EDUARD VAN DER MERWE

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Affiliation: Rice University,
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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Economics
Rice University

Aug 2021 – Present
Houston, Texas, USA

- Current cumulative GPA: $3.70/4.00$.
- Relevant coursework: Development Economics, Empirical Microeconomics, Matching & Market Design, Computational Economics, Human Rights and Human Security in MENA, Econometrics I & II, Empirical Industrial Organization, Financial Economics, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Real Analysis.

Master of Commerce (MCom) in Econometrics
University of Pretoria

Jan 2020 – Jul 2021
Pretoria, South Africa

- Graduated Cum Laude.
- Average: 86.17% (equivalent GPA: $4.00/4.00$)
- Relevant coursework: Quantitative Econometrics, Computable General Equilibrium Modeling, Microeconometrics, Macroeconomics, Panel-Data Econometrics, Microeconomics.

Bachelor of Commerce Honors (BComHons) in Econometrics
University of Pretoria

Jan 2019 – Dec 2019
Pretoria, South Africa

- Graduated Cum Laude.
- Average: 90.50% (equivalent GPA: $4.00/4.00$)
- Relevant coursework: Microeconomics I & II, Macroeconomics I & II, Cross-Section Econometrics, Time-Series Econometrics.

Advanced Certificate in Emerging Markets and Country Risk Analysis
Fordham University

May 2019 – Sep 2019
New York, New York, USA

- GPA: $3.917/4.00$
- Relevant coursework: Political Risk Analysis, Emerging Markets, Strategic Financial Management.

Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) in Econometrics
University of Pretoria

Jan 2016 – Dec 2018
Pretoria, South Africa

- Graduated Cum Laude.
- Average: 90.82% (equivalent GPA: $3.98/4.00$)
- Top-performing undergraduate student in the faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.
- Relevant coursework: Economic Growth and Development, Mathematical Statistics, Calculus, Linear Algebra, Multivariate Analysis, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Stochastic Processes, International Trade, Public Economics, Accounting.

EXPERIENCE

Graduate Scholar
Boniuk Institute, Rice University

Aug 2023 – May 2024
Houston, Texas, USA

- Gained valuable insights into the qualitative data collection and analysis process.
- Acquainted with faith and community leaders and leading religious scholars to talk about timely issues, engage with ongoing research, and share resources.

Research Assistant
Dr. Matthew Clance, University of Pretoria

Apr 2019 – Jul 2021
Pretoria, South Africa

- Gathered, cleaned, and organized several datasets (including survey data) using Stata, R, and QGIS.
- Collaborated and worked on various projects in development economics while producing two research papers.

Teaching Assistant   Feb 2019 – Jul 2021
University of Pretoria   *Pretoria, South Africa*

- Completed Certified Tutor Training in 2019, 2020, & 2021.
- Tutored students in second-year and third-year Economics as well as in honors-level Econometrics.
- Created several videos to introduce students to R programming while consultation with students enhanced communication skills.

Technical Skills

Languages	:	Stata, R, Python, Julia, ArcGIS, LaTeX
Familiarity	:	QGIS, SAS, EViews, MATLAB, GEMPACK Software Platform

Research and Projects

Publications

- Van der Merwe, E., Clance, M., & Yitbarek, E. (2022). Climate Change and Child Malnutrition: A Nigerian Perspective. *Food Policy*, *113*, 102281. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodpol.2022.102281

Working Papers

- Van der Merwe, E., Chisadza, C., & Clance, M. (2021). Government Religious Preference and Intrastate Conflict. *Economic Research Southern Africa Working Paper Series*, *867*

Selected Work in Progress

- Do Ethnic Characteristics Matter for Child Poverty and Malnutrition? An Intrahousehold Resource Allocation Approach
- Religion, Poverty, and Conflict: How beneficial is it to adhere to the state's religion? (with Matthew Clance)

Seminars and Conference Presentations

- How best could we predict climate-driven disease outbreaks to better respond in WaSH? Oxfam, MSF, UoN, ThinkPlace, Centre for Humanitarian Change (Webinar, April 2021).

Fellowships and Nominations

- Anton and Huberte Rupert Bursary (2020).
- Nominated for the ESSA Founders' Medal for Best Honors Research Paper (2020).
- National Research Foundation's (NRF) Postgraduate Scholarship (2019).

Academic Accolades

University of Pretoria   Jan 2016 – Dec 2019

- Vice-Chancellor and Principal's Award (2019).
- Dean's List in the faculty of Economic and Management Sciences (2019).
- Bain & Company Merit Award for Outstanding Performance in the Economics Department (2018).
- Genesis Analytics Award as Top Performing third-year student in the Department of Economics (2018).
- Genesis Analytics Award as Top Performing second-year student in the Department of Economics (2017).
- Bain & Company Merit Award as Top Performing Econometrics second-year student (2017).
- ERSA award for the best first-year student in Economics (2016).

Testimonial

"Forget about the achievements for a moment. . . solely through who he is – with his impeccable character and humanity does Eduard van der Merwe deserve the honor that comes to him and the 'Erewapen' without a doubt. . . Eduard will among other things be remembered for his hard work, his big heart, his leadership, and his achievements will definitely be written in the history books. . ."
– Helpmekaar Kollege