Meeting time and Target Audience:

Fridays, 1.30pm – 4.30pm, 9/11/2020 - 12/11/2020, (Most likely on zoom)

Interested students from all years, departments, schools, and universities are welcome to register. Please email us if you have any questions (johannes.stroebel@nyu.edu, tkuchler@stern.nyu.edu).

Overview:

In the first class, we will give an introductory lecture to provide an overview of the field, as well as approaches to finding research questions.

The rest of the class is then going to be split into two components:

- Five half-day Zoom-based topic classes

  The sessions will be held on Friday afternoons, between 12.30pm ET and 5.30pm ET. The session dates and topics are as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, October 2, 2020</td>
<td>Household Borrowing (Non-Mortgage)</td>
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<td>Fri, October 16, 2020</td>
<td>Peer Effects in Household Finance</td>
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<td>Fri, November 6, 2020</td>
<td>Determinants and Effects of Beliefs</td>
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<td>Fri, November 20, 2020</td>
<td>Mortgage Borrowing and Default</td>
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<td>Fri, December 4, 2020</td>
<td>Climate Finance</td>
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During these sessions, Professors Stroebel and Kuchler as well as a number of leading scholars will present research papers on various topics within household finance. Most of the papers will be empirical and will use various empirical strategies (instrumental variables, differences-in-differences, regression discontinuity, structural estimation, and field experiments) to identify causal effects.

The topics are chosen to give students a taste of the research done under the “household finance” umbrella, rather than to provide a comprehensive overview of household finance research. A full schedule for these classes is attached below; please sign up to a separate zoom invite using the following link (https://forms.gle/6ehRcF6okSXABjbc7). These sessions are open to auditors from around the world.
• **In-person research workshop sessions**

The workshop sessions aim to help students develop and work on their own research in a collaborative setting. Starting on September 25, each student is required to present in each of the workshop sessions.

The goal of each presentation is for students to share their research progress, to update the group on what they have been working on, and to receive feedback on their work. The hope is that over the course of the semester, each student develops their own research ideas and ultimately turns them into actual research papers.

For their presentation, students have several options:

• **New research idea**

Students can present a new research idea. When presenting such an idea, students should outline the idea, focusing on the research question and their proposed research method/approach, including a discussion of paths to access the necessary data. Students should also include a discussion of the related literature for their fellow classmates, so all students can understand and discuss the potential contribution to the literature.

• **Literature overview of a specific area of interest**

Especially during the early sessions, students can give a presentation of an area in the literature which they are interested to do research in. This should be similar to a literature review presented as part of a research idea (though it would likely be somewhat more detailed), but would not yet require the student to have formulated a specific idea. Students should focus on the open question in the area they are speaking about to help spark the development of actual research ideas.

• **Specific paper related to own research**

Students can present specific papers which are key to the development of their own research ideas. When presenting the paper, students should explain why studying this paper in detail helps them move forward in their own research. Presenting a specific paper can be especially useful if the paper uses a technique (econometric technique, model, empirical method, …) the student aims to use in their own research or if the student’s own research strongly builds on this paper. These presentations should be structured as if the student was presenting this paper as their own research.
• **Progress on own research**

   Especially in later sessions, students would ideally present the progress they made in their own research. For instance, students can share updates on their work on a research idea presented earlier in the semester.

   In the final class, all students are expected to present an overview of the research progress they have made during the semester; ideally, at this stage, a clear research design has emerged and a number of results can be presented.

   Depending on the number of students in the class, each presentation should aim to be around 20-30 minutes in length. Grading for the course will be based on the quality of students’ presentations and the progress towards an own research question through the semester.

   At the end of the syllabus, we list a number of papers as starting points for students looking for interesting questions.

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### SESSION OVERVIEW

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<td>11-Sep</td>
<td>Introductory Lecture (Johannes + Theresa)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-Sep</td>
<td>Johannes presents “House Prices, Local Demand, and Retail Prices;” Discuss first ideas</td>
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<td>25-Sep</td>
<td>Research Workshop (Johannes)</td>
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<td>2-Oct</td>
<td>Zoom-based Topic Classes - Household Borrowing (Non-Mortgage)</td>
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<td>9-Oct</td>
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<td>23-Oct</td>
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<td>30-Oct</td>
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<td>6-Nov</td>
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<td>4-Dec</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-Dec</td>
<td>Final Project Presentations (Johannes + Theresa)</td>
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**Topic Session 1: Household Borrowing (Non-Mortgage)**

Friday, October 2, 2020

12.30pm – 1.45pm  **Johannes Stroebel** (NYU Stern)

*Topic Overview*

*Regulating Consumer Financial Products: Evidence from Credit Cards*

1.45pm – 2.30pm  **Theresa Kuchler** (NYU Stern)

*Sticking To Your Plan: The Role of Present Bias for Credit Card Debt Paydown*

2.45pm – 3.15pm  **Christopher Palmer** (MIT Sloan)

*Real Effects of Search Frictions in Consumer Credit Markets*

3.15pm – 3.45pm  **Michaela Pagel** (Columbia GSB)

*Repaying Consumer Debt and Increasing Savings After Retirement*

4.00pm – 4.30pm  **Scott Nelson** (Chicago Booth)

*Private Information and Price Regulation in the US Credit Card Market*

4.30pm – 5.00pm  **Neale Mahoney** (Stanford University)

*Do Banks Pass Through Credit Expansions to Consumers who Want to Borrow?*

5pm+  **Moderated Panel Discussion**
Topic Session 2: Peer Effects in Household Finance

Friday, October 16, 2020

12.30pm – 1.45pm  Theresa Kuchler (NYU Stern)

*Topic Overview*

*Social Connectedness: Measurement, Determinants, and Effects*

*Peer Effects in Product Adoption*

1.45pm – 2.30pm  Johannes Stroebel (NYU Stern)

*The Economic Effects of Social Networks: Evidence from the Housing Market*

2.45pm – 3.15pm  Jordan Nickerson (Boston College)

*Teachers Teaching Teachers: The Role of Workplace Peer Effects on Financial Decisions*

3.15pm – 3.45pm  Ankit Kalda (Indiana University)

*Peer Financial Distress and Individual Leverage*

4.00pm – 4.30pm  Florian Ederer (Yale SOM)

*Understanding Mechanisms Underlying Peer Effects: Evidence from a Field Experiment on Financial Decisions*

4.30pm – 5.00pm  Emily Breza (Harvard University)

*Social Networks, Reputation, and Commitment: Evidence from a Savings Monitors Field Experiment*

5pm+  Moderated Panel Discussion
Topic Session 3: Determinants & Effects of Household Expectations
Friday, November 6, 2020

12.30pm – 1.45pm  Theresa Kuchler (NYU Stern)

*Topic Overview*

*Personal Experiences and Expectations about Aggregate Outcomes*

1.45pm – 2.30pm  Johannes Stroebel (NYU Stern)

*Five Facts about Beliefs and Portfolios*

2.45pm – 3.15pm  Yueran Ma (Chicago Booth)

*Biases in Expectations: Experimental Evidence*

3.15pm – 3.45pm  Ricardo Perez-Truglia (Berkeley Haas)

*Betting on the House: Subjective Expectations and Market Choices*

4.00pm – 4.30pm  Cami Kuhnen (UNC Chapel Hill)

*Socioeconomic Status and Household Expectations*

4.30pm – 5.00pm  Michael Weber (Chicago Booth)

*Exposure to Grocery Prices and Inflation Expectations*

5pm+  Moderated Panel Discussion
Topic Session 4: Mortgage Borrowing and Default
Friday, November 20

12.30pm – 1.30pm  Theresa Kuchler (NYU Stern)
Topic Overview
House Price Beliefs and Mortgage Leverage Choice

1.30pm – 2.00pm  Johannes Stroebel (NYU Stern)
Asymmetric Information about Collateral Values

2.00pm – 2.30pm  Arpit Gupta (NYU Stern)
Selection, Leverage, and Default in the Mortgage Market

2.45pm – 3.15pm  Claudia Robles Garcia (Stanford GSB)
Competition and Incentives in Mortgage Markets: The Role of Brokers

3.15pm – 3.45pm  Pascal Noel (Chicago Booth)
Liquidity vs. Wealth in Household Debt Obligations: Evidence from Housing Policy in the Great Recession

4.00pm – 4.30pm  Anthony De Fusco (Northwestern Kellogg)
Regulating Household Leverage

4.30pm – 5.00pm  Matteo Benetton (Berkeley Haas)
Leverage Regulation and Market Structure: A Structural Model of the UK Mortgage Market

5.00pm +  Moderated Panel Discussion
Topic Session 5: Climate Finance
Friday, December 4

12.30pm – 1.30pm Johannes Stroebel (NYU Stern)

Topic Overview

Hedging Climate Change Risk

1.30pm – 2.00pm Matteo Maggiori (Stanford GSB)

Very Long-Run Discount Rates

2.30pm – 2.30pm Stefano Giglio (Yale SOM)

Climate Change and Long-Run Discount Rates: Evidence from Real Estate

2.45pm – 3.15pm Paul Goldsmith-Pinkham (Yale SOM)

Sea Level Rise and Municipal Bond Yields

3.15pm – 3.45pm Zacharias Sautner (Frankfurt School)

Firm-level Climate Change Exposure

4.00pm – 4.30pm Nancy Wallace (Berkeley Haas)

Mortgage Markets with Climate-Change Risk: Evidence from Wildfires in California

4.30pm – 5.00pm Matthew Kahn (Johns Hopkins University)

Mortgage Finance in the Face of Rising Climate Risk

5.00pm+ Moderated Panel Discussion
Selected Research Papers by Topics

Overview of Household Finance


Household Preferences


Unsecured Credit & Regulation of Consumer Financial Products


Information Frictions in Consumer Credit Markets


Housing Wealth and Household Decision Making


Financially-Constrained Households & Monetary and Fiscal Policy


Auclert, A. (2016). Monetary Policy and the Redistribution Channel, WP.


Peer Effects & Economic and Financial Decision Making
Note: The data provided by “Social Connectedness: Measurement, Determinants, and Effects” is publicly accessible, and might be very helpful in your own research projects.


**Household Beliefs & Behavior**


Das, S., Kuhnen, C. M., & Nagel, S., 2017. Socioeconomic Status and Macroeconomic Expectations. WP.


**Mortgage Choice, Refinancing, Default, and Mortgage Design**


Climate Change, Financial Markets, and Household Responses


