

17th Annual Evans Hall Lecture Series and Awards Ceremony

**The Department of Mathematics and
Computer Science
Emory University**

is pleased to present...

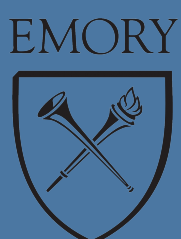
**Dr. Joshua Pollet
Michigan State
University**



**The Mathematical
Foundations of
Finance**

Dr. Joshua Pollet is Associate Professor of Finance at Michigan State University. He graduated magna cum laude from Emory in 1998 with a BA in Economics and Mathematics. He graduated from Harvard with his Ph.D. in Economics in 2004. He has been with Michigan State University since 2009.

Even though finance is a relatively modern area of academic interest, the key innovations in finance are based on straightforward mathematical models. These models are often designed to mimic the decision making process of individuals in the context of saving behavior and portfolio choice. Of course, the process of building useful models reflects a trade-off between tractability and applicability, that is, simple models are less difficult to analyze, but they may not reflect reality with sufficient accuracy. In spite of the dangers posed by oversimplification, the importance of building useful models cannot be emphasized enough. Such models will have interesting secondary implications that may or may not have been anticipated, but are nevertheless testable. The specific models to be outlined include the basic intertemporal saving decision, static portfolio choice, the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM), and asset pricing with irrational investors.



**Tuesday, April 26 at 4pm in MSC E208
Reception to follow in the atrium**