

Simon Raymond

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Education

- **Saint Mary's University**, Halifax, NS
 - **Bachelor of Commerce, Honours Economics** | *Expected Graduation: May 2025*
 - **GPA:** 4.20/4.30
 - **Honours Project:** *Predictive and Causal Analysis of 4th Down Attempts in the NFL*
 - **Notable Coursework**
 - *Intermediate Economic Stats* (ECON 3303, A-)
 - *Econometrics* (ECON 4403, A+)
 - *Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence* (ECON 3838, A+)
 - *Advanced Microeconomics* (ECON 4400, A+)
 - *Advanced Macroeconomics* (ECON 4401, A+)
 - *Mathematical Economics* (ECON 3302, A+)
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Honours Research Project

- **Dates:** Fall 2024 – Winter 2025 semesters
 - **Research Focus:** Predictive and Causal Analysis of 4th Down Attempts in the NFL
 - **Supervisor:** Dr. Nicholas Manuel
 - **Application Development:** Created a interactive shinyapps application called [NFL 4th Down Analysis \(2016-2023\)](#) to allow viewing and insights into NFL play by play data that is being merged with weekly NFL data.
 - **Honours Project Description** We are implementing a form of the Heckman Correction to be able to use causal analysis on factor that have a effect as well as predictive power on 4th down results. There is a heavy focus on using both econometrics and machine learning.
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Teaching Experience

- **Winter 2024:** Past selections to teach lab sessions:
 - *Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence* (MBAN-5560-2). In this lab I used R to teach students about how to understand machine learning algorithms and concepts. I would teach students how to write algorithms with tools such as XGBoost or Random Forest. Students learned how to truly understand what is happening inside these functions as we showed them how to write non-parametric models from scratch.
 - **Winter 2025:** Selected to teach lab sessions for:
 - *Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence* (MBAN-5560-2). These labs are similar to the previous years labs but will be taught with the Python Programming language.
 - *Econometrics* (ECON-4403/5603). This lab will be taught mostly on a whiteboard with linear algebra to help students add depth to their knowledge of Econometrics. Some examples will also be demonstrated with either R or Python.
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Teaching Assistant Marking Experience

- **Past Appointments (Fall 2024):**

- *Human Resource Economics* (ECON 3340) with Dr. Nicholas Manuel. This course had 40 students registered in it. My task was to grade assignments and provide feedback to students.

- **Planned Appointments (Winter 2025):**

- *Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence* (MBAN-5560-2) with Dr. Yigit Aydede. I will be marking the assignments and final projects of students.
 - *Econometrics* (ECON-4403/5603) with Dr. Yigit Aydede. Besides teaching this class's labs, This role will have me marking assignments, along with midterms and exams.
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Research Assistant Experience

- **1st Project:** [Nova Scotia Neighborhood Housing app](#): an application that helps residents explore detailed neighborhood demographics, aiding decision-making and community development planning.
 - **2nd Project:** [Nova Scotia Crime Dashboard app](#): a deployed public tool that provides Halifax residents with interactive crime data, fostering awareness and supporting community safety initiatives.
 - **Projects' Leader:** Dr. Yigit Aydede
 - **Job Title:** Data Analyst & Deployment assistant
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Awards

- **SMU Scholarship:** I have maintained a academic scholarship for the past 4 years at SMU. This scholarship requires students to maintain a 3.67/4.30 GPA or higher at all times and to take 15 credit hours per semester after their first year.
 - **Dean's List Recognition:** Saint Mary's University recognizes students of high academic standing by placing them on the Dean's List. I have been placed on the Sobey's School of Business Dean's List from 2022 - 2023.
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Other Work Experience & Extra-curricular Activities

- **Grocery Stocker** | Bell's Independent Grocer | 2016-2023 This employment was from when I was age 13 through high school and university. I worked part-time (under 20 hours/week) up until I turned 15. Afterwards I worked (30-40 hours/week).
 - **Cashier's Assistant** | Costco | 2023-2024 This job includes helping customers bag their groceries and working as a cashier when needed. I currently work 30-40 hours/week during academic breaks (e.g. reading weeks, Christmas, summer).
 - **CCO:** Catholic Christian Outreach is a student lead club on campuses across Canada. At SMU i have taken five faith studies. In my second year of studies I was a part of the student-lead Exec while leading a faith study.
 - **4-H:** 4-H is a youth development organization that empowers young people through hands-on learning experiences in agriculture, science, leadership, and life skills. I have taken the beef, sheep, poultry, exploring 4-H, and great outdoors projects.
 - **HCC Household program:** Holy Cross Chaplaincy is a faith based organization that has physical chaplaincies on university campuses across Canada. I am a participant of this program as I live in the "St. Jerome House". This program helps young adults be in a living situation that promotes growth in our community.
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References

- **Professor Yigit Aydede**
Chair, Department of Economics
Sobey School of Business, Saint Mary's University
Contact: yigit.aydede@smu.ca
- **Professor Nicholas Manuel**
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