

Nawaaz Khalfan

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My research is in microeconomic theory, with a focus on models of information acquisition and mechanism design. I explore questions related to how agents use tools such as costly inspection and reporting in order to acquire information, and what the resulting outcomes look like in strategic settings.

Education

University of Pennsylvania (2019-)
PhD candidate in Economics, expected July 2023
Committee: Rakesh Vohra, George Mailath, J. Aislinn Bohren

University of Pennsylvania (2016-2019)
Master in Economics
Thesis: “Search with Evolving Outside Options”
Readers: Rakesh Vohra, Andrew Postlewaite

The Australian National University (2011-2014)
Bachelor of Economics with first class honours and a minor in econometrics
Honours thesis: “Comparing Patent Regimes: An Analysis of Sequential Innovation under Incomplete Contracts”
Supervisor: Rohan Pitchford

Canberra Grammar School (2005-2010)
Higher School Certificate with an Australian Tertiary Admissions Ranking of 95.80

Research Fields

Microeconomic Theory, Information Economics, Search and Exploration, Mechanism and Market Design, Game Theory

Working Papers

“Optimal Allocation with Noisy Inspection”

“Strategic Private Search”

“Pandora’s Linear Program” with Rakesh Vohra

Working Projects

“Optimal Allocation with Sequential Testing”

“Optimal Allocation with Noisy Search”

“Manipulation Robust Search Procedures”

Academic Supervisors

Rakesh Vohra, George A. Weiss and Lydia Bravo Weiss University Professor, rvohra@seas.upenn.edu

George Mailath, Professor of Economics, Walter H. Annenberg Professor in the Social Sciences, gmailath@econ.upenn.edu

Teaching Experience

University of Pennsylvania:

BDS 509: Applied Game Theory - Instructor: 2022 Summer

ECON 262: Market Design - Head TA: 2021 Spring

ECON 235: Industrial Organisation - Head TA: 2020 Fall

ECON 1/LPS 601: Introductory Microeconomics - Instructor: 2019 Spring, 2020 Fall, 2020 Summer

ECON 1: Introductory Microeconomics - TA and Head TA: 2018 Spring, 2018 Fall

ECON 10: Introductory Business Economics - TA and Head TA: 2017 Fall, 2021 Fall

The Australian National University:

ECON 8021: Topics in Microeconomic Theory (graduate) - Teaching Assistant: 2015 S2

ECON 3101: Microeconomics III – Tutor: 2016 S1

ECON 3100: Economics IV Honours – Teaching Assistant: 2015 S2

ECON 2141: Strategic Thinking – Head Tutor: 2015 S2, 2016 S1

ECON 2101: Microeconomics II – Head Tutor: 2015 S1

ECON 1101: Microeconomics I – Tutor: 2014 S2, 2015 S1

ECHI 1006: The Australian Economy – Tutor: 2013 S2, 2014 S1

Research Experience

Research assistant for Professor Rohan Pitchford at the Research School of Economics, 2015-2016

Research assistant for Professor Peter Drysdale and Dr. Shiro Armstrong at the East Asia Bureau of Economic Research at the ANU Crawford School of Public Policy, 2015-2016

Research assistant for Dr. Paul Chen and Dr. Martin Richardson conducting behavioural experiments, 2016

Research and teaching assistance for Dr. Juergen Meinecke in econometrics, 2015

Economic Analyst at the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission in the Weighted Average Cost of Capital team at the Australian Energy Regulator, 2014

Scholarships and Awards

College of Business and Economics Teaching Award for Excellence in Tutoring, 2015
Economic Society Prize for Economics III, 2014
Commercial Representatives' and Agents' Association of Australia Limited Prize, 2013
Economic Society Prize for Economics II (Honours), 2012
Gold and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award, 2009 and 2010
Canberra Grammar School Medal for Outstanding Contribution, 2010
Bill De Salis Scholarship, 2009 and 2010
Warren-Williams Award, 2009

Personal

Nationality: Australian

Language(s): English

Interests

Running: 4:42.89 mile (Penn Relays Summer Showcase, 2022), 17:06.46 5000m (Tracksmith Twilight 5000, 2022), 1:00:05 10mi (Broad Street Run, 2021), 3:05:19 M (New York City Marathon, 2018), 17:18:38 100km (The North Face 100, 2013)

Golf: Harden Country Club

Rugby: Wharton Rugby Football Club (2016-2020), Uni-Norths Owls Rugby Club (2011-2016), CGS Rugby Union (2005-2010)

Updated: October 8, 2022