

# VICTOR COUTURE

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## ACADEMIC POSITION:

2023-present Associate Professor of Economics, Vancouver School of Economics, UBC  
Sauder School of Business, Distinguished Scholar

2020-2023 Assistant Professor of Economics, Vancouver School of Economics, UBC  
2013-2020 Assistant Professor of Real Estate, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley  
Fall 2019 Visiting Assistant Professor (Cowles Fellow), Economics Department, Yale

## EDUCATION:

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

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS:

Urban Economics, Real Estate, Transportation, Trade/Development

## PUBLICATIONS:

Income Growth and the Distributional Effect of Urban Spatial Sorting, with Cecile Gaubert (Berkeley), Jessie Handbury (Wharton), and Erik Hurst (Chicago), *Review of Economic Studies*, 2023

Neighborhood Change, Gentrification, and the Urbanization of College Graduates, with Jessie Handbury (Wharton), *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 2023

Mobility and Congestion in Urban India, with Prottoy Akbar (Pittsburgh), Gilles Duranton (Wharton), and Adam Storeygard (Tufts), *American Economic Review*, 2023

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

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

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:**

Demographic Differences in Social Exposure to High-Income People, 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), Revise and Resubmit, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

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), Ming Li (CUHK), and Wei Lin (CUHK)

Accessibility, City Size, and Economic Development, Prottoy Akbar (Pittsburgh), Gilles Duranton (Wharton), Bernardo Ribeiro (UBC) and Adam Storeygard (Tufts)

Remote Work and Urban Transportation, with Prottoy Akbar (Aalto), Gilles Duranton (Wharton), and Adam Storeygard (Tufts)

Speed and reliability of road travel in the world, with Prottoy Akbar (Aalto), Gilles Duranton (Wharton), Lin Fan (LSE), and Adam Storeygard (Tufts)

The Pathways to Homelessness, with Pierre-Loup Beauregard (UBC) and David Green (UBC)

#### **TEACHING:**

2022-present

ECON355 Introduction to International Trade (4.8/5)

2021-2023

ECON555 International Trade and Spatial Economics (4.6/5)

2021-2022

ECON494 Seminar in Applied International Economics (4.9/5)

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:**

2023, Center for Innovative Data in Economic Research, UBC, \$21,400

2023 NBER Economics of Transportation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, \$51,000 (with Prottoy Akbar, Gilles Duranton, and Adam Storeygard.)

2023, International Growth Center, £19,000, (with Akbar, Duranton, Ribeiro, Storeygard)

2023, Center for Innovative Data in Economic Research, UBC, \$23,000

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 21<sup>st</sup> 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):**

West Coast Spatial Workshop UC San Diego (keynote, 2024), Kyiv School of Economics (2024), Princeton, HRUE (2024), NYU/Abu Dhabi MESIE (2024), NUS (2023), NTU (2023), UEA (Toronto, 2023), Paris Dauphine University (2023), Purdue University (2023), PacDev (2023), Online Spatial and Urban Seminar (2023), University of Washington (2023), ASSA (New Orleans, 2023), Aalto University/University of Helsinki (2022), UEA (DC, 2023), NBER SI, URB (2022), SED (Wisconsin-Madison, 2022), IEB Workshop in Urban Economics (Barcelona, 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 (San Diego, 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 (Philadelphia 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 (San Francisco, 2016), Universite de Montreal (2015), McGill University (2015), University of Toronto (2015), Sciences Po (2015), ASSA (Boston, 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, 2022  
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), Wharton/Philadelphia Fed (June 2022), EIEF (July 2023)

**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, VSE Executive Committee 2022, VSE Chair of Communication Committee 2023-present, VSE Graduate Committee 2023-present

**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*, *JPE-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 Labor Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Monetary Economics, Journal of Regional Science, Journal of Urban Economics, JUE: Insights, Nature – Cities, 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, Transportation & Public Utility Group

**LANGUAGES:** French (native), Spanish (advanced), German (intermediate)