

**SEAN HIGGINS**  
[sean.higgins@kellogg.northwestern.edu](mailto:sean.higgins@kellogg.northwestern.edu)  
<https://seanhiggins.com>

**BUSINESS ADDRESS:**

Department of Finance  
Kellogg School of Management  
Northwestern University  
2211 Campus Drive  
Evanston, IL 60208

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS:**

Assistant Professor of Finance, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University (2020-)  
Post-Doctoral Fellow in Household Finance, National Bureau of Economic Research (2019-2020)

**EDUCATION:**

	<b>DEGREE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>
University of California, Berkeley	Post-Doc	2016-2019	Haas School of Business
Tulane University	Ph.D.	2011-2016	Economics
Tulane University	B.S.	2007-2011	Economics

**PUBLICATIONS:**

- How Debit Cards Enable the Poor to Save More (with Pierre Bachas, Paul Gertler, and Enrique Seira). *Journal of Finance*, forthcoming.
- Digital Financial Services Go a Long Way: Transaction Costs and Financial Inclusion (with Pierre Bachas, Paul Gertler, and Enrique Seira). *American Economic Association Papers & Proceedings* 108: 444-448, 2018.
- Can a Poverty-Reducing and Progressive Tax and Transfer System Hurt the Poor? (with Nora Lustig). *Journal of Development Economics* 122, 63-75, 2016.

**WORKING PAPERS:**

- Financial Technology Adoption.
- The Long-Term Effects of Temporary Incentives to Save: Evidence from a Prize-Linked Savings Field Experiment (with Paul Gertler, Aisling Scott, and Enrique Seira).

**WORK IN PROGRESS:**

- Towards a Cashless Economy? Evidence from the Elasticity of Cash Deposits of Mexican Firms (with Pierre Bachas and Anders Jensen).
- Digital Sales and Inventory Data to Assess Creditworthiness (with Paul Gertler, Ulrike Malmendier, and Waldo Ojeda).
- Do Firms' Behavioral Biases Delay the Adoption of Profitable Business Practices? (with Paul Gertler, Ulrike Malmendier, and Waldo Ojeda).
- Price Comparison Tools in Consumer Credit Markets (with Erik Berwart, Sheisha Kulkarni, and Santiago Truffa).
- Gender-Differentiated Digital Credit Algorithms using Machine Learning (with Joshua Blumenstock, Laura Chioda, and Paul Gertler).

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

**RESEARCH:**

Visiting Scholar, Consumer Finance Institute, Philadelphia Federal Reserve (2020)  
Visiting Researcher, Payment Systems Division, Banco de México (Central Bank of Mexico) (Fall 2017)  
Visiting Scholar, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley (2014-2015)  
Visiting Scholar, Center for Economic Studies, El Colegio de México (2013-2014)

**TEACHING:**

Guest Lecturer, Harvard University (Spring 2020)  
Development Economics (Ph.D. course)  
Guest Lecturer, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley (Spring 2018, Spring 2019)  
Big Data and Better Decisions (MBA course)  
Applied Impact Evaluation (MBA course)  
Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program, UC Berkeley (2018-2019)  
Stata Instructor, World Bank, Washington, D.C. (short courses, 2015-2018)  
Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Tulane University (2012-2013)

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

2020	PBCSF Award for the Best Paper in Fintech, WFA
2020	Best Paper in Corporate Finance, SFS Cavalcade North America
2020	J-PAL Jobs and Opportunities Initiative grant (\$49,779)
2020	Inter-American Development Bank grant (\$100,000)
2019	Think Forward Initiative (€81,920)
2019	Guthrie Center for Real Estate Research (\$7,500)
2018	National Science Foundation standard grant (\$241,814)
2018	USAID grant (\$100,000)
2017	Digital Credit Observatory grant (\$268,253)
2017	UN Foundation grant (\$50,000)
2017	World Bank grant (\$154,000)
2016	Innovations for Poverty Action grant (\$345,000)
2016	CEGA-Visa Financial Inclusion Lab grant (\$160,000)
2015	National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$16,481)
2014, 2015	School of Liberal Arts Summer Fellowship
2014	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation grant (\$581,162)
2014	Schloss Prize for Excellence in Economic Research
2013	Fulbright Scholar to Mexico

## PRESENTATIONS: (\* = discussant)

2021	PUC Chile Finance Conference
2020	AEA; AFA*; Bank of Canada Future of Money and Payments Conference; Bank of Canada New Technologies and Network Effects Conference; Bocconi (Finance); Cambridge (Finance); CEPR Workshop on Household Finance; Duke (Labor/Development); Edinburgh Conference on the Economics of Financial Technology; MFA; MoFiR Workshop on Banking*; Princeton (Finance); SFS Cavalcade; Tulane (Economics); U Chicago Conference on Network Economics; U Illinois Urbana-Champaign Gies (Finance); WFA; WVU (Economics)
2019	ABFER Special Session on Digitization and FinTech; Atlanta Fed (Research); Dartmouth (Household Finance); FIRS*; Harvard Business School (Entrepreneurial Management); Harvard Business School (Finance); Inter-American Development Bank (Research); Inter-American Development Bank (Social Protection); London School of Economics (Finance); NBER Summer Institute (Development); Northwestern Kellogg (Finance); Northwestern Development Rookiefest; NYU Household Finance Conference; NYU Stern (Finance); Penn Wharton (Finance); Philadelphia Fed (New Perspectives on Consumer Behavior in Credit and Payments Markets Conference); UCLA Anderson (Finance); UNC Kenan-Flagler (Finance); UT Austin McCombs (Finance)
2018	AEA (session organizer); IDEAS; NEUDC at Cornell; PacDev at UC Davis; Paris School of Economics; Stanford/IGC Conference on Firms, Trade, and Development; Stanford IO Fest; UC Berkeley (Finance; Development; IO Lunch); University of San Francisco; World Bank Development Economics Research Group (Applied Micro); Yale Y-RISE
2017	ITAM (Business); LACEA; NBER Summer Institute Household Finance (coauthor presented and I answered questions); NEUDC at Tufts; PacDev at UC Riverside; World Bank Poverty Global Practice
2016	Arizona State University (Economics); ITAM (Economics); NEUDC at MIT; Universidad Iberoamericana
pre-2016	AEA; Tulane (Economics); UC Berkeley (Development); University of San Francisco (Economics); World Bank Poverty Global Practice; SEA

## OTHER INFORMATION:

Languages:	English (native), Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (advanced), and French (advanced)
Citizenship:	United States