

James Donahue

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CONTACT DETAILS

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EDUCATION

MASTERS OF SCIENCE IN ECONOMICS **June 2020**
Universität Hamburg, Germany

MASTERS IN ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL & EUROPEAN STUDIES **July 2017**
Centre international de formation européenne, France

BACHELORS OF ARTS IN ECONOMICS **May 2009**
University of Tennessee, USA

EXPERIENCE

PH.D. RESEARCHER **Oct 2021–present**
Goethe University *Frankfurt, Germany*
Research focus: macroeconomic labor market dynamics, lifetime earning models
Methods: Bayesian analysis, heterogeneous models solved by endogenous grid search in MATLAB

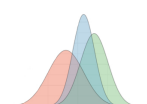
ASSOCIATE, EDITORIAL RESEARCH INTELLIGENCE **Aug 2020–Sept 2021**
WORKING STUDENT, US FINANCE TEAM **Aug 2018–Oct 2019**
Statista GmbH *Hamburg, Germany*
Re-hired for the writing skills displayed as a working student, I reduced redaction time by half for my cross-functional team; assisted with research, modeling, and Excel/PowerPoint preparation.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT **Nov 2019–May 2020**
Universität Hamburg *Hamburg, Germany*
Research assistance and data collecting, including a paper published in Quantitative Economics.

HEAD GUIDE & TRIP LEADER **Summers 2006–2017**
Wildwater, Ltd. *Hartford, TN, USA*
Training and leading a team of over twenty guides on adventure tourism trips, with high client interaction and responsibility for any emergencies.

DEVELOPMENT INTERN **Oct 2014 – April 2015**
Amnesty International *Tel Aviv, Israel*
Writing grants and other nonprofit fundraising activities for a range of audiences, as well as *ad hoc* strategic planning with human rights campaign managers.

MANAGER **Jan – May 2014**
Relax Hostel *San José, Costa Rica*
Implementation and adjustment of the business plan for small business during the opening phase, as well as training the initial staff and writing training materials.



EXTRACURRICULAR PROJECTS

DATA CIRCLE COURSE

ReDi School

Spring 2025

Hamburg, Germany

Project: Classifying Tanzanian water pumps with the Agile framework, over the course of 14 weeks and with limited instructor support

Software: Python: XGBoost, skikit-learn, Pandas, GeoPandas, Seaborn, Streamlit; Git

PYCON SPEAKER

PyCon Lithuania

April 2025

Vilnius, Lithuania

Title: Variable Selection: What your model can't tell you

Focused on incorporating causal analysis to identify confounding variables and spurious correlations. [Video available: http://tiny.cc/pyconLit](http://tiny.cc/pyconLit)

SKILLS

- **IT:** Python (advanced data analytics: machine learning, statistics, clustering algorithms), MATLAB (advanced computational methods, optimization and descent algorithms), R (Bayesian analytics), L^AT_EX (advanced typesetting), SQL (intermediate), Git (intermediate), Bash (basic)
- **Languages:** English (mother tongue), German (business proficiency), Spanish (conversational proficiency), French (basic understanding)
- **Empirical methods:** Time series analysis (state space models, forecasting), Bayesian regression modelling (Gibbs and Metropolis-Hastings sampling), structural equation modeling, causal inference
- **Soft skills:** Compelling technical and non-technical presentations, training and leading small teams, managing multiple deadlines, voracious self learning, solutions-focused mindset

VOLUNTEER WORK

DATA ANALYTICS INSTRUCTOR

ReDi School

Fall Semester 2025

Hamburg, Germany

Giving and preparing lectures, homework, and tutorials on statistics for data analytics, SQL, and Python for students in Germany with a migration background.

GERMAN TUTOR

Sprach Hafen

April 2024–present

Hamburg, Germany

Leveraging my teaching abilities to help others gain basic German skills through free weekly classes.

VIRTUAL TUTOR, ALL SUBJECTS

Seeds of Literacy

Oct 2021–Apr 2022

Cleveland, OH, USA (online)

Tutoring adult learners in passing high school equivalency tests, via Zoom.

HOBBIES

- **Whitewater kayaking:** Steep creeks (including Class V) and freestyle
- **Gardening:** Focus on composting, ecosystem management
- **Gaming:** Skat and other card games, chess, old-school Nintendo-style games

Hamburg, 2025-09-25

