

Gradon Nicholls

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Education

- University of Waterloo** **Waterloo, ON**
PhD in Statistics, Supervisor: Matthias Schonlau *2022–Present*
Awards:
 - Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS): Sep 2023–Aug 2024
- Carleton University** **Ottawa, ON**
MA in Economics *2016–2019*
- University of Waterloo** **Waterloo, ON**
BMath in Statistics *2011–2016*

Work

- Various** **Waterloo, ON**
Research Assistant *2023–Present*
 - **Dr. Leia Minaker** (May 2023–Present)
 - Cleaning, imputation, and weighting for a youth advertising study with complex sampling design.
 - **Survey Research Center** (May 2023–Present)
 - Prepared a report on student well-being and food affordability using data from the Student Experience Survey; Logistic regression with variable selection using LASSO.
 - Computed calibration weights for the Waterloo Region Matters Survey.
- Independent Contractor** **Guelph, ON**
2023–Present
 - **Ipsos** (January 2023–August 2023)
 - Proposed methodology for segmentation analysis using only public data sources on businesses.
 - Use google search API and web scraping techniques to build richer dataset.
 - Use kmeans and DBSCAN clustering techniques to identify segments.
- University of Waterloo** **Waterloo, ON**
Teaching Assistant *2022–Present*
 - Fall 2023: STAT 332 (Sampling and Experimental Design)
 - Winter 2023: STAT 332; STAT 454 (Sampling Theory and Practice)
 - Fall 2022: STAT 230 (Intro Probability); STAT 231 (Intro Statistics)
 - **Teaching experience:**
 - Development and presentation of tutorial content.
 - Answering student questions on discussion board.
 - Grading: provide descriptive and actionable feedback.
- Bank of Canada** **Ottawa, ON**
Research Assistant (2016–19); Economist (2019–22); Senior Economist (2022) *2016–2022*
 - Conduct economic research guiding policy at the currency department.
 - Develop computer programs to estimate structural economic models.
 - Design and analyze surveys of consumers (e.g. Methods-Of-Payments Survey) and businesses (e.g. Merchant Acceptance Survey).
 - Contribute to survey methodology: sampling, questionnaire design, weighting, cleaning, imputation.

Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)**Gatineau, QC***Research Assistant**2014–2015*

- Conducted social research focused on people with disabilities.
- Contributed to Statistics Canada publications using survey data from the 2012 Canadian Survey on Disability.
- Presented the research at staff meetings.

University of Waterloo**Waterloo, ON***Instructional Support Assistant**2013*

- Assisted instructors with the course “Introduction to Computer Science” (CS116).
- Ran weekly tutorials to complement main lectures, using Python to illustrate programming concepts.
- Held office hours to help students with assignments and exams.
- Developed and used programming scripts to test and grade assignments.

Boards / Volunteering / Etc.

2024 Canadian Statistics Student Conference*Sessions Committee**2023–Present***Survey Research Centre****Waterloo, ON***Student Representative**2022–2023***ASA DataFest 2023****Waterloo, ON***Mentor (Volunteer)**April 2023*

Publications

Journal Articles

- [1] Daniela Balutel, Marie-Hélène Felt, Gradon Nicholls, and Marcel-Cristian Voia. Bitcoin awareness, ownership and use: 2016–20. *Applied Economics*, pages 1–26, 2023.
- [2] Kim Huynh, Christopher Henry, Gradon Nicholls, and Mitchell Nicholson. Benchmarking bitcoin adoption in canada: Awareness, ownership and usage in 2018. *Ledger*, 5, 2020.
- [3] Christopher S Henry, Kim P Huynh, and Gradon Nicholls. Bitcoin Awareness and Usage in Canada: An Update. *The Journal of Investing*, 28(3):21–31, 2019.
- [4] Christopher S. Henry, Kim P Huynh, and Gradon Nicholls. Bitcoin awareness and usage in canada. *Journal of Digital Banking*, 2(4):311–337, 2018.

Non-Journal Articles

- [5] Heng Chen, Walter Engert, Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, and Julia Zhu. Cash and COVID-19: The Effects of Lifting Containment Measures on Cash Demand and Use. Staff Discussion Paper 2021-3, Bank of Canada, 2021.
- [6] Heng Chen, Walter Engert, Marie-Helene Felt, Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, Daneal O’Habib, and Julia Zhu. Cash and COVID-19: The Impact of the Second Wave in Canada. Staff Discussion Paper 2021-12, Bank of Canada, 2021.
- [7] Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, and Mitchell Nicholson. 2019 Cash Alternative Survey Results. Staff Discussion Paper 2020-8, Bank of Canada, 2020.
- [8] Heng Chen, Walter Engert, Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, Mitchell Nicholson, and Julia Zhu. Cash and COVID-19: The Impact of the Pandemic on Cash Demand and Use. Staff Discussion Paper 2020-6, Bank of Canada, 2020.
- [9] Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, and Mitchell Nicholson. 2018 Merchant Acceptance Survey. Staff Analytical Note 2019-31, Bank of Canada, 2019.
- [10] Christopher S Henry, Kim P Huynh, Gradon Nicholls, and Mitchell Nicholson. 2018 Bitcoin Omnibus Survey: Awareness and usage. Staff Discussion Paper 2019-10, Bank of Canada, 2019.
- [11] Kim P Huynh, Oleksandr Scherbakov, and Gradon Nicholls. Explaining the interplay between merchant acceptance and consumer adoption in two-sided markets for payment methods. Staff Working Paper 2019-32, Bank of Canada, 2019.
- [12] Walter Engert, Ben Fung, Jozsef Molnar, and Gradon Nicholls. Explaining unusual cash patterns in 2018. Staff Analytical Note 2019-22, Bank of Canada, 2019.
- [13] Matthew Till, Tim Leonard, Sebastian Yeung, and Gradon Nicholls. A profile of the labour market experiences of adults with disabilities among Canadians aged 15 years and older, 2012. Technical Report catalogue no. 89-654-X2015005, Statistics Canada, 2015.
- [14] Christine Bizier, Matthew Till, and Gradon Nicholls. Learning disabilities among Canadians aged 15 years and older, 2012. Technical Report catalogue no. 89-654-X-No.2014003, Statistics Canada, 2014.

Presentations

Analyzing Surveys with R (link) <i>UW Statistical Workshops and Applications Group (SWAG)</i>	Waterloo, ON <i>January 26, 2023</i>
Measurement and Selection Errors in Recall and Diary Responses <i>2021 Joint Statistical Meetings</i>	Virtual <i>August 8–August 12, 2021</i>
Payment Acceptance Trends Among Small Merchants in Canada <i>ICES VI</i>	Virtual <i>June 14–June 17, 2021</i>
Cash and COVID-19: The Effect of the Pandemic... <i>AAPOR 76th Annual Conference</i>	Virtual <i>May 11–May 14, 2021</i>
Cash Use and Financial Literacy <i>BigSurv20</i>	Virtual <i>November 6–December 4, 2020</i>
Consumer Payments Behaviour in a Health Crisis <i>Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta Talk About Payment Webinar</i>	Virtual <i>November 19, 2020</i>
Cash and COVID-19: The Impact of the Pandemic... <i>USC CESR: COVID-19 Work in Progress Conference</i>	Virtual <i>October 29–October 30, 2020</i>
2018 Bitcoin Omnibus Survey: Awareness and Usage <i>2019 Joint Statistical Meetings</i>	Denver, CO <i>July 27–August 1, 2019</i>
Financial Literacy and the Demand for Cash <i>Shaping a New Reality of Cash Conference</i>	Warsaw, Poland <i>May 29–31, 2019</i>
Going Cashless at the Point of Sale: Are We There Yet? <i>Payments Canada SUMMIT</i>	Toronto, ON <i>May 14–16, 2019</i>

Professional development

Joint Program in Survey Methodology <i>Non-Degree Student</i>	University of Maryland <i>2020–2022</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ SURV 621: Fundamentals of Data Collection I<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Fred Conrad (University of Michigan) and Christopher Antoun (University of Maryland)○ SURV 622: Fundamentals of Data Collection II<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Fred Conrad (University of Michigan) and Christopher Antoun (University of Maryland) and Brian Kim (University of Maryland)○ SURV 727: Fundamentals of Computing and Data Display<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Ruben Bach (Universitat Mannheim) and Christoph Kern (Universitat Mannheim)○ SURV 631: Questionnaire Design<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructor: Gina Walejko (Google)○ SURV 635: Usability Testing for Survey Research<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Emily Geisen (Qualtrics) and Jennifer Romano (Google)○ SURV 636: Sampling II<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructor: Raphael Nishimura (University of Michigan)	
2019 Joint Statistical Meetings <i>PD Courses</i>	Denver, CO <i>July 27–August 1, 2019</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Understanding and Tackling Measurement Error: A Whistle Stop Tour of Modern Practical Methods<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Pamela Shaw (University of Pennsylvania) and Paul Gustafson (University of British Columbia)○ Measuring the Impact of Nonignorable Missing Data<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Instructors: Daniel Heitian (Southern Methodist University) and Hui Xie (Simon Fraser University)	