

Zahra Espanani

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics , University of Calgary, Calgary, AB.	2017- Present
MSc in Economics , Shiraz University, Shiraz, Iran.	2011-2014
BSc in Economics , University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran.	2007-2011

FIELDS: Labor Economics, Immigration Economics, Inequality, Applied Microeconomics.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Sessional Instructor, Department of Economics, University of Calgary June 2023-August 2023
May 2022-July 2022

- **Econ 311- Computer Applications in Economics**

The main goal of this blended learning course is to provide proficiency in practical applications of Financial Economics using computers. Students learn about the elementary and advanced features of spreadsheets using Excel and using economic databases to perform financial analysis. Examples are drawn from Engineering Economics and Finance.

Internship, Calgary Economic Development (CED) July 2021-January 2022

- “Pathways to a More Inclusive Labor Market in Calgary”

Through this project, we intend to further Calgary Economic Development’s understanding of a) how inclusive is Calgary’s economy, b) what are some identified causes of varying labor force outcomes in Calgary, and c) what are some tangible next steps to address varying labor force outcomes?

Graduate Researcher, Department of Economics, University of Calgary September 2017-Present

Works in Progress:

- “Age at Immigration, Social Capital and Assimilation”
- “The Effect of Easing Permanent Residency Process on Economic Assimilation of Immigrants: Evidence from Canada”
- “Are Individual and Group Incentives Substitute or Complement?”¹
- “The Effect of Elected Political Parties on Immigration and Immigrants’ Assimilation in Canada”
- “Human Capital and Gender Wage Gap”

Conferences:

- **2023** Canadian Economic Association (CEA), Winnipeg

¹ With Mark Anderson (Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary), Rajiv D. Banker (Fox School of Business, Temple University), Soonchul Hyun (Bryan School of Business and Economics, University of North Carolina at Greensboro) and Atsuko Tanaka (Department of Economics, University of Calgary).

Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, University of Calgary September 2017-Present

- Taught Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics, Money and Banking, and Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory tutorials to undergraduate students.
- Taught Stata for 2 terms at the Use of Statistics in Economics undergraduate lab.
- Marked assignments and exams and held office hours to help the students with their problems and questions about the course materials.

Research Assistant, Department of Economics, University of Calgary January 2019 – May 2020

- Found research articles, provided summaries of research papers and managed the citations.
- Helped editing papers and books in LaTeX.
- Performed statistical and computer modelling and checked analytical work to make sure they can be reproduced by the reader and are free of typos.
- Created presentations both in Microsoft PowerPoint and LaTeX and did archive work when necessary.

Tutor, Self-employed January 2014-May 2016

- Taught Microeconomics and Managerial Economics to graduate students in Economics.

Graduate Researcher, Shiraz University, Shiraz, Iran September 2011- February 2014

- MSc thesis titled "Network Theory Application in Evaluating Economic Resilience: Evidence from Iran".

Research Assistant, Economic Research Centre, University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran May 2011- February 2012

- Collaboratively participated in a cost-optimization urban planning project for the Municipality of Isfahan.

VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE

Women's Resource Center (WRC) January 2021-September 2021

- I was a part of the Events and Education Team / Male Allyship Team (EEMA). We educated students about gender issues and social justice through events, classroom presentations, mobile carts, information booths, and other initiatives. We also supported WRC staff in event publicity planning and implementation.

Calgary Food Bank December 2020-March 2022

- Making baby hampers in the Baby Room.

Women In Need (WIN) September 2019

- In a one-day volunteering experience at the Women in Need Society Donation Centre, along with other volunteers, I helped sort the donations.

HONORS, AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Mitacs-Accelerate Graduate Research Internship Program Scholarship 2021
- Anton and Dalgarno Memorial Graduate Scholarship, University of Calgary 2017
- Ranked 3rd among 25 M.S students (GPA: 17.99/20), Shiraz University 2014
- Graduate Studies Scholarship, Iran's National Elites Foundation 2011-2013
- Member of Iran's National Elites Foundation, Iran 2011-Present
- Bronze Medal, 16th Scientific National Olympiad for University Students in Economics, Tehran, Iran 2011
- Ranked 3rd among 94 B.S students (GPA: 18.26/20), University of Isfahan 2011

COURSES AND CERTIFICATES

Completed the following online courses on Coursera:

Data Science:

- Fundamentals of Visualization with Tableau – Offered by UC Davis University May 2023
- Essential Design Principles for Tableau – Offered by UC Davis University May 2023
- Supervised Machine Learning: Regression and Classification – Offered by Stanford University April 2023
- Machine Learning – Offered by Stanford University September 2022
- Databases and SQL for Data Science – Offered by IBM November 2020
- Python Data Structures – Offered by University of Michigan August 2020
- Programming for Everybody (Getting Started with Python) – Offered by University of Michigan June 2020
- Introduction to Big Data – Offered by University of California at San Diego Feb 2018
- Reproducible Research – Offered by Johns Hopkins University (with distinction) June 2015
- Exploratory Data Analysis – Offered by Johns Hopkins University (with distinction) May 2015
- Getting and Cleaning Data – Offered by Johns Hopkins University (with distinction) May 2015
- R Programming – Offered by Johns Hopkins University (with distinction) April 2015
- The Data Scientist's Toolbox – Offered by Johns Hopkins University (with distinction) April 2015

Economics, Statistics & Mathematics:

- Economics of Money and Banking, Part One – Offered by Columbia University July 2015
- Statistical Inference – Offered by Johns Hopkins University (with distinction) June 2015
- Introduction to Mathematical Thinking – Offered by Stanford University (with distinction) April 2015
- Game Theory I – Offered by Stanford University and University of British Columbia (with distinction) November 2015
- Social and Economic Networks: Models and Analysis – Offered by Stanford University (with distinction) November 2015
- Game Theory II: Advanced Applications – Offered by Stanford University and University of British Columbia February 2015

English:

- English Composition I – Offered by Duke University (with distinction) August - September 2015
- Crafting an Effective Writer: Tools of the Trade – Offered by MT. SAN JACINTO COLLEGE June - July 2015

SOFTWARE & PROGRAMMING FAMILIARITY

Python, MATLAB, R, Tableau, Stata, Microsoft Office, LaTeX

LANGUAGES

Persian (Native), English (Fluent).