

LJ Valencia

RESEARCH ASSISTANT · BANK OF CANADA

Edmonton, AB, Canada

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Education

University of Alberta

Edmonton, AB, Canada

BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONORS) IN ECONOMICS, MINOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

June 2020

- Thesis: *An Analysis of Demographics and Voting Behaviour in the 2019 Alberta Provincial Election*
- Courses: Advanced Macroeconomic Theory, Econometric Methods, Advanced Microeconomic Theory

Université de Montréal

Montréal, QC, Canada

EXPLORE PROGRAM (FRENCH IMMERSION)

June 2016

Professional Experience

Bank of Canada

Ottawa, ON, Canada

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (RA) - REMOTE WORK

Aug. 2021 - present

- Supported Economists with analysis related to short-term forecasting of Canadian real GDP and its components by constructing charts, conducting calculations using Statistics Canada data, and updating forecast databases.
- Leveraged Tableau to maintain and develop dashboards of economic indicators and real GDP forecast models.
- Operated, maintained, and augmented several in-house economic models using Python, MATLAB, MySQL, and Microsoft Excel.
- As part of the Bank of Canada's Digital Transformation project, I collaborated with Economists, Software Developers, and Research Assistants in developing Python-based forecasting software and user-developer documentation.
- Utilized tools such as Git, Python, and YAML to establish back-end processes and front-end software features.

Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD)

Edmonton, AB, Canada

JUNIOR ECONOMIST

Aug. 2020 - Aug. 2021

- Assisted other Economists in providing advice to senior policymakers by assessing economic trends and acting as a subject-matter expert within the WD Research and Analytics Team.
- Designed Python and R scripts to analyze data and apply object-oriented programming (OOP) solutions.
- Harnessed tools such as Microsoft Excel and Haver Analytics (Haver DLX) in conducting policy research.
- Handled multiple projects, participated in weekly meetings, and collaborated with other policy analysts in crafting policy proposals.

Strathcona Place Senior Centre

Edmonton, AB, Canada

SERVING COMMUNITIES INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (SCIP), NEEDS ANALYST INTERN

Aug. 2017 - June 2018

- Supported the senior centre's Executive Director in completing a Needs Assessment Report for the centre's building project.
- Produced a video that highlights the importance of inter-generational initiatives to the local community.

Research & Teaching Experience

University of Alberta, Department of Economics

Edmonton, AB, Canada

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Jan. 2020 - Sep. 2020

- Manage large data-sets from the Database on Ideology, Money in Politics, and Elections (DIME) by writing algorithms in Python and R.
- Apply Python libraries such as Pandas and NumPy to manipulate data and craft memory-efficient solutions.

University of Alberta, Department of Economics

Edmonton, AB, Canada

UNDERGRADUATE ECONOMICS 101/102 TUTOR

Sept. 2019 - Apr. 2020

- Hosted tutor hours at the Department of Economics, Econ 101/102 Tutor Centre and answered questions on introductory economics.
- Supervised and provided feedback on student discussions in online forums via Packback, and proctored in-person exams.

Skills

Programming	Python R MATLAB SQL C Julia
Software	CSS HTML Hugo YAML Git Bash \LaTeX
Analytics	Tableau STATA Haver Analytics (Haver DLX)
Languages	Native Fluency: English, Filipino Beginner-Intermediate: Ilocano, French, & Spanish

Extracurricular Activity

Greenwood Singers

Edmonton, AB, Canada

CHORISTER

Sept. 2019 - present

- Prepare for the Greenwood Singers' Christmas and Spring concerts by participating in Thursday evening rehearsals, weekend choral workshops, and practice outside of rehearsal time.

Filipino International Baptist Church (FIBC)

Edmonton, AB, Canada

WORSHIP MINISTRY VOLUNTEER

Jun. 2011 - present

- Contribute to the FIBC worship ministry as a worship leader, guitarist, and audio-visual operator. Preparations include music rehearsals, practice outside of rehearsal time, maintenance and management of audio-visual equipment.

University of Alberta, Faculty of Education Handbell Ringers

Edmonton, AB, Canada

HANDBELL RINGER

Sep. 2019 - Apr. 2022

- Performed in a variety of concerts with the First Presbyterian Church of Edmonton Choir, the Greenwood Singers, and the University of Alberta Mixed Chorus (UAMC). Preparations include rehearsals on Wednesday evenings and weekend workshops.

All Points West Chamber Choir

Edmonton, AB, Canada

CHORISTER

Sep. 2019 - May 2020

- Perform in two concerts during the 2019-2020 academic year. Preparations include rehearsals on Tuesday evenings, weekend choral workshops, and practice outside of rehearsal time.

University of Alberta Mixed Chorus (UAMC)

Edmonton, AB, Canada

CHORISTER

Sep. 2015 - Apr. 2020

- Participated in three concerts during the academic year. Preparations include rehearsals on Wednesday evenings and Saturday morning sectionals.
- Performed in the UAMC's Annual Spring Tour in 2016 and 2018, singing in rural and urban communities across Western Canada.
- Fundraised for the UAMC as a member of the carolling team, singing in various winter events across the Greater Edmonton Area.

Organization for Arts Students and Interdisciplinary Studies (OASIS)

Edmonton, AB, Canada

SOCIAL SCIENCES COUNCILLOR

May 2018 - Apr. 2020

- Hosted office hours, managed locker registrations, voted and discussed faculty association policies in the OASIS council.
- Assessed and approved grant applications with other councillors and executives in the OASIS Granting Committee.
- Participated in the Arts Faculty Council by voicing student needs and concerns during council sessions.

Projects

University of Alberta

Edmonton, Canada

CANADIAN MACROECONOMIC FORECASTING

May 2020 - Aug. 2020

- Produced a forecast of the Canadian economy using advanced macroeconomic modelling and estimation methods. Preparations include data management, time series analysis, and economic research.

University of Alberta

Edmonton, Canada

APPLIED ECONOMICS PROJECTS, DATA ANALYST

Jan. 2020 - Apr. 2020

- Participated in a team project and crafted a report for Western Economic Diversification Canada. The report presents an analysis of employment trends of underrepresented groups in Western Canada's agricultural sector. Preparations include data analysis, data management, and policy analysis.

Bank of Canada

Ottawa, Canada

THE GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE, FINALIST

Sept. 2018 - Feb. 2019

- Collaborated with a team from the University of Alberta and presented an interest rate policy recommendation to the Bank of Canada based on independent analysis of current economic trends. Preparations include data visualization, time series analysis, and economic forecasting.

Honors & Awards

2019	The Economics Honors Award , University of Alberta, Department of Economics	Edmonton, Canada
2017	The Economics Honors Award , University of Alberta, Department of Economics	Edmonton, Canada
2017	The Economics Merit Scholarships , University of Alberta, Department of Economics	Edmonton, Canada
2017	University of Alberta Undergraduate Academic Scholarship , University of Alberta	Edmonton, Canada
2017	Community Enrichment Award , Association of Fundraising Professionals, Edmonton Area and Chapter	Edmonton, Canada

Certificates

2018	Bloomberg Market Concepts (BMC) , Bloomberg LP	Edmonton, Canada
2020	Introduction to Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) , Status of Women Canada	Edmonton, Canada

Citizenship

Country Canada