

Alexander Coutts

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Employment

2021 - Present Assistant Professor of Economics, Schulich School of Business, York University,
Toronto, Canada.

2015 – 2020 Assistant Professor of Economics, Nova School of Business and Economics,
Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal.

Education

PhD. In Economics, New York University, 2015.
M.Phil. in Economics, New York University, 2014.
M.A. in Economics, Queen’s University, 2010.
B.A. in Honours Economics, University of British Columbia, 2008.

Research Fields

Behavioral Economics, Development Economics, Experimental Economics.

Teaching

2023 Behavioural Economics Insights; Schulich School of Business.
2022-2023 Macroeconomics for Managers; Schulich School of Business.
2021 Microeconomics for Managers; Schulich School of Business.
2018-2022 Behavioral Insights for Business and Finance; Universidad de los Andes – School
of Management (International Summer School).
2020 Advanced Behavioral Economics (Master’s); Nova SBE.
2018-2019 Development Economics (Bachelor’s); Nova SBE.
2016-2020 Microeconomics II (Ph.D.); Nova SBE.
2016-2019 Game Theory (Master’s); Nova SBE.
2016-2020 Behavioral Economics and Finance (Master’s); Nova SBE.
Fall 2014 Microeconomic Theory and Analysis (Bachelor’s); NYU, TA for Danilo Guaitoli.
Spring 2011 Intermediate Macroeconomics (Bachelor’s); NYU, TA for Chetan Dave.
2008-2009 Introductory Micro/Macroeconomics; Queen’s University, TA for Ian Cromb.

Supervision

PhD
2020 Ana Garcia Hernandez

Master’s
2021 Tobias Tesing, Joana Vasconcelos (co-supervisor).
2020 Jiaming Liu, Marta Silva, Bernardo Silva, Carine Spellanzon.
2019 Miguel Castro, Daniela Sanches, Rita Silva, Annette Streicher.
2018 Robin Bohn, Joao Dias, Peter Dorfner, Xaver Schenker.
2017 Guilherme Roth, Hans Klimas.

Research Positions and Related Experience

2015- Present	Novafrica Resident Member, Economics for Policy Affiliate (Nova SBE).
2019-2020	Co-Director, Nova SBE Behavioral Lab.
2011-2013	Center for Technology and Economic Development, NYU, Research Assistant.
Summer 2011	Assistant Coordinator for Innovations for Poverty Action, Uganda, “Evaluating Village Savings and Loan Associations in Uganda”. PIs: Dean Karlan, Bram Thuysbaert.
Summer 2010	Research Intern for Save the Children, Vietnam, “Expanding Access to Financial Services for Rural Low-Income Women”.
2008-2009	University of British Columbia, Research Assistant for Giovanni Gallipoli.

Conference Presentations

2023	CIRANO Workshop (Montreal), TUM Workshop on Beliefs (Munich), IMEBESS (Lisbon), ESA North America (Charlotte), SEA Meetings (New Orleans; <i>scheduled</i>)
2022	Novafrica Conference (Lisbon), PEJ (Terceira), ESA North America (Santa Barbara).
2021	CEA (Online; SFU), Workshop on Memory, Narratives and Belief Formation (Munich, participant).
2020	WGAPE Berlin (Online), Workshop on Subjective Expectations (Online).
2019	CSAE (Oxford), BRIQ Workshop on Beliefs (Bonn), WGAPE (Berlin, participant), IMEBESS (Utrecht), CEA (Calgary), NASMES (Seattle), ESA World (Vancouver), Bayesian Crowd Conference (Rotterdam), ECBE (San Diego), Lisbon Meetings (Lisbon).
2018	ECBE (Bergen, discussant), SEEDec (Wageningen), M-BEES (Maastricht), THEEM (Kreuzlingen), CSAE (Oxford), UECE Lisbon Meetings (Lisbon).
2017	UECE Lisbon (Lisbon), NYU CESS (New York), ESA Europe (Vienna), PEJ (Vila Real), ESA World (San Diego), THEEM (Kreuzlingen).
2016	UECE Lisbon (Lisbon), Advances with Field Experiments (Chicago), EEA (Geneva), GAMES (Maastricht), Novafrica Conference (Lisbon), PEJ (Coimbra), ASFEE (Cergy-Pontoise), IMEBESS (Rome), SMYE (Lisbon), RES Junior (Sussex).
2015	ESA Europe (Heidelberg), RES Post Graduate Meeting (London).
2014	ESA North America (Fort Lauderdale), ESA World (Honolulu).

Invited Seminars

2023	McMaster University, Munich LMU.
2022	University of Michigan.
2021	FAIR NHH (online).
2018	WZB Berlin, SHUFE, NYU Shanghai, University of Amsterdam, University of Alicante, HEC Lausanne, University of Portsmouth.
2017	Catolica Porto, ICS - U Lisboa.
2015	Navarra Center for International Development.

Grants

2021	Aga Khan Development Network and Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (Portugal), Co-PI (PI: Pedro Vicente), “Reducing maternal and infant mortality in Guinea-Bissau”, 236,265 EUR.
2021	Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (Portugal), Co-PI (PI: Sandra Maximiano), “Female representation and workplace dynamics: an experimental approach”, 243,391 EUR.
2021	SSHRC Insight Development Grant, PI, “Motivated beliefs and racial discrimination”, \$73,915 CAD.
2021	SSHRC Partnership Engage Grant, PI, “Incorporating traditional beliefs to improve maternal and child health outcomes in Guinea-Bissau”, \$24,942 CAD.
2020	The British Academy, Co-PI (PI: Boon Han Koh), “The Signals We Give: Gender, Feedback, and Competition”, 9,974 GBP.
2019	Faculty of Business & Law, Portsmouth University, Co-PI (PI: Zahra Murad), “Gender and Competition”, 5,000 GBP.
2018	Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (Portugal), Co-PI (PI: Pedro Vicente), “Belief Systems and Health Behaviors in Guinea Bissau”, 239,852 EUR.
2017	Hamburgische Wissenschaftliche Stiftung, Co-PI (with Leonie Gerhards and Zahra Murad), “Performance Beliefs and Allocation of Teamwork: An Experiment”.
2013	Russell Sage Foundation, PI, Project #98-14-06 “Belief Biases with Financial Stakes”.

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

2009-2014	MacCracken Graduate Fellowship (NYU).
2009-2013	SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship (SSHRC Canada).
2008	Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship (Master’s level; SSHRC Canada), Tri-Council Recipient Recognition Award (Queen’s University).
2007	Joseph A Crumb Prize for Best Graduating Honors Economics Thesis (UBC), Dal Grauer Memorial Scholarship (UBC), Margaret Lawrence Scholarship in Arts (UBC), Trek Excellence Scholarship for Continuing Students (UBC), Summer Scholarship (UBC).

Service

2021-Present	Voting member of Committee for Equity and Community
2019	Co-founder of Nova SBE Behavioral Lab
2018	Co-founder of Lisbon Micro Group
2018	Co-organizer of Lisbon Meeting on Economics and Political Science.
2016	Organizer of Beliefs and Decisions workshop, Nova SBE, Portugal.

Refereeing

American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, American Economic Review, American Economic Review: Insights, Binational Science Foundation (United States – Israel), Economics Letters, Economic Journal, European Economic Review, Experimental Economics, Games and Economic Behavior, International Journal of Health Economics and Management, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Journal of Economic Psychology, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Political Economy: Microeconomics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Risk and Uncertainty, Management Science, National Science Foundation, Portuguese Economic Journal, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Financial Studies, Scandinavian Journal of Economics.

Publications

Armand, A., Coutts, A., Vicente, P. and Vilela, I., 2023. *Measuring corruption in the field using behavioral games* **Journal of Public Economics**, 218, pp. 104799.

Coutts, A., 2022. *Identifying communication spillovers in lab in the field experiments*. **Journal of Development Economics**, 157(6), pp. 102845.

Armand, A., Coutts, A., Vicente, P. and Vilela, I., 2020. *Does Information Break the Political Resource Curse? Experimental Evidence from Mozambique*. **American Economic Review**, 110(11), pp. 3431-53.

Coutts, A., 2019. *Good news and bad news are still news: Experimental evidence on belief updating*. **Experimental Economics**, 22(2), pp. 369-395.

🏆 Winner of Editor's Award: for the best paper published in *Experimental Economics* for the year 2019 🏆

Coutts, A., 2019. *Testing models of belief bias: An experiment*. **Games and Economic Behavior**, 113, pp. 549-565.

Working Papers

What to blame? Self-serving attribution bias with multi-dimensional uncertainty [Joint with Leonie Gerhards and Zahra Murad] [Revise and Resubmit: **Economic Journal**]

The Age of Consequences: Unraveling Conflict's Impact on Social Preferences, Norm Enforcement, and Risk-Taking [Revise and Resubmit: **Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization**]

The Signals We Give: Gender, Feedback, and Competition [Joint with Boon Han Koh and Zahra Murad]

Racial bias around the world.

Work In Progress

Belief Systems and Health Behaviors in Guinea-Bissau [Joint with Teresa Molina-Millán, Brais Álvarez Pereira, and Pedro Vicente]

Gender and attribution [Joint with Leonie Gerhards and Zahra Murad]

Female representation and workplace dynamics: an experimental approach [Joint with Sandra Maximiano, Joana Pais, and Antonio Silva]

Motivated beliefs and racial discrimination [Joint with Kai Barron and Boon Han Koh]

Miscalibration, overconfidence, and uncertainty [Joint with Miguel Costa-Gomes]

Attribution Bias in Financial Markets [Joint with Miguel Costa-Gomes]

Belief elicitation under ambiguity [Joint with Christoph Drobner, Boon Han Koh, and Christopher Woolnough]

Last updated: October 2023