

ZEESHAN SAMAD, PhD, MPP

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Summary: PhD in economics with 6+ years of experience in quantitative analysis and technical writing. Expert-level proficiency in STATA and broad research interests. Ability to apply knowledge and skills to a wide range of topics.

Education

- Ph. D. Economics*, Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN) Aug 2016 – Sep 2020
- Dissertation title: Motivated Beliefs and Biases
 - Research fields: Behavioral economics, Applied microeconomics
- M. A. Economics*, Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN) Aug 2014 – May 2016
- Core courses: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics
 - Field exams: Microeconomic theory, Labor economics
- M. P. P.*, University of Maryland (College Park, MD) Aug 2012 – May 2014
- Thesis: Behavioral and social impacts of a minimum wage law
 - Fulbright Scholar for entire duration of MPP
- B. Sc. Economics*, LUMS (Lahore, Pakistan) Aug 2006 – May 2010
- Major: Economics, Minor: Mathematics
 - Study abroad (Fall 2010): Malardalen University, Sweden

Experience

- Short Term Consultant*, The World Bank (Washington, DC) Nov 2020 – Present
- Part of the Public Administration and Institutional Reforms Unit
 - Analyze data and draft research reports
 - Contribute to writing the methodology, results, and policy implication sections
- Research Associate*, Vanderbilt University Medical Center (Nashville, TN) Aug 2016 – Sep 2020
- Conducted interdisciplinary research for NIH-funded project on genetic data privacy
 - Collaborated with computer science and bioinformatics faculty to produce research papers
 - Designed and administered behavioral experiments and analyzed/interpreted data
 - Co-authored research papers and drafted grant proposals
- Internship*, Tennessee Department of Education May 2019 – Aug 2019
- Developed regression frameworks for answering research questions
 - Transformed raw data into analyzable data sets
 - Reduced team members' research time by streamlining data pulling process
- Research Analyst*, Hagler Bailly Consulting (Islamabad, Pakistan) Aug 2010 – Apr 2012
- Analyzed data and drafted research reports
 - Calculated economic value of natural gas in Pakistan using opportunity cost
 - Evaluated feasibility of various energy sector projects in Pakistan

Skills

Computer: STATA, MS Excel, Qualtrics, Redcap, Python (beginner)

Research: Developing interventions/nudges, Survey design, Randomized Controlled Trials, Causal inference

Languages: English, Urdu