Christopher M. Hair

Contact

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Research Interests

Household & real estate finance; applied microeconomics; causal inference & econometrics; economics of technology/fintech; machine learning on large financial/policy data.

Appointments

Assistant Professor, Brigham Young University (Marriott), Department of Finance *2022—Present*

Education

Ph.D., Finance, Northwestern University (Kellogg), 2022
Committee: Charles Nathanson (Chair), Michael Fishman, Matthew Notowidigdo, Scott Baker

B.S., Applied & Computational Mathematics and Economics, Brigham Young University, 2016

Working Papers & Projects

Modernizing Access to Credit for Younger Entrepreneurs: From FICO to Cash Flow (with Sabrina Howell, Mark Johnson, and Siena Matsumoto; NBER Working Paper)
Cash-flow underwriting expands credit access for young entrepreneurs without raising default risk.

The Local Effects of Spatially Targeted Public Policies: Evidence from California School Finance Reform
California's 2013 LCFF increased house prices and induced migration, showing how school-finance reforms capitalize into real estate.

Econometric Decomposition of Natural Disaster Property Losses (with Charles Nathanson)
Separates the contributions of prices, location, quality, and catastrophe risk in disaster-related property losses.

Eviction Moratoria and Landlord Financial Distress
Pandemic-era eviction restrictions altered landlord balance sheets and property sales, with heterogeneous effects across states.

MLS Consolidation and Agent Competition
Examines how regional Multiple Listing Service consolidation changes agent behavior, listing exposure, and housing market outcomes.

Real-Estate Sales Price Disclosure and Market Transparency
Studies how non-disclosure laws affect collateral valuation, mortgage origination, and household information asymmetries.

Aircraft Noise and Student Outcomes in NYC
Links daily variation in flight paths over schools to next-day student performance, using ADS-B aircraft track data and wind-driven runway assignments as an instrument.

Applied Data & Systems Projects

High-Frequency Market Microstructure (NASDAQ ITCH Data)
Processed millions of high-frequency order messages per ticker per day on an HPC cluster to study trading behavior and liquidity in collaboration with faculty.

Algorithmic Trading (Decentralized Finance)
Engineered and deployed real-time arbitrage and liquidation strategies across decentralized exchanges under extreme volatility.

Wholesale Electricity Market Forecasting (PJM Markets)
Developed forecasting models for day-ahead electricity prices by integrating high-resolution weather with load and generation fundamentals.

Empirical & Computational Skills

Econometrics & ML: Causal inference (DiD, IV, RDD, panel methods); machine learning (XGBoost, neural networks, embeddings, random forests).

Programming & Data: Python, Stata, SQL, Git; Linux/SLURM/MPI, AWS; JavaScript, C++, C#.

Specialized Datasets: Financial/admin, geospatial (GeoPandas/ArcGIS Pro), MLS/CoreLogic/ATTOM, Census IPUMS, ADS-B, NOAA HRRR.

Teaching

Corporate Finance (FIN 401), BYU (2022–present)

Corporate Finance (EMBA), Northwestern — Teaching Assistant for M. Fishman, A. Raviv, C. Furfine.

Introduction to Econometrics, BYU — Teaching Assistant (undergraduate).

Conferences & Seminars (selected)

GSU AI & FinTech Conference, 2025 (upcoming)*
NBER Summer Institute, 2025*
Georgia Tech – Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Household Finance Conference, 2025
U.S. Small Business Administration (briefing), 2025*
UNC Kenan–Flagler Seminar, 2024*
IMF–WIFPR Conference on Financial and Real Implications of Technologies, 2024*
BYU Mathematics Applied Analysis Seminar, 2024
BYU Finance (Internal Seminar), 2022
* *Presented by coauthor.*

Professional Service

Ad Hoc Referee: *Management Science*

Professional Experience

MJ Bateman & Co. — Economic Consulting Intern, 2015–2016
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory — Summer Intern, 2013–2014

Federal Credentials

Active: U.S. Census Bureau Special Sworn Status
Inactive: DOE Q Clearance (TS/SCI Equivalent)