Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa), *World Bank Report*, 2016
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## TEACHING

2026–	Digital Economics (Postgraduate - ECO4131S), School of Economics, UCT
2021–	Econometrics (Postgraduate), School of Economics, UCT
2020–2024	Policy Analysis (Postgraduate ), School of Economics, UCT
2020–2022	Quantitative Methods in Economics (Undergraduate), School of Economics, UCT
2020–2022, 2024	Public Sector Economics (Undergraduate), School of Economics, UCT
2017	Risk Management Computing Skills (Postgraduate), AIFM RM, UCT
Other teaching:	ERSA/World Bank/IGC Winter School on Urban and Regional Economics in Africa

## SUPERVISION

PhD	Gemma Earl (Ongoing)
Honours	9 Completed
Masters	5 Completed, 5 Ongoing

## CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

2025	Allied Social Sciences Association (ASSA) Annual Meeting* · ESSA Biennal Conference
2024	ERSA Cities Conference, University of Pretoria, Urban Economics Annual Meeting
2023	ESSA Biennal Conference · International Institute of Public Finance Annual Meeting#* · New York University* · NBER Spring Public Finance Meeting
2022	Ashoka University · NEUDC* · University of Pretoria · UNC Charlotte* · LMU Munich* · CREST* · Toulouse School of Economics*
2021	Journées Louis-André Gérard-Varet (LAGV) · University of Cape Town · South African Revenue Services · ERSA Public Finance Seminar · ABM4Policy Seminar* · George Mason University* · European Bank for Reconstruction and Development*

(past five years, \*: presentation by co-author, #: scheduled)

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## DISCUSSIONS

- 2022 American Finance Association (AFA) Annual Meeting: “How do Taxes Affect the Trading Behavior of Private Investors? Evidence from Individual Portfolio Data” - Buhlmann, Dörrenberg, Loos & Voget
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## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Refereeing activities

Review of Financial Studies · Mathematics and Financial Economics · Journal of Economics and Statistics · ERSA Working Paper Series · International Economic Journal

### Organizer

- 2023 Co-organizer - South African Reserve Bank Financial Stability Conference
- 2023 Organizer - Special Session on “Housing and Household Finance” at the Economic Society of South Africa (ESSA) Biennial Conference

### Academic service

- 2025–2028 External examiner, Honours Econometrics, Stellenbosch University
- 2023–2025 Council member of the Economic Society of South Africa
- 2022– Degree convener, Masters in Financial Technology, UCT
- 2022– Convener, Fintech: Disruption in Finance Short Course, GetSmarter & UCT
- 2022– Convener, Blockchain and Digital Currency Short Course, GetSmarter & UCT
- 2022– External examiner, Masters Econometrics, AIFMRM, UCT
- 2022– External examiner, Econometrics, Cape Peninsula University of Technology
- 2020–2024 Member, University of Cape Town Senate

### Non-academic service

- 2024 Member of Statistics South Africa CPI user advisory committee
- 2021 Statistics South Africa - developing a [Residential Property Price Index](#) for South Africa
- 2009–2011 Junior Mayor, City of Cape Town
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## AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2025 IGC Grant for ‘Urban and Regional Economics in Africa’ (with Kristoff Potgieter)
- 2025 IGC Grant for ‘Urban and Regional Economics in Africa’ (with Joshua Budlender)
- 2024, 2018 South African Reserve Bank Financial Stability Research Grant
- 2024 ERSA Research Grant for ‘The Role of Cities as Drivers of Growth and Employment’
- 2024–2025 Interledger Foundation Education Grant
- 2022–2023 South African Reserve Bank Research Chair in Financial Stability

2020	South African Reserve Bank Financial Stability PhD Scholarship
2017–2019	Volkswagen Foundation & AIFMRM PhD Scholarship
2014	National Research Foundation Research and Innovation Research Grant

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## MEDIA COVERAGE

### News articles and media

“How to make Cape Town cheaper”, *CapeTalk*, February 2025.

“Making digital financial inclusion a reality”, *UCT News*, October 2024.

“Here’s what the many different models predict about Covid-19”, *The Citizen*, May 2020.

“The blame game”, *Business Day Homefront*, June 2017.

### Podcasts

“Interledger on Campus;”, *Interledger Future Money Podcast S01 EP11*, July 2024.

Last Update: January 21, 2026