

HONG NGOC LE

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EDUCATION

WorldQuant University

Master of Science in Financial Engineering

Remote

Oct 2024 – Current

Western Sydney University Vietnam

Bachelor of Business – Applied Finance Major (advanced graduation - completed degree in 2 years)

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

May 2022 – May 2024

- Dean's Merit List for Academic Excellence - Distinction Award (GPA: 6.43 / 7.00)
- First-year Vice-Chancellor's Academic Excellence Scholarship, highest tier
- Second-year Vice-Chancellor's Academic Excellence Scholarship, highest tier
- Third-year Vice-Chancellor's Academic Excellence Scholarship, highest tier (awarded 1 year in advance)
- High Distinction in Econometrics, Philosophical Economics, Securities & Business Valuation, Financial Institutions & Markets, Management, Accounting, Economics, Enterprise Law, Consumer Behaviour, International Business, Corporate Finance, Human Resources

VNU-HCM University of Economics and Law (UEL)

Bachelor of International Economic Relations (Discontinued)

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Sep 2021 – March 2022

- Academic scholarship for highest GPA in Semester 1 across all students in the cohort
- Highest GPA enrolment scholarship (SAT/IB/ACT pathway)
- Assisted with qualitative data analysis for a paper titled "Peer Tutors' Agency and Emotions in Tertiary English Education in Vietnam" and participated in Sociology and Cross-Cultural Studies classes for Master's students

Condell Park High School

New South Wales High School Certificate (HSC)

Sydney, Australia

Jan 2017 – Jan 2021

- Valedictorian / Dux of High School and First in Course throughout all academic years
- HSC Band 6/6 for Mathematics Advanced and Mathematics Extension 1
- School Science Award | Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute
- High School Student Academic Excellence Award | University of Sydney
- Distinction & Merit awards | Australian Mathematical Olympiad (AMO) & Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO)
- Top 8% of students in Australia in English | University of New South Wales International Competitions and Assessments for Schools
- Earned advanced standing, skipping 1 academic year based on outstanding performance
- Nominated for the NSW International Student Award | State of New South Wales, Australia

Tran Dai Nghia High School for the Gifted

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Quantitative research assistant

ICLS Tech

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

April 2024 – Current

- Performed comprehensive data cleaning, preprocessing, and feature engineering on FOREX and CRYPTO datasets, ensuring high-quality inputs for machine learning models.
- Applied a triple-labelling method for labelling FOREX and CRYPTO data, integrating regime-switching models such as Gaussian Mixture Models and Hidden Markov Chains to enhance prediction accuracy in volatile market conditions.
- Developed and implemented automated machine learning pipelines to assess the probability of backtest overfitting and evaluate the robustness of existing cross-validation schemes.

Product assistant

YOLA English

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Jan 2022 – Jan 2023

- Assisted the Product Manager in developing an English learning app and web extension, conducting market research and executing targeted marketing strategies; increased the app's user base by 25,000 and the extensions by 15,000, achieving a monthly active user rate of ~50%.
- Collaborated with external artists to implement user nurturing strategies, resulting in a 7-10% retention rate for the 21-day user cohort.

SKILLS

- Technical tools | Python, R, SQL, LaTeX, Markdown, PostgreSQL, CSS, Excel, SPSS, Minitab, Stata
- Finance | Financial machine learning (time series forecasting, predictive modelling, algorithmic trading), securities analysis, company valuation, corporate finance & capital structure, portfolio management, economic and financial modelling, international finance
- Business strategy | Consumer behaviour analysis, customer segmentation, market research, strategic management, consulting, international business strategy
- Graphic design | Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Graphic designer | Freelance

Jan 2022 – Current

- Designed 200+ presentations, logos, marketing materials, and product packaging using Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, with experience in preparing materials for both digital and print production.
- Collaborated with the Head of Marketing to develop cohesive brand concepts that highlighted brand identity.
- Ensured all designs met strict regulatory requirements, including U.S. FDA standards, for export to international markets such as Japan, New Zealand, and the U.S.

English tutor | YOLA English

Feb 2021 – Jan 2023

- Developed teaching plans and instructed students, from school students to working professionals, in IELTS preparation and English proficiency.

EXTRACURRICULARS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- P&G PEAKathon 2024 | Top 4 Local Finalists of Vietnam
- IELTS Talent Contest 2021 | First place award (month) and Merit award (quarter) in Vietnam's Southern region
- UEL English Club EFFT | Project Leader for a team of 40+ members, organised two successful projects, which attracted over 250 participants
- Project X | Participated in a non-profit fellowship program to connect tech startups with the Vietnamese students interested in IT and offer mentorship, career orientations, and technical / soft-skills training through events/workshops and building communities
- HCMC Department of Industry & Trade & HAWEE ASEAN++ Bridge Business Forum | Represented Australia at the high-profile business networking event, attracting over 500 global business leaders, promoting sustainable development in the ASEAN region