

Gradon Nicholls

✉ gradon.nicholls@gmail.com • 🌐 gnicholl.github.io

Education

University of Waterloo

PhD in Statistics, Supervisor: Matthias Schonlau

Waterloo, ON

2022–Present

Awards:

- Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS): Sep 2023–Aug 2024

Carleton University

MA in Economics

Ottawa, ON

2016–2019

University of Waterloo

BMath in Statistics

Waterloo, ON

2011–2016

Work

University of Waterloo

Teaching Assistant (TA); Research Assistant (RA)

Waterloo, ON

2022–Present

- Spring 2023: RA for Dr Christian Boudreau and Dr Leia Minaker
- Winter 2023: TA for STAT 332 (Sampling and Experimental Design); STAT 454 (Sampling Theory and Practice)
- Fall 2022: TA for STAT 230 (Intro Probability); STAT 231 (Intro Statistics)
- **Teaching experience:** Running and designing tutorials in STAT 230 and STAT 332

Bank of Canada

Research Assistant (2016–19); Economist (2019–22); Senior Economist (2022)

Ottawa, ON

2016–2022

- Conduct economic research guiding policy at the currency department
- Develop computer programs to estimate structural economic models
- Design and analyze surveys of consumers (e.g. Methods-Of-Payments Survey) and businesses (e.g. Merchant Acceptance Survey)
- Contribute to survey methodology: sampling, questionnaire design, weighting, cleaning, imputation

Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)

Research Assistant

Gatineau, QC

2014–2015

- Conducted social research focused on people with disabilities
- Contributed to Statistics Canada publications using survey data from the 2012 Canadian Survey on Disability
- Presented the research at staff meetings

University of Waterloo

Instructional Support Assistant

Waterloo, ON

2013

- Assisted instructors with the course “Introduction to Computer Science” (CS116)
- Ran weekly tutorials to complement main lectures, using Python to illustrate programming concepts
- Held office hours to help students with assignments and exams
- Developed and used programming scripts to test and grade assignments

Boards / Volunteering / Etc.

Survey Research Centre

Student Representative

Waterloo, ON

2022–Present

ASA DataFest 2023

Mentor (Volunteer)

Waterloo, ON

April 2023

Publications

Journal Articles

- [1] Daniela Balutel, Marie-Helene Felt, Gradon Nicholls, and Marcel C. Voia. Bitcoin awareness, ownership and use: 2016–20. *Applied Economics*, 2023 (FORTHCOMING).
- [2] Kim Huynh, Christopher Henry, Gradon Nicholls, and Mitchell Nicholson. Benchmarking bitcoin adoption in canada: Awareness, ownership and usage in 2018. *Ledger*, 5, 2020.
- [3] Christopher S Henry, Kim P Huynh, and Gradon Nicholls. Bitcoin Awareness and Usage in Canada: An Update. *The Journal of Investing*, 28(3):21–31, 2019.
- [4] Christopher S. Henry, Kim P Huynh, and Gradon Nicholls. Bitcoin awareness and usage in canada. *Journal of Digital Banking*, 2(4):311–337, 2018.

Non-Journal Articles

- [5] Heng Chen, Walter Engert, Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, and Julia Zhu. Cash and COVID-19: The Effects of Lifting Containment Measures on Cash Demand and Use. Staff Discussion Paper 2021-3, Bank of Canada, 2021.
- [6] Heng Chen, Walter Engert, Marie-Helene Felt, Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, Daneal O’Habib, and Julia Zhu. Cash and COVID-19: The Impact of the Second Wave in Canada. Staff Discussion Paper 2021-12, Bank of Canada, 2021.
- [7] Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, and Mitchell Nicholson. 2019 Cash Alternative Survey Results. Staff Discussion Paper 2020-8, Bank of Canada, 2020.
- [8] Heng Chen, Walter Engert, Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, Mitchell Nicholson, and Julia Zhu. Cash and COVID-19: The Impact of the Pandemic on Cash Demand and Use. Staff Discussion Paper 2020-6, Bank of Canada, 2020.
- [9] Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, and Mitchell Nicholson. 2018 Merchant Acceptance Survey. Staff Analytical Note 2019-31, Bank of Canada, 2019.
- [10] Christopher S Henry, Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, and Mitchell Nicholson. 2018 Bitcoin Omnibus Survey: Awareness and usage. Staff Discussion Paper 2019-10, Bank of Canada, 2019.
- [11] Kim P Huynh, Oleksandr Scherbakov, and Gradon Nicholls. Explaining the interplay between merchant acceptance and consumer adoption in two-sided markets for payment methods. Staff Working Paper 2019-32, Bank of Canada, 2019.
- [12] Walter Engert, Ben Fung, Jozsef Molnar, and Gradon Nicholls. Explaining unusual cash patterns in 2018. Staff Analytical Note 2019-22, Bank of Canada, 2019.
- [13] Matthew Till, Tim Leonard, Sebastian Yeung, and Gradon Nicholls. A profile of the labour market experiences of adults with disabilities among Canadians aged 15 years and older, 2012. Technical Report catalogue no. 89-654-X2015005, Statistics Canada, 2015.
- [14] Christine Bizier, Matthew Till, and Gradon Nicholls. Learning disabilities among Canadians aged 15 years and older, 2012. Technical Report catalogue no. 89-654-X-No.2014003, Statistics Canada, 2014.

Presentations

Analyzing Surveys with R (link) <i>UW Statistical Workshops and Applications Group (SWAG)</i>	Waterloo, ON <i>January 26, 2023</i>
Measurement and Selection Errors in Recall and Diary Responses <i>2021 Joint Statistical Meetings</i>	Virtual <i>August 8–August 12, 2021</i>
Payment Acceptance Trends Among Small Merchants in Canada <i>ICES VI</i>	Virtual <i>June 14–June 17, 2021</i>
Cash and COVID-19: The Effect of the Pandemic... <i>AAPOR 76th Annual Conference</i>	Virtual <i>May 11–May 14, 2021</i>
Cash Use and Financial Literacy <i>BigSurv20</i>	Virtual <i>November 6–December 4, 2020</i>
Consumer Payments Behaviour in a Health Crisis <i>Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Talk About Payment Webinar</i>	Virtual <i>November 19, 2020</i>
Cash and COVID-19: The Impact of the Pandemic... <i>USC CESR: COVID-19 Work in Progress Conference</i>	Virtual <i>October 29–October 30, 2020</i>
2018 Bitcoin Omnibus Survey: Awareness and Usage <i>2019 Joint Statistical Meetings</i>	Denver, CO <i>July 27–August 1, 2019</i>
Financial Literacy and the Demand for Cash <i>Shaping a New Reality of Cash Conference</i>	Warsaw, Poland <i>May 29–31, 2019</i>
Going Cashless at the Point of Sale: Are We There Yet? <i>Payments Canada SUMMIT</i>	Toronto, ON <i>May 14–16, 2019</i>

Professional development

Joint Program in Survey Methodology <i>Non-Degree Student</i>	University of Maryland <i>2020–2022</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ SURV 621: Fundamentals of Data Collection I<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Fred Conrad (University of Michigan) and Christopher Antoun (University of Maryland)○ SURV 622: Fundamentals of Data Collection II<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Fred Conrad (University of Michigan) and Christopher Antoun (University of Maryland) and Brian Kim (University of Maryland)○ SURV 727: Fundamentals of Computing and Data Display<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Ruben Bach (Universitat Mannheim) and Christoph Kern (Universitat Mannheim)○ SURV 631: Questionnaire Design<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructor: Gina Walejko (Google)○ SURV 635: Usability Testing for Survey Research<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Emily Geisen (Qualtrics) and Jennifer Romano (Google)○ SURV 636: Sampling II<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructor: Raphael Nishimura (University of Michigan)	
2019 Joint Statistical Meetings <i>PD Courses</i>	Denver, CO <i>July 27–August 1, 2019</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Understanding and Tackling Measurement Error: A Whistle Stop Tour of Modern Practical Methods<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Pamela Shaw (University of Pennsylvania) and Paul Gustafson (University of British Columbia)○ Measuring the Impact of Nonignorable Missing Data<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Daniel Heitman (Southern Methodist University) and Hui Xie (Simon Fraser University)	