

Department of `DEPARTMENT APPLY`
`UNIVERSITY APPLY`

Dear Members of the Search Committee,

I am writing to apply for the position of Assistant Professor of `POSITION` as advertised on `JOB BOARD`. I am a microeconomist specializing in political economy and industrial organization with particular focus on political communication, timing of elections and firm pricing. I will complete my Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in May 2022.

I am extremely interested in joining the faculty of `UNIVERSITY APPLY`. As a member of the department, I will contribute to its focus on `EDUCATION FOCUS` education, continue my research on `RESEARCH FOCUS: strategic communication and firm pricing`, and lead departmental service activities. I find `UNIVERSITY APPLY`'s tradition for teaching and its research philosophy very stimulating. I am confident that my enthusiasm for teaching, my theoretical and empirical approach to studying socially relevant topics, and my track record for collaborative work make me an excellent fit for the position in your department.

My research examines issues in political economy and industrial organization. In my job market paper, I theoretically and empirically analyze how politicians strategically vary ad content and placement to mobilize their base and demobilize the opposing one. In industrial organization, I theoretically investigate topics such as price-matching guarantees, co-location, and secondary markets. Currently, in a joint work, my co-author and I empirically measure the switching costs that emerge from airline entry in new US domestic airports. To achieve this, we use both reduced form and structural methods.

In my research, I make extensive use of the latest empirical methods and statistical tools. In my job market paper on strategic communication by politicians, I employ both machine learning (supervised learning) and natural language techniques to classify political ads into distinct classes based on their content. I then use tools from causal inference such as instrumental variable estimation to test the theoretical predictions of my model. In an ongoing work, my co-author and I use both reduced form and structural methods to estimate the switching costs that emerge from airline entry in new airports.

During my doctoral studies, I have become proficient in both the Python and R scripting languages, which I use both for research and teaching. I use the former for tasks related to machine and deep learning, natural language processing and web-scraping. I use the latter for statistical and econometric analyses.

I find the work being done at `UNIVERSITY APPLY` very exciting and stimulating. I am confident that the skill set I developed during my graduate studies, and my strong track record for collaborative work make me an excellent fit for the position `POSITION`.

In addition, I have a strong interest in teaching. As I mention in my teaching statement, I have extensive teaching experience in a range of topics. During my doctoral studies at Illinois, I was honored to be selected by my students among the top 10% of teachers in the university.

Included in my application are copies of my CV, my job market paper titled “Messaging the Bases: Tailoring Political Ads to Audiences”, statements on my research agenda and teaching philosophy, and a statement affirming my commitment to diversity and inclusion. Letters in support of my application from Professors Dan Bernhardt (Chair), George Deltas, and Stefan Krasa will be sent under a separate cover.

I will be available for virtual interviews at the AMERICAN OR EUROPEAN JOB MARKET IN DECEMBER 2021. I can be reached via email at ecnstnt2@illinois.edu or by phone at +1-217-721-5834.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any additional information that I can provide.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Evangelos Constantinou

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