

**Reza Houston**  
Department of Finance and Insurance  
Miller College of Business  
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## **Qualifications**

Ph.D. in Financial Economics, University of Missouri, Columbia (2015)  
M.B.A (Concentration: Finance), Indiana State University (2011)  
B.A. in Economics, Mathematics, and East Asian Languages and Cultures, Indiana University (2009)

## **Academic Experience**

Assistant Professor of Finance at Ball State University, Muncie, IN (Fall 2018–present).  
Assistant Professor of Finance and Research Director of the Networks Financial Institute at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN (Fall 2015-Spring 2018).

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

### ***Refereed Articles***

Andrews, Michelle, Houston, Reza, and Vamsi Kanuri. 2020. "Firms Behaving Badly: How Law-Trained Executives Affect Investor Reaction to Corporate Social Irresponsibility" *Business and Society Review*.

Viet Tran, Dung, Hassan, Kabir, and Reza Houston. 2019. "Discretionary Loan-loss Provision Behavior in the US Banking Industry." *Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting* 1-41.

Tran, Dung Viet, M. Kabir Hassan, and Reza Houston. "Activity strategies, information asymmetry, and bank opacity." *Economic Modelling* (2019).

Tran, Dung Viet, M. Kabir Hassan, and Reza Houston. "How does listing status affect bank risk? The effects of crisis, market discipline and regulatory pressure on listed and unlisted BHCs." *The North American Journal of Economics and Finance* 49 (2019): 85-103.

Ferris, Stephen and Reza Houston. 2019. "It's a Sweetheart of a Deal: Political Connections and Federal Contracting" *Financial Review* 54.1: 57-84.

Ferris, Stephen P., Houston, Reza, and David Javakhadze. 2016. "Friends in the right places: The effect of political connections on corporate merger activity." *Journal of Corporate Finance*, Vol 41, pg. 81-102.

Houston, Reza, and John Howe. 2015. "Earnings Management, Earnings Surprises, and Distressed Firms." *Accounting and Finance Research*, Vol 5 No. 1, pg. 64-87.

Ferris, Stephen P., and Reza Houston, 2015. "Does the Revolving door Swing Both Ways? The Value of Political Connections to U.S. Firms." *Managerial Finance*, Vol 41 No. 10, pg. 1002-1030.

Houston, Reza, and Stephen P. Ferris, 2015. "Corporate Political Connections and the IPO Process: The Benefits of Politically Connected Board Members and Managers." *Advances in Financial Economics*, Vol. 18, pg. 125-163.

Balasubramanyan, Lakshmi, and Reza Houston. 2010. "Borrower-Lender Distance and its Impact on Small Business Lenders during the Financial Crisis." *Banks and Bank Systems* 61-67.

### ***Work-in-progress Under Review***

"Political Connections, Government Procurement Contracts, and the Cost of Debt." Coauthored with Kuntara Pukthuanthong and David Maslar. Under review at the *Review of Financial Studies*.

"Do Tone Changes in Financial Statements Predict Acquisition Behavior?" Coauthored with Ryan Flugum, Patty Bick, and John Berns. Under Review at the *Review of Finance*.

### ***Work-in-progress***

Houston, Reza and David Maslar. "Election Cycles and the Decision to Advance Refund Municipal Debt."

Viet Tran, Dung, Hassan, Kabir, and Reza Houston. "Firm performance and ESG activities: Does board diversity matter?"

Ferris, Stephen P., Hanousek, Jan, and Reza Houston. "Federal Contractor Default and Its Consequences."

Houston Reza, Gibbs, Michael, Gupta, Pia, and Min-Yu Liao, "I've Got to Catch a Flight: Investor inattention and the muted Response to New Information."

Houston, Reza, Pukthuanthong, Kuntara, and Raghavendra Rau, "Political Networks and Government Contracting."

Ferris, Stephen P., Houston, Reza, and Blake Rayfield, "The Value of Government Contracts."

## Presentations

Ball State Brown Bag, 2020.

Financial Management Association Annual Meeting, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2019.

Southwestern Finance Association Annual Meeting, 2012, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020.

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019.

Southern Finance Association Annual Meeting, 2017, 2018, 2019.

University of Missouri Seminar Series, 2013, 2014.

12<sup>th</sup> Annual Insurance and Public Policy Summit. Washington, D.C. 2016.

Academy of Economics and Finance Annual Meeting. St. Petersburg 2019.

## Discussant Activity

Financial Management Association Annual Meeting, 2014, 2017, 2018.

Southwestern Finance Association Annual Meeting, 2012, 2017, 2018, 2019.

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2017, 2018.

**Teaching Evaluations** (Overall, I would rate this instructor mean rating and average of all questions)

Sem-ester	Sec-tion	Description	Number in Class	Number Responding	Overall, I would rate this instructor – Mean Rating	Average of all questions
Fall 2018	FIN 310	Introduction to Investments	30	22	5.00	4.85
Fall 2018	FIN 310	Introduction to Investments	30	13	4.83	4.79
Spring 2019	FIN 310	Introduction to Investments	33	9	4.67	4.61
Spring 2019	FIN 310	Introduction to Investments	35	12	4.92	4.81
Spring 2019	FIN 300 800	Principles of Finance	39	7	4.14	4.17
Summer 2019	FIN 300 800	Principles of Finance	33	10	4.70	4.84
Fall 2019	FIN 310	Introduction to Investments	32	10	4.9	4.92
Fall 2019	FIN 310	Introduction to Investments	34	14	4.92	4.89
Spring 2020	FIN 310	Introduction to Investments	34	8	4.67	4.63

Spring 2020	FIN 310	Introduction to Investments	31	9	4.62	4.56
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## RECOGNITIONS

Best Paper Award in Financial Institutions, SWFA Annual Meeting, 2018.  
 Financial Management Association Best Paper Award Semifinalist, 2017.  
 Networks Financial Institute Research Grant, Dec. 2015  
 Outstanding Graduate Research Assistant Award, Spring 2014  
 Trulaske College of Business Scholarship, 2011-2015  
 Indiana State University Graduate Student Research Grant, Feb. 2010  
 Graduate Student Financial Award, Jan. 2010-May 2011

## SERVICE

Hiring Committee (2019-2020)  
 Salary Committee (2019-2010)  
 AOL Integration (2018-2020)  
 Faculty Development (2018-2020)

## RESEARCH IN THE PUBLIC PRESS

[NPR](#)

[Reason](#)

[Market Watch](#)

[Federal News Network](#)

[CFA Institute](#)

[NBC](#)

[National Affairs](#)

[Duke Law Global Financial Markets Center](#)

[Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation](#)

[PR Newswire](#)

[Detroit Free Press](#)