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Department of Economics
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Curriculum Vitae
Fall 2025

Amin Shirazian

Personal Data

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Citizenship: Iran / Canada (S1 Visa, Open Work Permit & Study Permit)

Major Fields of Concentration

Macroeconomics, Heterogeneous-Agent Models, Policy Analysis, Health Economics

Education

<i>Degree</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Year</i>
Ph.D. (GPA: 4.17/4.33)	Economics	Toronto Metropolitan University	2026
M.A. (GPA: 4.00/4.33)	Economics	Tehran Institute for Advanced Studies	2020
B.A. (GPA: 3.14/4.33)	Economics	Tehran University	2018

Dissertation:

Title: “*Marginal Utility Shocks and the Precautionary Saving Puzzle*”
Dissertation Advisor: Professor Keyvan Eslami
Expected Completion: Summer 2026

References

Professor Keyvan Eslami

Department of Economics
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Claustre Bajona

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Professor Kevin Fawcett

Department of Economics
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Haomiao Yu

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Toronto Metropolitan University
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Honors and Awards

2017 - 2026 Full Graduate Scholarship: Ph.D. / M.A.
2022 - 2023 Graduate Assistant Recognition Award, Toronto Metropolitan University
2021 Top Second-Year PhD Student, Toronto Metropolitan University

Teaching Experience

- Summer 2024 – Present Contract Lecturer, Department of Economics, Toronto Metropolitan University, Taught *Intermediate Macroeconomics I, Introductory Macroeconomics, Intermediate Macroeconomics I, Economic Issues in Globalization*
- January 2021 – Present Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Toronto Metropolitan University, Taught *Adv. Macroeconomics I, Mathematical Economics, Advanced Microeconomics II*, led PhD Tutorials
- January 2018 – January 2020 Teaching Assistant, *Advanced Macroeconomics, Tehran Institute for Advanced Studies, Khatam University, Advanced Financial Economics*, led MA tutorials

Research Experience

- 2022–Present Research Assistant, Department of Economics, Toronto Metropolitan University
- Summer 2023 Research Assistant, Department of Economics, University of Toronto
- 2018–2020 Research Assistant, TeIAS, Tehran, Iran, Research Assistant to Professor Hagh-Panah

Professional Experience

- 2023 - 2024 *VP education*, Economics Graduate Students Association, Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2022 - 2023 *VP communication*, Economics Graduate Students Association, Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2021 - 2022 *President*, Economics Graduate Students Association, Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2021 - 2022 *Director*, Graduate Students Union, Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2014 - 2015 *Director*, Students Union, University of Tehran, Iran, Tehran, Faculty of Economics

Papers

- Shirazian, A. “*Marginal Utility Shocks and the Precautionary Saving Puzzle*”, Job Market Paper.
- Shirazian, A. “*Imputing Health Expenditure in HRS and MEPS Data*”, in progress .
- Shirazian, A. “*Women Live Longer: Retirement Saving Puzzle*”, Masters Thesis.

Computer Skills

LaTeX, Stata, Python, MATLAB, C++, R, HTML/CSS, Git, Data Scraping (Selenium, BeautifulSoup)

Languages

English (fluent), Persian (native)

Abstract(s)

Shirazian, A. “*Marginal Utility Shocks and the Precautionary Saving Puzzle*”, Job Market Paper.

This paper studies the effect of endogenously determined shocks to the continuation value of consumption (health shocks) on saving decisions. Using an income fluctuation model with a luxury good that determines the discounted value of all future consumption (health), I show that even at top percentiles of wealth, individuals may opt to save if the decline in utility of consumption, due to low health, in future periods is sufficiently large. This result shows that the sufficient condition for saving to increase at top deciles of wealth is the greater curvature of the marginal utility compared to the curvature of the marginal product of health spending (in the health production function), which makes health is a luxury. Finally, I calibrate the model to explain the observed saving pattern in Health and Retirement Study (HRS).

Shirazian, A. “Imputing Health Expenditure in HRS and MEPS Data”, In Progress.

This paper imputes total medical spending for the Health and Retirement Survey (HRS) using the Medical Expenditure Survey (MEPS) and discusses moment consistency of the imputed health expenditure. The main theorem proves that, under classical assumptions, OLS estimates remain consistent when using the imputed dependent variable.

Shirazian, A. “Women Live Longer: Retirement Saving Puzzle”, MA Thesis.

This paper presents an explanation to the excess sensitivity of consumption to the drop in income around retirement, known as the “retirement saving Puzzle.” We confirm this empirical puzzle also prevails among Iranian families. That is, an unpredicted drop occurs in households’ non-durable expenditures around the age of 65, which cannot be resolved even by decomposing household heads according to their labor status. Then, by taking into account the diversity in the gender composition of cohorts, we demonstrate that the gap between predicted and actual non-durable expenditures is no longer apparent.