

**ANTHONY NIBLETT**

<http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~niblett/>  
NIBLETT@FAS.HARVARD.EDU

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

Placement Director: Philippe Aghion  
Placement Director: Kenneth Rogoff  
Graduate Student Coordinator: Nicole Tateosian

P\_AGHION@HARVARD.EDU (617) 495 6675  
KROGOFF@HARVARD.EDU (617) 495 4022  
NATATEOS@FAS.HARVARD.EDU (617) 495 8927

**OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION**

Littauer G9, Harvard University  
Cambridge MA 02138  
(617) 669 0000

**HOME CONTACT INFORMATION**

526 Winthrop Mail Center  
Cambridge MA 02138

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**Date of Birth:** 26 January 1979  
**Citizenship:** Australian and British

**EDUCATION**

**Harvard University**, Cambridge MA  
Ph.D. Candidate, Economics  
Thesis: "Essays in Law and Economics"  
Expected completion date: June 2009.

**University of Melbourne**, Parkville Victoria Australia  
Bachelor of Commerce (First Class Honours), Placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Economics.

**University of Melbourne**, Parkville Victoria Australia  
Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours), Placed in top 4% of class.

**TEACHING AND RESEARCH FIELDS**

**Primary field:** Law and Economics.  
**Secondary field:** Applied Microeconomics.

**THESIS COMMITTEE**

**Professor Andrei Shleifer**  
Littauer M9, Harvard University  
ASHLEIFER@HARVARD.EDU  
(617) 495 5046

**Professor Oliver Hart**  
Littauer 220, Harvard University  
OHART@HARVARD.EDU  
(617) 496 3461

**Professor Louis Kaplow**  
Hauser 322, Harvard Law School  
MOVERHOLT@LAW.HARVARD.EDU  
(617) 495 4101

**TEACHING REFERENCE**

**Professor Jeffrey Miron**  
Littauer M28, Harvard University  
MIRON@FAS.HARVARD.EDU  
(617) 495 8570

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Harvard Law School**, Cambridge MA

Law and Economics (Graduate)

*Teaching Assistant* for Professors Louis Kaplow and Andrei Shleifer: Spring 2006-07.

Grading weekly papers on various topics in law and economics.

**Harvard College**, Cambridge MA

Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate)

*Head Teaching Fellow* for Professor Jeffrey Miron: Fall 2006-07.

*Teaching Fellow* for Professor Jeffrey Wolcowitz: Fall 2005-06.

Taught, designed, and organized sections; Designed and assisted writing problem sets and exams; Wrote solutions for section problems, problem sets, and exams.

*Overall student evaluation of Teaching Fellow*: 4.93/5.00 (2005); 4.83/5.00 (2006).

**Harvard College**, Cambridge MA

Sophomore Tutorial: Sex, Drugs, and Rock n' Roll (Undergraduate)

*Tutorial Leader*: Spring 2004-05 and Spring 2005-06.

Designed syllabus and taught tutorial on various topics including: economics of crime, economics of drug use and policy, economics of marriage and relationships, economics of superstars and intellectual property.

*Overall student evaluation of Tutorial Leader*: 5.00/5.00 (2005); 4.88/5.00 (2006)

**University of Melbourne**, Parkville Victoria Australia

Advanced Microeconomics, *Tutorial Leader* for Professor Rabee Tourky: Fall 2002.

Intermediate Macroeconomics, *Tutorial Leader* for Professor Mark Crosby: Spring 2002.

Introductory Microeconomics, *Tutorial Leader* for Professor Jeff Borland: Fall 2002 and Fall 2003.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Harvard University**, Cambridge MA

Research Assistant for Professor Andrei Shleifer: June 2006 to present.

Research Assistant for Professor Alberto Alesina: August to December 2005.

**University of Melbourne**, Parkville Victoria Australia

Research Assistant for Professors Joshua Gans, Stephen King, and Catherine de Fontenay:

February 2002 to July 2003.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

**Rapporteur**: National Bureau of Economic Research *Conference on Regulation and Litigation*: October 2007.

**Referee**: *Journal of Political Economy*.

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Economic Association

American Law and Economics Association

Society for Empirical Legal Studies

## SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

**Law, Economics, and Organizations Seminar**, Harvard Law School: October 2008.

**Conference on Empirical Legal Studies**, Cornell Law School: September 2008

**American Law and Economics Association**, Columbia Law School: May 2008.

**Law, Economics, and Organizations Seminar**, Harvard Law School: March 2008.

**Law and Economics Seminar**, Harvard Law School: January 2008.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

### Teaching

**Harvard College**, Cambridge MA

Certificate of Undergraduate Education Award for Excellence in Teaching: 2005-06 and 2006-07.

**University of Melbourne**, Parkville Victoria Australia

Outstanding Tutor Award – Department of Economics and Commerce: 2002 (Inaugural winner.)

### Fellowships and Grants

**Harvard College**, Cambridge MA

Frank Knox Memorial Fellowship: 2003 to present.

Department of Economics Traveling Research Grant: May 2006.

## RELATED ADVISING EXPERIENCE

**Harvard College**, John Winthrop House, Cambridge MA

*Resident Tutor*: 2006 to present.

Provided academic advising to Economics and other social science concentrators; academic and non-academic advising to 35 entryway residents per year; and pre-concentration advising to 12 sophomores per year.

**Harvard College**, Department of Economics, Cambridge MA

*Concentration Adviser*: 2006-07.

Provided academic advising to Economics concentrators.

**Harvard College**, Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Cambridge MA

*Discussion Leader*: September 2006.

Presented teaching preparation and classroom strategies in a session for new teaching fellows in economics.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Structural and Behavioral Market Power under the *Trade Practices Act***

**An Application to Predatory Pricing**

**(with Joshua S. Gans and Stephen P. King)**

*Australian Business Law Review*. Vol. 32, pp.83-110.

## RESEARCH PAPERS

**Inconsistent Contract Enforcement **\*\* Job Market Paper \*\*****

Legal cases sometimes conflict with precedents. We present a framework to identify inconsistently-decided cases, measure the extent of such inconsistencies, and identify the underlying sources of conflicting decisions in a commercial law setting. We create a new dataset tracking the consistency of 174 judicial decisions from the California Court of Appeals determining the enforceability of arbitration clauses in standard-form contracts. Our results show that cases conflict with about one-quarter of precedents. Controlling for the facts of the case, we find that conflicting political ideologies of the judicial panels and the non-publication of precedents increase the likelihood of inconsistency between cases and precedents.

**The Evolution of a Legal Rule**

**(with Richard A. Posner and Andrei Shleifer)**

The efficiency of common law rules is central to achieving efficient resource allocation in a market economy. While many theories suggest reasons why judge-made law should tend towards efficient rules, the question of whether the common law actually does converge in commercial areas has remained empirically untested. We create a new dataset of 465 state-court appellate decisions involving the application of the Economic Loss Rule in construction disputes and track the evolution of law in this area from 1970 to 2005. We find that the law does not converge to an efficient or predictable rule. In fact, the law does not appear to converge to any stable resting point. We find that the law evolves differently in different states and that legal evolution is influenced by plaintiffs' claims, the relative economic power of the parties, and nonbinding federal precedent.