Kevin Ren

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EDUCATION

2020–2026 Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management

Ph.D. in Finance

2018–2020 London School of Economics and Political Science

M.Sc. in Economics

2013–2018 University of Western Ontario

B.A. in Economics

B.A. in Business Administration

Additional Affiliations

2023–Present United States Census Bureau

Special Sworn Status

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

"From Immediate Acceptance to Deferred Acceptance: Effects on School Admissions and Achievement in England" with Camille Terrier and Parag Pathak

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Forthcoming

WORKING PAPERS

"Market Power, Expectations, and Asset Prices" with Dalton Rongxuan Zhang, Working Paper 2025

"Price Markups or Wage Markdowns?" with Dalton Rongxuan Zhang, 2025

"Asset Pricing with Capital-Skill Complementarities", 2023

Work in Progress

"HANK with Joint Market Power" with Dalton Rongxuan Zhang

"The Welfare Cost of Price Markups and Wage Markdowns" with Dalton Rongxuan Zhang

"Indebted Innovation" with Aditya Soenarjo

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020–2026 Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management

Ph.D. Researcher

- Estimated firm-level markups/markdowns from Census microdata (70k firms) using structural production functions
- Built macro-finance models via policy iteration using Julia and Matlab
- Applied fixed effects regressions to evaluate firm dynamics

2019–2020 London School of Economics and Political Science

Research Assistant

- Analyzed education reform using DiD/triple-diff methods on a 2M-student panel
- Constructed large-scale school and student panel datasets using R and Stata

Summer 2016 Citigroup, Mergers and Acquisitions, Toronto

Investment Banking Summer Analyst

- Built DCF and LBO models to value major infrastructure targets
- Supported deal execution through pitchbook materials and scenario analysis

Presentations

2025 World Congress of the Econometric Society

2023 Transatlantic Doctoral Conference

Awards and Fellowships

2020–2025	Kellogg School of Management Doctoral Fellowship, Northwestern University
2018	Economics Core Course Awards, University of Western Ontario
2018	Kevin H. Burley Economics Scholarship, University of Western Ontario
2015	HBA '87 Darcy Doherty Memorial Scholarship, University of Western Ontario
2013–2017	Four Year Continuing Admission Scholarships, University of Western Ontario

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022–2025 Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management

TA for: FINC 450 – Capital Markets (2025)

FINC 454 – Real Estate Finance and Investments (2022–2025)

FINC 455 – Applied Real Estate Finance and Investments (2022–2025)

FINC 982 – Advanced Topics in Venture Investing (2025)

FINC 470 – International Finance (2024) FINCX 473 – Macroeconomics (2023–2024)

FINC 431 – Finance II (2023) FINC 435 – MBAi Finance (2022)

Additional Information

Programming R (tidyverse, data.table, ggplot2, fixest); Python (Polars, Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib,

Scikit-learn, Statsmodels); Stata, Matlab, Julia, LATEX, Linux Shell

Citizenship United States, Canada

REFERENCES

Dimitris Papanikolaou (Chair)

John L. and Helen Kellogg Professor of Finance

Kellogg School of Management

Northwestern University

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Bryan Seegmiller

Assistant Professor of Finance

Kellogg School of Management

Northwestern University

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Nicolas Crouzet

Associate Professor of Finance Kellogg School of Management

Northwestern University

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Martin Eichenbaum

Charles Moskos Professor of Economics

Department of Economics Northwestern University

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