

Pawel Janas

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Fields

Research: Economic History, Financial Economics, Urban Economics
Teaching: Economic History (BS, PhD), Data Science for Economics and Finance (BS)

Appointments

July 2022 - Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Caltech
Assistant Professor of Economics

May 2025 - National Bureau of Economic Research
Faculty Research Fellow

Education

Ph.D., *Finance*, Northwestern University, 2022
M.S., *Finance*, Northwestern University, 2022
M.S., *Applied Mathematics*, University of Colorado Boulder, 2016
B.S., *Applied Mathematics*, Magna Cum Laude, University of Colorado Boulder, 2016
B.A., *Economics*, Magna Cum Laude, University of Colorado Boulder, 2016

Working Papers

All papers are available on www.paweljanas.com

1. Integration Without Decentralization: The Financial Geography of U.S. Life Insurance, 1880-1940
2. Diversification as a Process: Geographic Expansion and the Formation of National Insurers

Publications

5. Lender of Last Resort and Local Economic Outcomes.
Forthcoming at the *Financial History Review*
4. Janas, P. (2026). Crises and educational attainment. *The Journal of Economic History*, 86(2): 501–536.
3. Janas, P. (2026). Public Goods Under Financial Distress. *Journal of Financial Economics*, 176: 104205.
2. Baker, S. R., Janas, P., & Kueng, L. (2025). Correlation in state and local tax changes. *Journal of Public Economics*, 242: 105275.
1. Janas, P. (2023). Financial Crises and Economic Growth: U.S. Cities, Counties, and School Districts during the Great Depression (Summaries of Doctoral Dissertations for the Nevins Prize). *Journal of Economic History*, 83(2), 582-586.

Other Work

Novel historical datasets digitized for various papers and made publicly available through OpenICPSR.
Total views = 3,636 Total downloads = 355

1. Janas, Pawel. U.S. City School Systems, 1922 - 1940. Ann Arbor, MI: ICPSR [distributor].
<https://doi.org/10.3886/E207221V2>
2. Janas, Pawel. U.S. City Financial Statistics, 1924 - 1938. Ann Arbor, MI: ICPSR [distributor].

<https://doi.org/10.3886/E207244V2>

3. Janas, Pawel. U.S. City Manufacturing, 1904 - 1939. Ann Arbor, MI: ICPSR [distributor]. <https://doi.org/10.3886/E207243V1>

4. Janas, Pawel. U.S. County Manufacturing, 1927 - 1937. Ann Arbor, MI: ICPSR [distributor]. <https://doi.org/10.3886/E207242V1>

5. Janas, Pawel. U.S. Municipal Bonds, 1929. Ann Arbor, MI: ICPSR [distributor]. <https://doi.org/10.3886/E184123V2>

6. Janas, Pawel. U.S. County Banking Data, 1924 - 1931. Ann Arbor, MI: ICPSR [distributor]. <https://doi.org/10.3886/E207245V1>

7. Janas, Pawel. U.S. County Manufacturing Industries, 1927. Ann Arbor, MI: ICPSR [distributor]. <https://doi.org/10.3886/E207241V1>

8. Janas, Pawel. U.S. City Vital Statistics, 1915 - 1938. Ann Arbor, MI: ICPSR [distributor]. <https://doi.org/10.3886/E207222V1>

9. Janas, Pawel, Baker, Scott, and Kueng, Lorenz. U.S. State and Local Tax Rates, 1975 - 2022. Ann Arbor, MI: ICPSR [distributor]. <https://doi.org/10.3886/E208462V1>

Awards

Arthur H. Cole Grant (Economic History Association), 2024

Linde Institute of Economic and Management Sciences Research Grant, 2022 - present

Finalist: Allan Nevins Prize for Best North American Dissertation (EHA), 2022

Center for Economic History (Northwestern) Research Grant, 2021

Finalist: Urban Economics Association Best Student Paper Prize, 2020

Dissertation Fellowship (Economic History Association), 2020 - 2021

Kellogg School of Management Doctoral Fellowship, 2016 - 2021

Kellogg School of Management Ph.D. Research Grant, 2019 - 2021

Distinguished Graduate, Department of Applied Mathematics at CU Boulder, 2016

Teaching

2022 - present Assistant Professor, Caltech

Quantitative Macroeconomic Growth of the United States (EC 129)

Data Science for Economics and Finance (BEM 106)

Graduate Economic History (SS 229b)

Graduate Seminar (SS 282c)

Refereeing

Journal of Economic History, *Explorations in Economic History*, *Financial History Review*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*

Invited Seminars and Conference Presentations in the Past Five Years

ASSA ('22, '23), Caltech ('22), CU Leeds ('22), EHA ('22, '23, '26), Harvard ('26), Mountain West EH ('23), NBER ('22, '26), Northwestern ('22), SEC ('22), SEA ('25), Vanderbilt ('23), Virtual Municipal Finance Workshop ('22), WEAI ('23, '24), WFA ('23), UC Davis ('23, '26), UC Irvine ('23), UEA ('22), USC Price ('23), Yale ('25)

Service

1. Ph.D. Committee, Kexin Feng (2025, first placement: Yale Postdoc)

2. Conference Organizer, Financial Institutions and Economic Growth at Caltech (Winter 2027)

3. Junior Search Committee in Finance (Winter 2024, Winter 2025)

4. Caltech Finance and Social Science History Seminar Organizer (Fall 2022 - present)

5. Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Advisor (Summer 2023)

Last updated: August 2026