

VICTOR COUTURE

VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
6000 Iona Dr
Vancouver, BC V6T 1L4
EMAIL: victor.couture@ubc.ca
WEBSITE: www.victorcouture.org/

Updated April 2022

ACADEMIC POSITION:

- 2020-Present Assistant Professor of Economics, Vancouver School of Economics, University of British Columbia

 Sauder School of Business, Distinguished Scholar
- 2013-2020 Assistant Professor of Real Estate, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley
- Fall 2019 Visiting Assistant Professor (Cowles Fellow), Economics Department, Yale University

EDUCATION:

- 2013 Ph.D., Economics, University of Toronto
2007 M.A., Economics, University of British Columbia
2006 B.A., McGill University

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Primary: Urban Economics, Transportation
Secondary: Trade, Development, Real Estate, Big Spatial Data

PUBLICATIONS:

Income Growth and the Distributional Effect of Urban Spatial Sorting, with Cecile Gaubert (Berkeley), Jessie Handbury (Wharton), and Erik Hurst (Chicago), June 2019, Accepted, *Review of Economic Studies*

Mobility and Congestion in Urban India, with Prottoy Akbar (Pittsburgh), Gilles Duranton (Wharton), and Adam Storeygard (Tufts), May 2021, Conditionally Accepted, *American Economic Review*

JUE Insight: Measuring Movement and Social Contact with Smartphone Data: a Real-Time Application to Covid-19, with Jonathan Dingel (Chicago), Allison Green (Princeton), Jessie Handbury (Wharton), and Kevin Williams (Yale), *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2021

Connecting the Countryside via E-Commerce: Evidence from China, with Ben Faber (Berkeley), Yizhen Gu (Jinan), and Lizhi Liu (Georgetown), *American Economic Review: Insights*, 2021

Urban Revival in America, with Jessie Handbury (Wharton), *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2020

Speed, with Gilles Duranton (Wharton) and Matthew Turner (Brown), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2018

Knowledge Transfers in Cities: An Auction Approach, *Journal of Economic Theory*, 2015

WORKING PAPERS:

Valuing the Consumption Benefits of Urban Density, September 2016. Reject and Resubmit, *American Economic Journal: Econ Policy*

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS:

Estimating the Gains from Online Integration: Theory and Evidence from China, with Ben Faber (Berkeley), Cecile Gaubert (UC Berkeley), and Yizhen Gu (Jinan)

Quantifying Social Interactions Using Smartphone Data, with Jonathan Dingel (Chicago), Allison Green (Princeton), and Jessie Handbury (Wharton)

The Fast, the Slow, and the Congested: Urban Transportation in Rich and Poor Countries, Prottoy Akbar (Pittsburgh), Gilles Duranton (Wharton) and Adam Storeygard (Tufts)

TEACHING:

2021-2022

ECON494 Seminar in Applied International Economics (4.9/5)

ECON555 International Trade and Spatial Economics (4.6/5)

2016-2020

PhD289 Real Estate Economics: Topics (6.9/7)

MBA280 (DUAL): Real Estate Investment Analysis (6.3/7)

MBA280 (Evening and Weekend): Real Estate Investment Analysis (6.3/7)

One of 10% of Haas instructors to “deserve special mention for earning ‘Club 6’ in multiple non-PhD programs”.

2010-2015

ECO 206 Intermediate Microeconomics

ECO 210 Mathematical Methods for Economics Theory

UGBA184 Undergraduate Urban and Real Estate Economics

GRANTS AND AWARDS:

2021, World Bank, \$90,000 (with Prottoy Akbar, Gilles Duranton, and Adam Storeygard)

2021-2025 SSHRC Insight Grant, \$131,730

2020 Hampton Fund Research Grant, \$10,000
 2020 National Science Foundation (NFS) Grant 2030056 “RAPID: Exposure Indices for COVID-19 Research”, \$199,355 (with Allison Green, Jonathan Dingel, Jessie Handbury, and Kevin Williams)
 2019 NBER Economics of Transportation in the 21st Century, \$39,000 (with Prottoy Akbar, Gilles Duranton, and Adam Storeygard.)
 2018 Initiative on Global Markets Grant, \$13,500 (with Jonathan Dingel and Jessie Handbury)
 2018 Wharton Dean’s Research Funds, \$15,000 (with Jonathan Dingel and Jessie Handbury)
 2015-2019 Barbara and Gerson Bakar Faculty Fellow
 2016 – 2017 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Global Development Program Grant, \$200,000 (with Ben Faber)
 2016 – 2017 Weiss Family Fund Grant, \$50,000 (with Ben Faber, Yizhen Gu and Lizhi Liu)
 2016 – 2017 Hellman Family Faculty Fund Award, \$40,492 (with Ben Faber)
 2016 Clausen Center Faculty Grant, \$11,520 (with Ben Faber, Yizhen Gu and Lizhi Liu)
 2016 CEGA Faculty Grant, \$10,624 (with Ben Faber, Yizhen Gu and Lizhi Liu)
 2016 Haas Dean’s Office Grant, \$8,000 (with Ben Faber, Yizhen Gu and Lizhi Liu)
 2007-2010 SSHRC CGS Doctoral Scholarship, \$CAD 105,000

CONFERENCES AND INVITED SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS (INCLUDING SCHEDULED):

NBER SI, URB (2022), SED (Wisconsin-Madison, 2022), UEA Summer School (Barcelona, 2022), Canadian Urban and Real Estate Summer Symposium (2022), OSUS (2022, discussant), ASSA (2022), Jinan-SMU-ABFER Conference in Urban and Regional Economics (2021), World Bank (2021), InterSTEM Speaker Series (2021), UEA European Meeting Virtual Conference (2021), Cornell (2021), OSUS (2021, discussant), ASHEcon/APPAM Webinar (2020), EHEC Webinar (2020), UEA Virtual Conference (2020), NBER Economics of Transportation in the 21st Century (2020), Luohan Academy (2020), McGill University (2020), University of British Columbia, VSE (2020), UQAM (2020), Ryerson University (2020), HEC Montreal (2020), NBER Cities, Labor Markets, and the Global Economy (2019), University of Wisconsin-Madison (2019), Texas A&M (2019), Yale (2019), Cornell, SC Johnson (2019), ASSA (2019), University of British Columbia, Sauder (2018), UEA (Columbia University, 2018), Fudan University (2018), ADB Conference on Urban Development (Shanghai, 2018), NBER SI REAL (2018), NBER SI ITI (2018), SED (Mexico City, 2018), UC Davis (2018), London School of Economics (2018), ASSA (2018), NBER ITI Winter Meeting (Stanford, 2017), UEA (Vancouver, 2017), Paris School of Economics (2017), CEPR CURE (Science Po 2017), Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (2017), Jinan University (2017), NBER SI URB (2017), UEA (Denmark 2017), NIIIT Conference, University of Chicago (2017), University of Chile (2016), Philadelphia Fed (2016), University of Southern California (2016), Columbia University (2016), NBER SI, URB/REAL (2016), IEB: IV Workshop in Urban Economics (2016), AREUEA National Conference (2016), UC Irvine (2016), UCLA (2016), ASSA (2016), Universite de Montreal (2015), McGill University (2015), University of Toronto (2015), Sciences Po (2015), ASSA (2015), Institute of Transportation Studies, Berkeley (2014), Tokyo University/GRIPS (2014), Tsinghua University (2014), Renmin University (2014), National University of Singapore (2014), UEA (Washington 2014), University of British Columbia, Sauder, ULE Summer Symposium (2014), London School of Economics (2013), Sciences Po (2013), Baruch College, Zicklin (2013), New York University, Furman Center (2013), UC Berkeley, Haas (2013), Université Laval (2013), University of Pennsylvania, Wharton (2013), CEPR CURE (Princeton 2012), UEA (Ottawa 2012), Rimini Conference in Economics and Finance (Toronto 2012), Brown University (2012), Urban Economics Association (Denver 2010), Canadian Economics Association (Quebec City 2010).

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Editorial Board, *Journal of Economic Geography*, 2021-

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS:

Consultant: World Bank (2022-present)

Scientific Committee: Urban Economic Association Conference 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grants on Mobility and Public Transit (Committee Chair) 2021.

Short Academic Visit: Brown (April 2012), Sciences Po (June 2015), CEMFI (June 2016), Chicago Booth (May 2017), Wharton (May 2018), Philadelphia Fed (October 2018)

University Service: Haas Real Estate Recruiting Committee 2013-2015, 2017-2018, Haas Real Estate and Urban Economics Seminar Organizer 2018-2019, Falik Scholarship Committee, 2016-2020, Bakar Scholarship Committee 2018-2020, Reynolds Scholarship Committee, 2019-2020, FCREUE Grant Committee 2018-2019, VSE Hiring Committee 2020, 2021

Refereeing: *American Economic Review, Econometrica, Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, AER: Insight, AEJ-Applied, AEJ-Economic Policy, AEJ-Micro, Annals of Regional Science, Canadian Journal of Economics, Economic Letters, Economic Journal, International Economic Review, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Housing Economics, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Regional Science, Journal of Urban Economics, JUE: Insights, PNAS, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Urban Studies, SSHRC, World Bank Economic Review.*

Professional Affiliations: American Economic Association, Urban Economics Association

LANGUAGES: French (native)