

Alex Albright

Research Economist | albrightalex.com

Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
Opportunity & Inclusive Growth Institute (OIGI)
90 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55401

Email: alex@albrightalex.com
Pronouns: she/her/hers
Last updated: December 1, 2025

EMPLOYMENT

2022 – pres. **Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis**, OIGI, Research Economist
2014 – 2016 **Stanford Law School**, Research Fellow

EDUCATION

2022 **Harvard University**, Ph.D. in Economics
2014 **Williams College**, B.A. in Mathematics & Economics with Highest Honors

WORKING PAPERS

No Money Bail, No Problems? Trade-Offs in an Automatic Pretrial Release Program – *Reject & Resubmit at Econometrica*

The Hidden Effects of Algorithmic Recommendations – *Revise & Resubmit at American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*

After The Burning: The Economic Effects of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre (with Jeremy Cook, James Feigenbaum, Laura-Thorne Kincaide, Jason Long, and Nathan Nunn) – *Revise & Resubmit at American Economic Review*

Imputing Race (with Juliana Gamboa-Arbelaez) – *Revision in Progress*

RESTING PAPERS

If You Give a Judge a Risk Score

Uncorking Expert Reviews with Social Media: A Case Study Served with Wine (with Peter Pedroni and Steven Sheppard)

AWARDS & GRANTS

2022 Abrams Family Economics Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard University
2021 Irving Louis Horowitz Award, Horowitz Foundation (*top dissertation prize*)
2021 Dissertation Prize, Horowitz Foundation
2019 Law and Economics Fellows Writing Prize, Harvard Law School
2019 Foundations of Human Behavior Grant (*with James Feigenbaum & Nathan Nunn*)
2019 Inequality in America Grant (*with James Feigenbaum & Nathan Nunn*)
2019 Bradley Foundation Research Award
2018 – 2022 James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Ph.D. Scholar, Harvard Kennedy School
2018 – 2021 Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University (*4 times*)
2018 – 2021 Terence M. Considine Fellow in Law and Economics, Harvard Law School
2016 Christophe Baron Prize, American Association of Wine Economists
2015 Best Lightning Talk Presenter, Oxford Connected Life Conference
2014 Carl Van Dyne Prize in Economics, Williams College (*top thesis prize*)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Seminar and Conference Presentations

(* denotes scheduled, ^v denotes virtual)

2026	<i>Seminars:</i> University of Bonn*, Humboldt University of Berlin*, University of Minnesota (Carlson)* / <i>Conferences:</i> AEA Annual Meetings (Philadelphia; discussant)*
2025	<i>Seminars:</i> UC Berkeley (Law School) / <i>Conferences:</i> Federal Reserve System Applied Microeconomics Conference (Richmond Fed; discussant), Federal Reserve System Economic Heterogeneity Conference (Philadelphia Fed), Federal Reserve System Community Development Meeting (Board of Governors)*
2024	<i>Seminars:</i> Northwestern University, San Diego State University, Tufts University, University of Nebraska–Lincoln / <i>Conferences:</i> AEA Annual Meetings (San Antonio), SOLE Annual Meetings (Portland), APPAM Conference (National Harbor; discussant)
2023	<i>Seminars:</i> Clemson University, Williams College, St. Olaf College, University of Minnesota (ISyE), Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, São Paulo School of Economics (FGV EESP), Insper, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio) / <i>Conferences:</i> Women in Empirical Microeconomics Conference (UChicago), SOLE Annual Meetings (Philadelphia), Texas Economics of Crime Workshop (UT Austin; discussant), Women in Federal Reserve System Economic Research Conference (Kansas City Fed), Workshop on the Economics of Crime for Junior Scholars (Northeastern University)
2022	<i>Seminars:</i> Louisiana State University, Macalester College, London School of Economics ^v , Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis ^v , Consumer Financial Protection Bureau ^v , Rutgers University ^v , Department of Justice ^v , RAND ^v , Mathematica ^v / <i>Conferences:</i> NBER Summer Institute (Crime)
2021	<i>Seminars:</i> Vancouver School of Economics ^v / <i>Conferences:</i> NBER Decentralization Conference (discussant) ^v , EAAMO Conference ^v , Workshop on the Economics of Crime for Junior Scholars ^v
2020	<i>Seminars:</i> Economics of Crime Online Seminar Series ^v / <i>Conferences:</i> SEA Annual Meetings ^v , Annual Meeting of the American Law and Economics Association (canceled)
Prior	<i>Conferences:</i> Eighth Meeting for the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (Paris School of Economics), American Association of Wine Economists Conference (Cornell University), American Association of Wine Economists Conference (Université de Bordeaux), Connected Life Conference (Oxford University)

Policy Community Presentations

2024	Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Community Advisory Board Meeting
2022	Niskanen Center Webinar Series on Prosecution Reform (2 times)
2020	Judicial Council of California Seminar

Invited Guest Lectures

2023	Professor Sebastian Tello-Trillo's "Causal Inference" Course (University of Virginia), Dr. Shawn Bushway's "Economics of Crime" Winter Study Course (Williams College)
2022	Professor Amanda Agan's "Evidence-Based Crime Policy" Course (Rutgers University)
Prior	Professor Louis Kaplow & Steve Shavell's "Law and Economics" Course (Harvard Law; 2 times), Harvard Government Department's "Data" Course (2 times)

Press Coverage & Research Features

2025	Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis's <i>For All</i> Magazine, BET
2023	Oklahoma Channel 4 News
2022	Probable Causation Podcast (host: Jennifer Doleac)
2021	The New York Times, CNN, TIME Magazine, CNBC, NBER Digest, Black Enterprise, The Root, Business Insider

2019

WIRED, Axios

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee Service

Quarterly Journal of Economics, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Economic Journal, Journal of Empirical Legal Studies, Journal of Legal Studies, Justice Quarterly, Review of Economics and Statistics: Short Papers, Journal of Public Economics: Short Papers, Journal of Urban Economics: Insights

Conference and Seminar Service

2023 – pres. Organizer, OIGI Seminar Series, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
2024 – 2025 Review Committee Member, APPAM Crime & Justice
2024 Program Committee Member, EAAMO (*Conference on Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization*)
2023 – 2024 Co-Organizer, OIGI Fall Welcome Conference, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
2023 Program Committee Member, FAcCT (*ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability and Transparency*)
2020 Co-Organizer, Heterogeneity by Gender: Evidence from Job Market Papers (*Harvard Economics Department Event*)

Community Service

2022 Panelist, Women in Economics Job Market Event, Vancouver School of Economics
2018 & 2020 Master of Ceremonies, Harvard Economics Holiday Party
2018 Invited Speaker, R-Ladies Boston
2017 – 2021 Founding Member, Harvard Graduate Women in Economics
2017 – 2018 Peer Mentor, Harvard Economics Department

TEACHING

2020 – 21 Seminar Leader, Undergraduate Thesis Writer Seminar, Harvard Economics
2018 – 19 Seminar Leader, Undergraduate Thesis Writer Seminar, Harvard Economics
2014 Teaching Assistant, Empirical Debates in Law and Policy, Stanford Law School

PUBLICATIONS OUTSIDE OF ECONOMICS

We analyzed every ‘Modern Love’ column from the past 10 years. Here’s what we learned about love (with Emma Pierson). *Quartz* (2017).

Which U.S. State Performs Best in the New Yorker Caption Contest? (with Bob Mankoff). *The New Yorker* (2015).

One Size Does Not Fit All: The Shortcomings of the Mainstream Data Scientist Working for Social Good (with Sarah Levine). *Proceedings of the Bloomberg Data for Good Exchange* (2015).