

# Importance of giving back to community: hidden blessings

**Mahammad Valiyev**

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# About me/bio

## **Education:**

- PhD in Petroleum Engineering, University of Southern California, 2021 – 2026
- MSc in Petroleum Engineering, Baku Higher Oil School / Heriot-Watt University, 2018 – 2020
- BSc in Petroleum Engineering, Baku Higher Oil School / Heriot-Watt University, 2013 – 2018

## **Industry experience:**

- Data Scientist Intern, Oxy, 2025
- Data Scientist Intern, Repsol, 2024
- Data Scientist Intern, Halliburton, 2023
- Reservoir Engineering intern, BP AGT, 2019
- Geoscience Intern, BP AGT, 2017
- Summer Intern, SOCAR, 2015, 2016

# 1. Practical cases

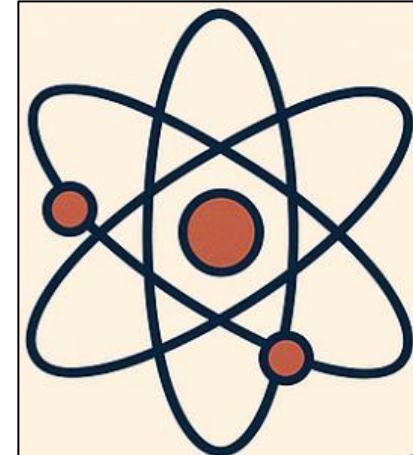
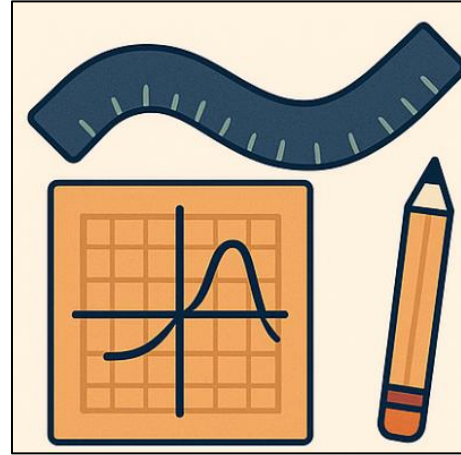
# Undergraduate education

## Advice on:

- Sorting courses based on difficulty
- Tips for succeeding in specific courses
- How to prepare for tough exams
- Best resources (notes, textbooks, etc) for certain classes

## Success metrics:

- Mentored 15+ students



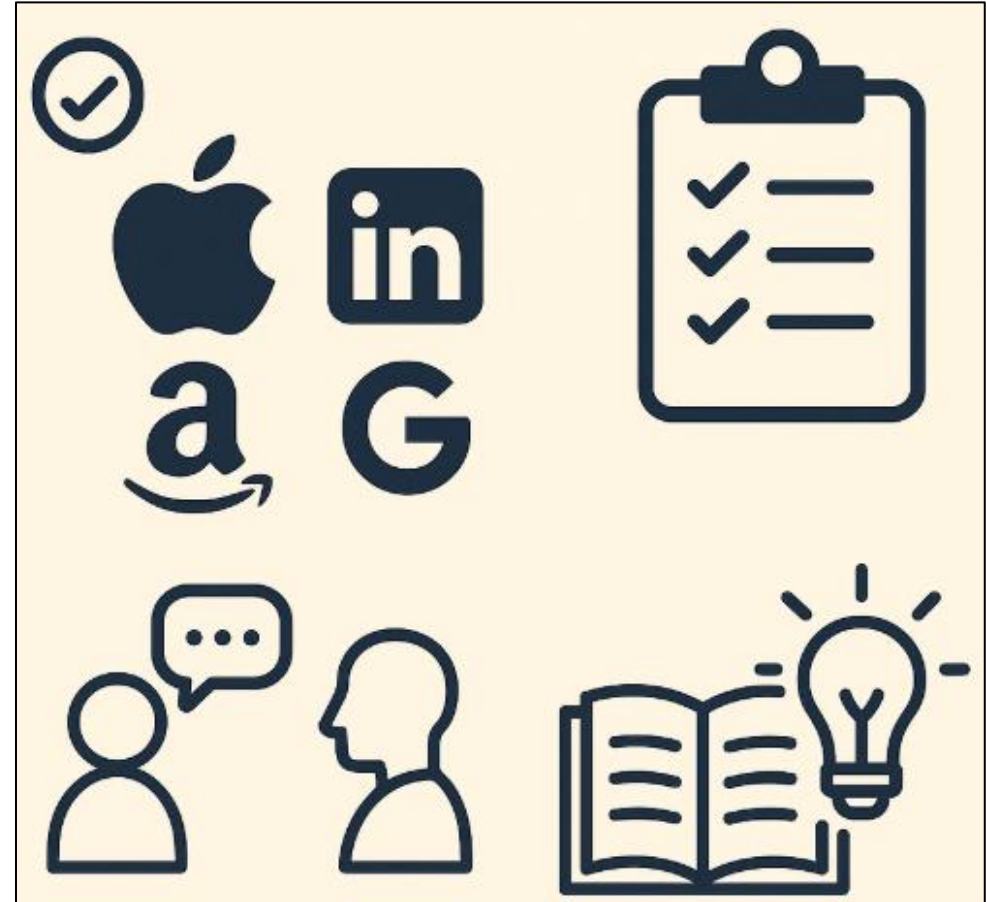
# Internship and career advice

## Advice on:

- Which companies to apply to
- What roles to pick
- Interview process
- How to succeed in an internship

## Success metrics:

- Guided 10+ students
- 1 seminar with 20 + attendees
- 4 students got an internship at BP



# US university applications

Advice on:

- Preparing for GRE/IELTS
- Writing SOP/motivation letter
- Obtaining research experience
- Picking universities

Success metrics:

- Guided 10+ students
- 1 webinar with 30+ attendees
- 6 students got admission to US universities
- 2 Azerbaijani students at USC



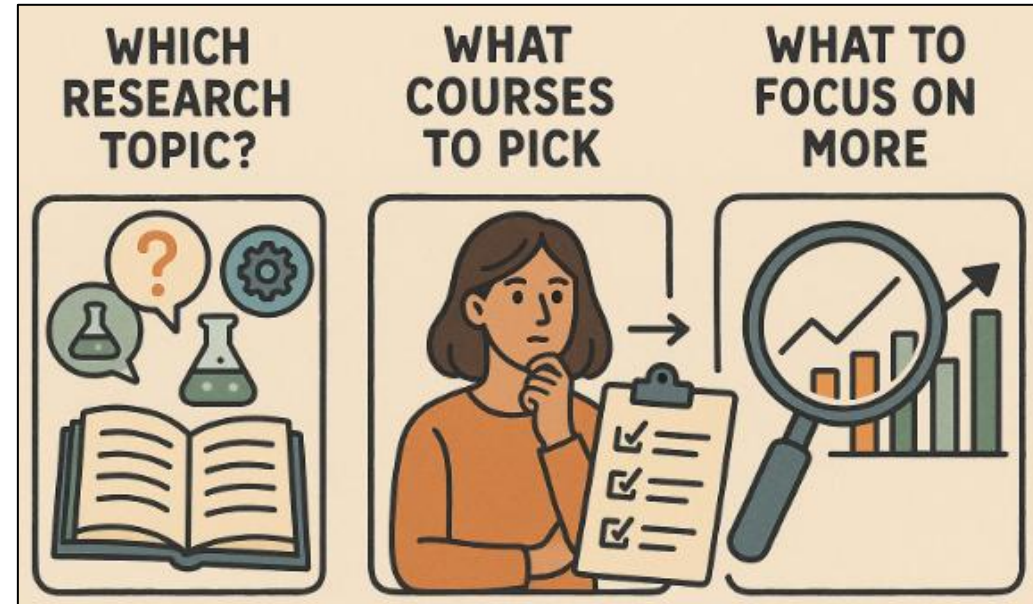
# PhD guidance

Advice on:

- Which research topics to pick
- What courses to pick
- Strategy in PhD journey

Success metrics:

- Guided 5 students





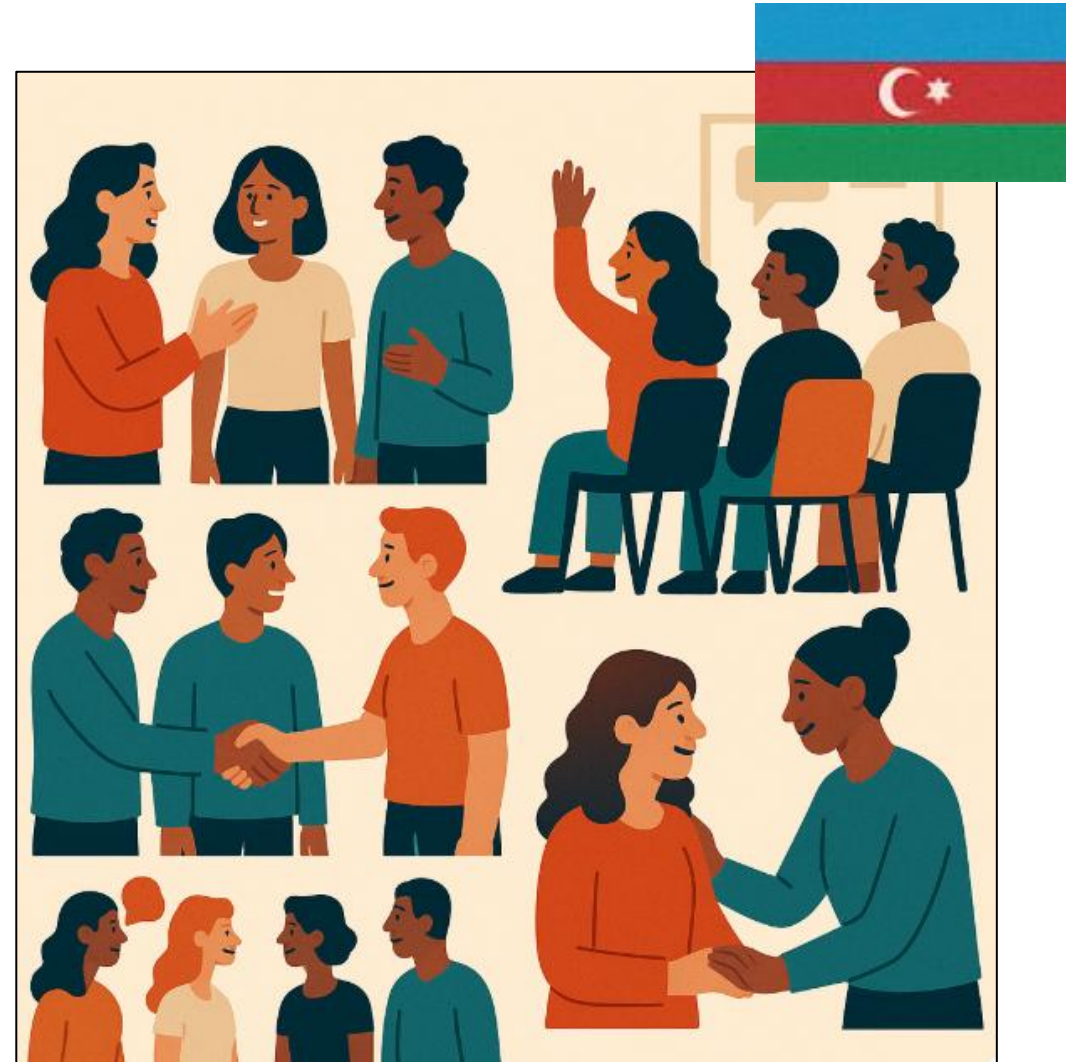
# Azerbaijani community in the US

## What I did:

- Engaged with the community
- Involved new members
- Participated in the events
- Provided support

## Success metrics:

- Attended 5+ events
- Brought 4 new members
- Established relationships and gained friends



# Volunteering to teach a class

Taught a technical class for 10 weeks:

- Preparing lecture materials
- Weekly 1-1.5 lectures
- Preparing quizzes/exams
- Evaluating students
- Mentoring students



Success metrics:

- 20+ attendees

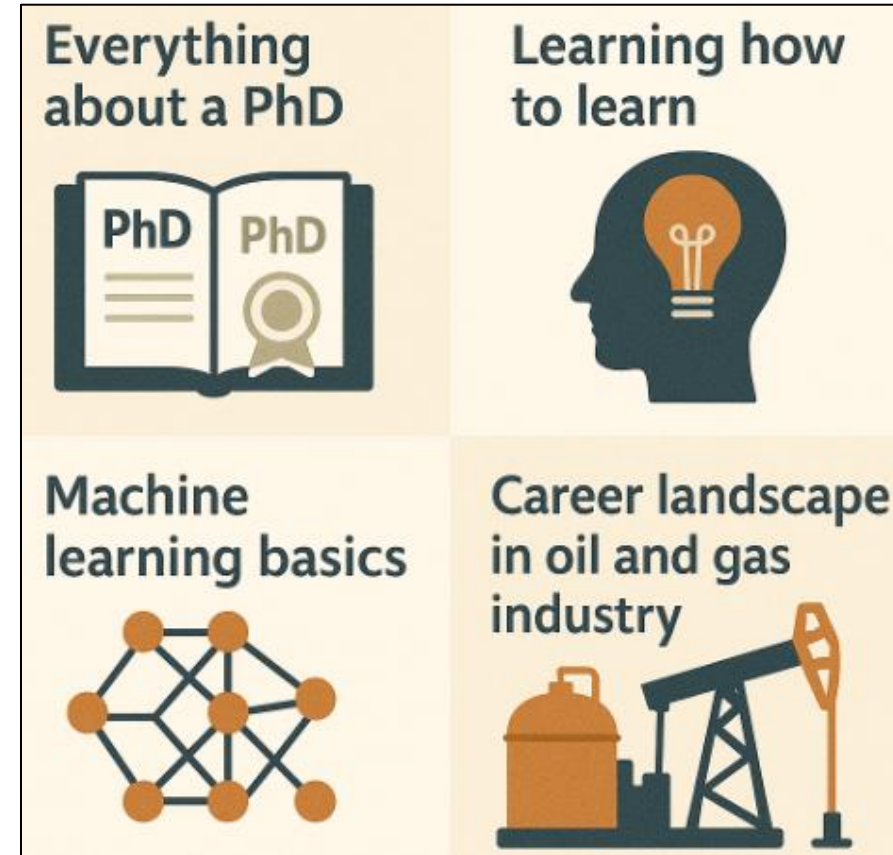
# Voluntary seminars

## Topics:

- Everything about a PhD
- Learning how to learn
- Machine learning basics
- Career landscape in oil and gas industry

## Success metrics:

- 20+ attendees



# Attending Juma

## What I gave:

- 40 minutes/week of focused time and presence
- ego, status, and worldly distractions
- small acts of charity

## What I received:

- wisdom
- humility
- empathy towards the community
- inner peace and clarity



## 2. Hidden blessings

# Hidden blessings

- Teaching is the best way of learning
- Communication skills
- Leadership and mentorship skills
- Wide network
- Emotional fulfillment
- Personal branding

### 3. Some precautions

# Precautions

- Time-consuming
- Some think you owe them
- If repetitive advice – boring
- Sometimes you expect “thanks”
- Risk of becoming arrogant
- Some think you show off
- Important to know your limits



# Thanks for attention!

## **Acknowledgements:**

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