

# Arin Shahbazian

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📍 Blacksburg, Virginia

🌐 [Webpage](#)

## Personal Statement

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As a PhD candidate in economics with advanced ML skills, I possess a strong foundation in quantitative research methodologies and econometric modeling. My expertise lies in working with large national survey datasets and randomized controlled trial data, allowing me to bridge the gap between complex technical analysis and practical policy solutions. Recently, I joined the Public Health Sciences department at UVA as an intern to gain more experience working with huge-scale datasets and translating statistical findings into actionable health policy implications.

## Education

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- Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, Virginia Tech (VT)
- Master of Economics, Virginia Tech (VT) Jan 2021- Dec. 2022
- Master of Socio-Economic Systems Engineering, [SUT](#), Iran Sep. 2013- Jan. 2016
- Bachelor in Applied Mathematics, [KNTU](#), Iran Sep. 2007- Sep. 2012

## Work Experience

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- **Research Assistant** at [PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, UVA](#), VA, USA. Jan. 2025- May 2025
- **Data Analyst & Econometrician** at [NETBINA](#), Tehran, Iran. Feb. 2019- Jan. 2021
- **Data Analyst & Researcher** at [PARLIAMENT RESEARCH CENTER](#), Tehran, Iran. Mar. 2017- Jan. 2021
- **Researcher** at [INSURANCE RESEARCH CENTER \(IRC\)](#), Tehran, Iran. Mar. 2016- Oct. 2018
- **Economist** at [TEHRAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE \(TCCIM\)](#), Tehran, Iran. Jan. 2017- Mar. 2017

## Recent Awards and Honors

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- **Outstanding Graduate Instructor of the year**, [Department of Economics](#), VT, 2024.
- **Armenian General Benevolent Union Scholarship (AGBU)** winner of the 2024-2025 academic year
- **Armenian Student's Association Scholarship (ASA)** winner of the 2024-2025 academic year
- **Full-Time Graduate Assistantship**, Department of Economics, VT (2021- present)

## Recent Research Experience and Working Papers

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- **Arin Shahbazian**, Wen You, Xu Lin, Delia West, Becca Krukowski, "Time-to-Weight Loss and Subsequent Weight Maintenance: The Survival Analysis Perspective" (in progress and presented in EGSC at [WashU](#)).
- **Arin Shahbazian**, Wen You, Xu Lin, Delia West, Becca Krukowski, "The Role of Motivations in Weight Outcomes: An RCT Study" (in progress and will be presented at 14th Annual Conference of the [ASHEcon](#)).
- Mackenzi Oswald, **Arin Shahbazian**, Kathryn M. Ross, Wen You, Becca Krukowski, "An Exploratory Analysis of Patterns of Weight Change in a Post-Cessation Weight Management Trial" (Published at Nicotine & Tobacco Research, May 2025).

- Asal Pilehvari, **Arin Shahbazian**, Becca Krukowski, Machine Learning-Driven Insights into the Structural and Socioeconomic Predictors of Top Five Cancer Mortality Rates in the U.S. (submitted to JAMA Network, and will be presented at APHA 2025 Annual Meeting).
- **Arin Shahbazian**, Asal Pilehvari, Machine Learning for Breast Cancer Stage Prediction in Claims Data: A SEER-Medicare Study (in progress).
- Asal Pilehvari, **Arin Shahbazian**, Qingyi He, Gloribel Bonilla, Roger Anderson, Impact of Treatment Delays on Healthcare Costs in Patients with Breast Cancer: A Mediation Analysis of Healthcare Utilization by Socioeconomic Status (submitted to CMS for initial approval, and will be presented at APHA 2025 Annual Meeting).
- Asal Pilehvari, **Arin Shahbazian**, Gloribel Bonilla, Roger Anderson, Disparities in Treatment Delay and its Trends (submitted to CMS for initial approval).
- **Arin Shahbazian**, Asal Pilehvari, “The Social Determinants of Health: A new approach” (in progress)

## Technical and Programming Skills

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- R, Python, Stata (Proficient)
- Julia, SQL, SAS, MATLAB, JMP, SPSS, Eviews (Working Knowledge)

## Research Interests

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|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| - Applied Econometrics | - Machine Learning            | - Policy Evaluation |
| - Health Economics     | - Household & Poverty Studies | - Microeconomics    |

## Teaching Experience

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### Instructor

FALL 2024	Intermediate Microeconomics (in-person), Department of Economics, VT
SUMMER 2024	Principal Microeconomics (online), Department of Economics, VT
FALL 2023	Intermediate Microeconomics (in-person), Department of Economics, VT
SUMMER 2023	Intermediate Microeconomics (online), Department of Economics, VT

### Teaching Assistant

- Development Econ & Middle East Econ (FALL 2021, 2022, SPRING 2021 (VT))
- Data Science for Quantitative Finance (SPRING 2022 (VT))
- Econometrics Methods & Introduction of Forecasting (SPRING 2024, SPRING 2022 (VT))
- Principles of Microeconomics (SPRING 2023 (VT))
- Microeconomics Theory (FALL 2019, 2015 (SUT))
- Applied Econometrics (SPRING 2016 (SUT))
- Financial Econometrics (SPRING 2015 (SUT))

## Language Proficiency

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ARMENIAN: Native

PERSIAN: Native

ENGLISH: Fluent