

ARJUN GOEL

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EMPLOYMENT

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Lecturer	2023 - Now
Postdoctoral Research Associate	2022 - 2023

EDUCATION

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

PhD Finance	2016 - 2022
MBA Finance	2014 - 2016

Thapar University, India

BE Civil Engineering	2003 - 2007
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STATEMENT ON TEACHING INTERESTS

My teaching interests focus on undergraduate finance education, spanning introductory, applied, and advanced finance courses. I design courses that balance conceptual rigor with hands-on application, emphasizing structured problem-solving, spreadsheet-based modeling, and real-world decision making. Across courses such as Basic and Applied Corporate Finance (FINA 4200; 4210), Financial Institutions and Markets (FINA 4000), and advanced offerings such as Financial Modeling (FINA 4920E), I use a scaffolded approach that integrates lectures, guided practice, case studies, in-class projects, group work, and experiential learning. A central goal of my teaching is to make complex financial concepts accessible to students of diverse backgrounds while maintaining clear expectations and high academic standards. In doing so, I aim to help students develop the analytical and decision-making skills required for careers in finance and related fields.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Lecturer

FINA 4000 / 4000E

Financial Institutions and Markets

2025 (Spring, Summer); 2024 (Spring, Summer*); 2023 (Summer*)*

FINA 4920E

Financial Modeling

2025 (Spring*, Fall*); 2024 (Spring*, Fall*); 2023 (Spring*, Fall*)

FINA 4210

Applied Corporate Finance

2025 (Fall); 2024 (Fall); 2023 (Fall); 2022 (Fall)

FINA 4200 / 4200E

Corporate Finance Theory

2025 (Summer*); 2022 (Summer); 2020 (Summer); 2019 (Summer, Fall); 2018 (Summer, Fall); 2017 (Fall)

FINA 4205

Mergers & Acquisitions

2021 (Spring, Fall); 2020 (Spring)

MBA Workshop

Investment Banking

2025 (Fall); 2024 (Fall)

¹ Courses with suffix 'E' are delivered asynchronously, and the semesters with asynchronous delivery are starred (*)

ABOUT MY RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research training is in empirical corporate finance, with a focus on corporate governance, shareholder activism, and investor skill. My doctoral research examined heterogeneity in activist investor performance, using large-sample empirical methods, event-study frameworks, and Bayesian estimation techniques. My primary completed project studies hedge fund activism skill, documenting persistent differences in value creation across activists and their implications for takeover outcomes, long-term firm performance, and shareholder wealth. Related work examines the timing of hedge fund activism waves across industries, while additional collaborative research extends these ideas to retail investor skill in social trading environments. Since completing my PhD, my research engagement has become more selective and collaborative, with a focus on contributing to and completing existing projects; and supporting ongoing engagement with academic finance literature in ways that complement my primary role as a finance educator.

WORKING PAPERS

“Hedge Fund Activism Skill,” - *with: Daniel Rettl*

Presented At: 2022 FMA European Conference
2022 FMA Annual Meeting
2022 Southern Finance Association Annual Meeting
2023 Eastern Finance Association Annual Meeting
2023 Northern Finance Association Annual Meeting
2024 FMA Asia/Pacific Conference

Working Papers Contd...

“Do Retail Investors Have Skill? Evidence from Social Trading” - *with: Daniel Rettl, Anthony Waikel*

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS ATTENDED

<i>Presenter:</i>	2022	Southern Finance Association Annual Meeting
	2023	Eastern Finance Association Annual Meeting
<i>Discussant:</i>	2022	Southern Finance Association Annual Meeting
	2023	Eastern Finance Association Annual Meeting (<i>Scheduled 03/2023</i>)

HONORS & AWARDS

- Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, University of Georgia (2019)
- Academic Excellence Award and Honorary Membership, Phi Kappa Phi Society (2016)
- Academic Excellence Award, University of Georgia (2016)
- 2nd Position (Global Round), CFA Research Challenge (2016) – *Developed and pitched an investment thesis on Intercontinental Exchange Inc. to senior investment professionals, advanced through multiple competition stages, winning the Americas round and finishing 2nd globally among 1,000 teams.*
- Bronze Medal (Civil Engineering), Thapar University (2007)