DANIEL JACOBS

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EDUCATION

University of Houston August 2014–Present

Ph.D. Candidate, Economics May 2020 (Expected)

M.A., Economics 2016

Temple University August 2008–June 2012

B.A., Environmental Studies

RESEARCH FIELDS

Household Finance, Macroeconomics.

WORKING PAPERS

Credit Shocks and Financial Literacy Accumulation (Job-Market Paper)

Do adverse borrowing conditions induce financial literacy accumulation? I calibrate a life cycle model with financial literacy investment and borrowing rate uncertainty to the American Life Panel. When households expect borrowing rates to vary often, they invest in financial literacy to insure against borrowing rate variation. I evaluate the effect of two popular policies developed to ameliorate the effects of low financial literacy—an interest rate cap and a financial literacy subsidy. I find that an interest rate cap discourages financial literacy accumulation, while a subsidy of 10% of the cost of investment leads households to increase their savings return by three basis points. In particular, the subsidy improves the welfare of low-income, highly leveraged households, by 0.2-0.25%.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

A Quantitative Model of Financial Literacy

A Key to the Puzzle: Financial Literacy and the Credit Card Debt Puzzle(Joint Work with Xavier Bautista)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Principles of Macroeconomics	Summer 2018
Principles of Macroeconomics	Spring 2018
Principles of Microeconomics	Fall 2017
Intermediate Macroeconomics	Summer 2017
Principles of Macroeconomics	Fall 2016

AWARDS

Exceptional Teacher Award, Department of Economics, University of Houston

2018

Cullen Supplemental Tuition Fellowship, University of Houston

2014-Present

COMPUTER SKILLS

MatLab, STATA, R, Fortran, C++, LATEX

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

UT 2019 Macro Job Market Conference

October 2019

Graduate Student Workshop, University of Houston

May 2017 - Present

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Hobby School of Public Affairs

August 2018–Present

Research Assistant

Professor Andrea Szabo

August 2016–May 2017

Research Assistant

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Economic Association

REFERENCES

Bent Sorensen (Committee Chair)

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