ROBERT FRENCH

University Hall, 1 LMU Dr Office 4223

Los Angeles, CA 90045

Updated: August 15, 2025 E-mail: robert.french@lmu.edu

Website: robert-french.github.io

ACADEMIC Loyola Marymount University

POSITIONS Assistant Professor, Department of Economics

08/2025 -

University of Chicago

Postdoctoral Fellow, Harris School of Public Policy & Mansueto Institute 08/2024 – 07/2025

EDUCATION Harvard University

Ph.D. Public Policy 2024

University of Toronto

M.A. Economics 2016 B.A. Economics 2014

RESEARCH AREAS Urban and Real Estate Economics, Public Economics, Applied Microeconomics

WORKING PAPERS Quantifying the Welfare Impacts of Gentrification on Incumbent Renters (with Ashvin Gandhi &

Valentine Gilbert)

Suburban Housing and Urban Affordability: Evidence from Residential Vacancy Chains (with

Valentine Gilbert)

PUBLICATIONS Behavioral barriers transitioning to college

Labour Economics, 2017, 47. (with Philip Oreopoulos)

Applying behavioural economics to public policy in Canada *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 2017, 50. (with Philip Oreopoulos).

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

Schools or Suitcases? Optimal Urban Policy and Economic Opportunity in Greater Boston

Taxed Out or Cashing In? Property Taxes, Home Values, and Homeowner Decisions in Gentrifying

Neighborhoods (with Christopher Berry and Ashvin Gandhi)

Constructing Precise Sociodemographic Tract Aggregates with Census Microdata (with Ashvin

Gandhi)

OTHER RESEARCH New York University

EXPERIENCE Visiting Researcher, Furman Center 06/2022 - 07/2022

University of Toronto

Research Assistant to Philip Oreopoulos

Research Assistant to Kory Kroft

2016–2017

2014–2015

FELLOWSHIPS, Junior Scholar, American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association AY 2024-2025 RESEARCH AWARDS Best Junior Paper Submitted for the 2024 AREUEA National Conference 2024 & GRANTS Best Paper on Housing by a Doctoral Student, Joint Center for Housing Studies 2024 Research Grant, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy 2023 Adam Smith Fellowship (Declined), Mercatus Center 2023 Research Grant (×2), Malcolm Weiner Center for Social Policy 2022, 2023 Graduate Admission Scholarship, University of Toronto AY 2015-2016 Louis Savlov Scholarship, University of Toronto AY 2013-2014

TEACHING Loyola Marymount University
EXPERIENCE Undergraduate Econometrics, Instr

Undergraduate Econometrics, Instructor Fall 2025

Harvard University

PhD Micro Theory II (HKS), Head Teaching Fellow
PhD Micro Theory I (HKS), Head Teaching Fellow
Fall 2021
Intermediate Micro Theory: Advanced, Head Teaching Fellow
Fall 2019, 2020

University of Toronto

Principles of Economics, Teaching Assistant

AY 2015–2016

Economic Thought after 1870, Teaching Assistant

Spring 2016

TEACHING DISTINCTIONS

Derek Bok Certification of Distinction in Teaching (×3), Harvard University Spring 2021, AY 2021–2022

INVITED TALKS
Scheduled

2026: AREUEA-ASSA

2025: Purdue University, Loyola Marymount University, Chicago Fed Urban Economics Workshop, UW-Madison Real Estate, University of North Texas, IIOC, WEA, USC Price, UEA North America, University of Utah School of Business

2024: UEA North America, UEA Europe, AREUEA-National, UCLA Ziman Center Conference on Low-Income Housing Supply and Housing Affordability, RUSH Online Seminar, Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation, Loyola Marymount University (JM), University of Cincinnati Finance (JM), Texas A&M (JM)

2023 and earlier: NYU Furman Center, Harvard Kennedy School Economics and Social Policy

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & SERVICE

Referee:

Quarterly Journal of Economics (\times 6), Journal of Urban Economics (\times 2), Journal of Public Economics, Urban Affairs, Journal of Behavioral Public Administration

Discussant:

2025: AREUEA-ASSA (\times 3), IIOC, WEA 2024: AREUEA National, UEA Europe

SOFTWARE Julia, R, STATA, LATEX

PERSONAL UK and Canadian Citizen

US Census Bureau Special Sworn Status