

NICKY M NICHOLLS

nicky.nicholls@up.ac.za

Behavioural economist with over 15 years' experience designing, running and analysing findings from surveys and experiments in corporate and academic contexts.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Senior Lecturer: Economics **University of Pretoria** **2017-present**

I teach post- and under-graduate microeconomics. My research focuses on experimental work on rationality violations (including bias and discrimination) in decision making and learning under uncertainty.

EDUCATION

PhD (Economics)	University of Pretoria	2013-2016
<i>Thesis: Essays on probability perceptions, decision-making and aging (Supervisor: Prof A. Zimmer)</i>		
MComm (Economics)	University of the Witwatersrand	2011-2012
BComm Honours (Economics) cum laude	University of the Witwatersrand	2010
MA (Psychology) cum laude	University of Stellenbosch	2002-2003
BA Honours (Psychology) cum laude	University of Stellenbosch	1999
BA cum laude	University of Stellenbosch	1998
Matric top student: WGHS	Westville Girls' High School	1995

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Oyebode, B. & Nicholls, N. (in press). Social norms as anchor points for trust. *The Social Science Journal*.
- Zimmer, A. & Nicholls, N. (2020). Choosing the agent's group identity in a trust game with delegated decision making. *Journal of Public Economic Theory*, **22**, 220-244.
- Chisadza, C., Nicholls, N. and Yitbarek, E. (2019). Race and gender biases in student evaluations of teachers. *Economics Letters* **179**, 66-71.
- Nicholls, N., Romm, A.T. and Zimmer, A. (2015). The impact of statistical learning on violations of the Sure-Thing Principle. *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty* **50**, 117-141.
- Watson, N.M. and Greeff, A.P. (2004). An analysis of Schema Theory and Learning Theory as explanations for variance in adolescent adjustment to divorce. *The American Journal of Family Therapy*, **32**, 437-448. (Published under my maiden name, Watson).

NICKY M NICHOLLS

nicky.nicholls@up.ac.za

PEER-REVIEWED CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOK COLLECTIONS

- Chisadza, C., Nicholls, N. and Yitbarek, E. (2019). Women empowerment and child obesity in Africa. In M. Konte and N. Tirivayi (Eds.), *Women and Sustainable Human Development-Empowering Women in Africa*. Springer.
- Hamann, H., & Nicholls, N. (2018). Group identity in intermediated interactions: Lessons from a trust game with delegation in South Africa. In R.M. Isaac & D. A. Norton (Eds.), *Experimental Economics and Culture* (pp. 227-264). Emerald Publishing Limited.

OTHER BOOK CHAPTERS

- Nicholls, N. and Zimper, A. (2016). Subjective life expectancy. In *The Encyclopedia of Adulthood and Aging* ed. S. Krauss/Whitbourne. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

CURRENT RESEARCH

- Nicholls, N. and Romm, A. Overconfidence and Belief Updating (*under review*)
- Chisadza, C., Nicholls, N. and Yitbarek, E. Group identity in fairness decisions
- Chisadza, C., Clance, M., Nicholls, N. and Yitbarek, E. Racial bias in evaluations of effort
- Chisadza, C., Clance, M., Nicholls, N. and Yitbarek, E. Race and gender bias in political engagement
- Nicholls, N. and Watson, E. Risk and time preferences in health and wellness decision making.
- Harrison, G., Nicholls, N. and Ross, D. Belief updating and Sure-Thing Principal violations.

TEACHING

MIE 780, University of Pretoria

2015-current

Honours (South African first year post-graduate degree) microeconomics course including consumer and firm theory, introductory game theory and introduction to behavioural economics.

EKN 244, University of Pretoria

2017-current

Second year microeconomics foundations course.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Economic Society of South Africa (2013, 2015, 2017, 2019)
- Centre for Studies of African Economies (2019: Oxford, UK)
- Foundations of Utility and Risk Conference poster presentation (2018: UK)
- WINIR Conference (2017).

NICKY M NICHOLLS

nicky.nicholls@up.ac.za

VISITING RESEARCHER

- Centre for the Economic Analysis of Risk, Georgia State University Jan 2017

FUNDING

- University of Pretoria Research Development Programme funding 2017-2019
- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Grant funding 2020

ACADEMIC SERVICES

External Examiner:

- University of Cape Town "Views on Behavioural Economics" Masters course
- University of Stellenbosch Microeconomics Honours course
- University of the Witwatersrand Economics Honours course
- University of Cape Town Masters theses
- University of Johannesburg PhD thesis

Reviewer:

- Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics
- South African Journal of Economics
- Journal for Studies in Economics and Econometrics
- Cognitive Processing
- Research on Aging
- African Journal of Business and Economic Research
- Economic Research Southern Africa (ERSA)

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Economic Society of South Africa (ESSA) Founders' Medal for top PhD in Economics in South Africa 2017
- Stella Nkomo Award for top PhD in Economic and Management Sciences Faculty at University of Pretoria 2017
- PhD Fellowship at University of Pretoria 2013-16
- Post-Graduate Finalist (top 10) in Nedbank/Old Mutual Budget Speech Competition 2010
- Top student in MA Psychology at University of Stellenbosch 2003
- University of Stellenbosch Academic Honours Award (top 4 in faculty) 1998
- Finansies & Tegniek Award for top Economics III student (Stellenbosch) 1998

