

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Javier Cravino, assistant professor of economics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of economics, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2013	University of California, Los Angeles
M.A.	2008	University of California, Los Angeles
Licenciatura en Economia	2005	Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Professional Record:

2016 – 2017	Peter B. Kenen Fellow, Visiting Assistant Professor, Princeton University
2015 – present	Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research
2013 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Cravino has taught classes at the undergraduate and graduate levels. In intermediate macroeconomic theory, an important core class for undergraduate majors, he supplements teaching of challenging theoretical issues with recent news articles and empirical facts to highlight the importance of the course topics for understanding complicated real world current events. At the graduate level, Professor Cravino has designed his international finance course to provide students with a deep knowledge of core theories and a familiarity with frontier research in the field. He has served on multiple completed dissertations, advised numerous students on their required third-year paper, helped organize a seminar for students to present work in progress, and co-authored papers with multiple Ph.D. students.

Research – Professor Cravino is an economist working in international trade and international finance. He has made high-quality, important contributions to both fields. Combining microdata with insights derived from rigorous theoretical models, his broad research agenda covers three areas: (a) the relation between nominal exchange rates, prices, and the macroeconomy, (b) the aggregate and distributional consequences of trade integration, and (c) the role of multinational firms for the transmission of knowledge and shocks across countries. Through the combination of uncovering new empirical facts and clever modeling choices, he has been able to bring new evidence to bear on a number of longstanding problems in these fields. His research has changed the way that scholars in the field think about and approach these problems, and he has generated new facts that future work in these areas must address.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“Price rigidities and the relative PPP,” with A. Blanco, *Journal of Monetary Economics*, forthcoming.

“Trade induced structural change and the skill premium,” with S. Sotelo, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 11(3), 2019, pp. 289-326.

“The distributional consequences of large devaluation,” with A. Levchenko, *American Economic Review*, 107(11), 2017, pp. 3477-3509.

“Multinational firms and international business cycle transmission,” with A. Levchenko, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 132(2), 2017, pp. 921-962.

Service – Professor Cravino has had numerous roles within the Department of Economics, including serving as a member of the Graduate Program Committee, Undergraduate Program Committee, and the Social Committee. In addition, he spent a year as an elected member of the department’s Executive Committee, and he helped co-organize the international seminar. Outside of the university, Professor Cravino has been an ad hoc journal reviewer for many top journals on numerous occasions. He has also been an invited discussant at conferences, and he has served on a Conference Program Committee.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)

“These papers showcase Javier’s strengths as a researcher. He combines empirical facts with well-executed quantitative models to address important questions. ... The papers address major economic question(s), and each paper provides an insightful answer. Javier’s papers do a very nice job of highlighting these interactions and explaining whether and why they are or are not quantitatively important.”

Reviewer (B)

“All his papers are informed by major empirical questions that are central to the international literature, and in each paper he tackles these questions with a creative new insight... After re-reading his work, I am very positive in my evaluation of his research contributions.”

Reviewer (C)

“...Javier has been astonishingly productive, having made important contributions in three rather distinct areas using a diverse set of research methodologies.”

Reviewer (D)

“His approach to research combines advanced quantitative modeling with careful empirical work using various micro datasets – a highly relevant set of skills. Javier is an extremely prolific researcher. By any account, this is a very impressive record.”

Reviewer (E)

“...I wish to reiterate that Javier’s research record certainly merits tenure at University of Michigan and comparable departments. Javier is working on ambitious projects that belong to diverse and important areas of economics. He has a pipeline of promising papers that will be published in excellent or top journals. His papers combine data with state-of-the-art models to push the frontier of macroeconomics and trade.”

Reviewer (F)

“Javier has shown great creativity and thoughtfulness throughout his work to date; and I expect that he will continue to produce research at the highest level.”

Reviewer (G)

“...I believe Javier to be a creative, productive and wide-ranging researcher. His papers study important questions, often creating new data sources, and using innovative empirical methods.”

Reviewer (H)

“Javier’s work is of very high quality. His approach to research combines data (often ‘micro’ data) and computational models. Both of these techniques are time-consuming and require careful attention to detail. Javier’s work is a great example of this approach.”

Reviewer (I)

“Professor Javier Cravino has an active and interesting frontier research agenda that has already yielded many top publications. His strong and versatile skills allow him to develop insightful methodologies in order to tackle big questions in international trade, open and closed economy macro, and deliver sharp, quantitative answers. His research agenda and his versatility will yield many more high-impact publications in the years to come.”

Summary Recommendation:

Professor Cravino is an outstanding scholar who studies a wide range of important topics in international trade and international finance. He has worked to improve his undergraduate teaching and is a dedicated graduate student mentor; he has provided useful service to the department, university, and profession. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Javier Cravino be promoted to the rank of associate professor of economics, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Anne Curzan, Dean
Geneva Smitherman Collegiate Professor of
English Language and Literature, Linguistics,
and Education
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

May 2020