ETIENNE BRIAND

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EDUCATION

Université du Québec à Montréal   2020-2026(*expected*)
Ph.D. in Economics

Université de Montréal   2018-2019
M.Sc. in Economics

Université de Montréal   2013-2017
B.Sc. in Economics and Mathematics

ACADEMIC VISITS

Cornell University   2024-2025
Faculty sponsor Mathieu Taschereau-Dumouchel

RESEARCH

Primary Fields: Macroeconomics, Information Economics
Secondary Field(s):   Macroeconometrics

Job Market Paper

Rationally Inattentive Heterogeneous Agents

Abstract. We study the effects of embedding rational inattention in a business cycle model with heterogeneous agents by comparing its predictions with the data. With a competitive labor market, rational inattention yields cross-sectional expectations accuracy for households that matches survey evidence, but fails to generate persistence in macro quantities. The opposite occurs when wages are set by households with labor market power. This conundrum arises because neither variant can simultaneously provide incentives to avoid mistakes in consumption–saving and labor supply decisions that are of similar magnitude *and* persistence in the growth rate of labor income. Moreover, conducting the same policy experiment in both variants leads to starkly different conclusions. Finally, we discuss modifications to the microfoundations, such as union-set wages and market power on the side of firms, as ways to generate robust predictions by jointly matching micro and macro evidence.

Working Papers

Inflation, Attention and Expectations
with Massimiliano Marcelino & Dalibor Stevanovic

Work In Progress

Shocks and their Propagation under Rational Inattention

Quantifying the Effect of Noisy News on Business Cycles
with Patrick Fève & Alain Guay

Are Volatility Shocks Uncertainty Shocks?

TEACHING

Concordia University

Computational Economics, graduate course, (2026)

Université du Québec à Montréal (Teacher Assistant)

Advanced macroeconomics I, graduate course, (2024)

Advanced macroeconomics II, graduate course, (2023)

Methods of dynamic programming, graduate course, (2021)

Business cycles and economic policies, graduate course, (2021-2024)

Macroeconometrics, graduate course, (2021-2024)

PRESENTATIONS

2025 (including scheduled): Bank of Canada Montreal Workshop · Barcelona School of Economics Summer Forum Monetary Policy Workshop · CERGE-EI · Behavioral Macroeconomics Workshop · Bank of Canada Graduate Student Paper Award

2024: Macro Lunch Cornell · Annual Canadian Economics Asociation Meetings · Annual Congress of the Canadian Economic Society

2023: Annual Congress of the Canadian Economic Society

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Finalist Bank of Canada's Best Graduate Paper Award	2025
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Fellowship	2022-2025
Excellence PhD scholarship, UQAM Econ. Department	2020-2022

REFERENCES

Prof. Alain Guay (advisor)
Université du Québec à Montréal
guay.alain@uqam.ca

Prof. Pavel Sevcik (advisor)
Université du Québec à Montréal
sevcik.pavel@uqam.ca

Prof. Kristoffer P. Nimark
Cornell University
pkn8@cornell.edu

Prof. Dalibor Stevanovic
Université du Québec à Montréal
dstevanovic.econ@gmail.com

PERSONAL

Languages:	French(native), English
Citizenship:	Canadian
Member of the Canadian National Judo Team	2012-2021

9th place World Championship Tokyo