Fjollë Gjonbalaj

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A technically minded economist with advanced training in econometrics, microeconomic theory, and economic research with internship experience in data analytics and tax consulting. A fast learner with robust communication skills and experience in economic modeling, hypothesis testing, and report writing for solving challenging real-world problems.

Work Experience

Intern Tax Advisory – Deloitte Kosovo, Albania   **Oct 2019 – Mar 2020**
- Technical research into areas of tax legislation
- Commercial research into new clients
- Managing (under supervision) an allocated portfolio of work
- Provide tax consulting and strategic advisory related to business entity structuring
- Prepare federal, state, and international tax filings.
- Advise on a variety of tax matters such as personal/income tax, corporate income tax, VAT, withholding tax, and other corporate related taxes, corporate payroll operations and corporate tax compliance.

Intern Data Analyst – Department of Economic Analysis and Agricultural Statistics, Kosovo   **Jun 2018 – Aug 2018**
- Review of literature and data related to the Green Report Kosovo 2018. I performed data computations using agricultural trade data sourced from the Statistical Agency of Kosovo and provided insights to enhance the understanding of the trade developments in the country.
- Developed visualizations in Excel to present insights extracted from data.
- Contributed to the writing of the Green Report Kosovo 2018 and prepared presentations for the management to report our progress.
- Conducted statistical analyses and ran regressions in R for causal inference.
- Participated in weekly staff meetings, provided my expert opinion in economic developments, and reported insights and challenges from data analysis process.
- Participated and provided support at the Ministry of Agriculture 2019 Annual Program which focused on three global challenges pivotal for developments in the agri-food sector: food production, food quality, bio- energy and redefinition of agricultural policy.

Secondary school teaching assistant, Prishtina High School, Kosovo   **Sep 2013 - Jun 2014**
- Assisted the Biology and Statistics professors by developing teaching materials, preparing and giving examinations, and grading examinations and papers.
- Created technology-based learning materials and taught 10th grade students how to use technology and Excel to conduct statistical analysis.
- Attend training sessions and professional meetings with professors to develop professional knowledge and assisted the professors with their research.

Education

Masters in Economics, University of Texas at Austin, Austin,Texas   **2020 – Present**
Coursework: Time Series, Econometrics, Microeconomics, Economics of Auctions, Statistical Learning and Data Mining, Causal Inference
Awards: Fulbright Scholar - $80,656 over 2 years; University of Texas at Austin grant award $9000 for Academic year 2020-2021 and 45% fee and tuition reduction for academic year 2021-2022.
Graduating May 2022.

Bachelors of Economics and Finance, University of Bologna, Italy   **2016– 2019**
Graduated in top 1% of the graduating class | Honors Program.
Coursework: Data Processing and Analytics, Statistics, Risk Analysis, Financial Accounting, Money and Banking, Financial Mathematics

Research Papers

- Monetary Policy in the age of Fintech, University of Bologna
- Scoring Auctions: Price and Quality Bidding, University of Texas at Austin
- A deeper look at Uber's surge pricing model based on temperature levels, University of Texas at Austin
- Healthy Life Expectancy based on happiness indicators, University of Texas at Austin
- Cryptocurrency and Monetary Policy Implications: A Jorda Projection approach, University of Texas at Austin

Additional Information

Software and Programming Skills: R Studio, Stata, Excel
Interests and Activities: Piano player, Ice Skating, Chess, Yoga, Hiking, Traveling.
Languages: English, Albanian, Italian