Maiwand Nangyal

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Citizenship: British

EDUCATION

- **University of Oxford** — Oxfordshire, UK
  *DPhil in **Economics**, with full scholarship.* — **10/2024 - 12/2027**
  Primary Research Interests: Development Economics, Economic History, Political Economy.
  Secondary Research Interests: Applied Econometrics, Machine Learning.

- **University of Oxford** — Oxfordshire, UK
  *MSc in **Economic & Social History**; with full scholarship.* — **10/2023 - 08/2024**

- **University of Cambridge** — Cambridgeshire, UK
  *MPhil in **Economics**; with full scholarship.* — **09/2020 - 08/2021**

- **University of Exeter** — Devon, UK
  *BSc (Hons) in **Economics*** — **09/2016 - 06/2019**
  18/20 "Firsts"; 3/3 annual Dean's/Divisional commendations.

SKILLS SUMMARY

Languages:	English (native), Pashto (native), Dari, Urdu and Hindi.
Methods:	Econometrics, Impact Evaluations, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Agent-based Dynamic Microsimulation Modelling.
Programming:	Stata, R, Python, Julia, SAS (E-Guide, Studio, E-Miner), SQL, Java.
Modelling, Visualisation & Tools:	AnyLogic, QGIS, Mathematica, Excel, Word and PowerPoint.
Documentation:	LaTeX, Overleaf and R Markdown.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

- **The Game of Thorns: Empirically Analysing the Impact of Opium Cultivation on Terrorism within Afghanistan 1994–2017**: with Dr Ahmad Zia Wahdat.

TEACHING

- **University of Oxford** — Oxford, UK
  Graduate Teaching Assistantship — **01/2026 - Present**
  - **Economics for Economic Historians** — 01/2026 - 03/2026
    Teaching microeconomics, macroeconomics, and applied econometrics to Oxford MSc/MPhil students in Economic and Social History during Hilary Term 2026.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Oxford Graduate Seminar in Economic and Social History [programme], Nuffield College (11/2025)**: Presented DPhil Chapter 1 research; received feedback from faculty and graduate students.

- **32nd Annual Graduate Workshop [programme], Nuffield College (04/2024)**:
Presented MSc dissertation research; audience included Professors Sheilagh Ogilvie and Joel Mokyr (joint 2025 Nobel laureate in Economics) and incorporated their feedback into the final dissertation.

EXPERIENCE

- **World Bank Group** Remote
Impact Performance Measurement Placement ***02/2026 - 05/2026***
    - Three-month placement benchmarking impact metrics to develop standardised impact performance measurement frameworks for economic sectors and/or related impact themes aligned with UN Sustainable Development Goals.
    - Evaluating impact metrics vis-à-vis pre-defined criteria for impact performance assessment and contributing to the development of a comprehensive database of collected metrics, documenting characteristics, sources and evaluation alongside presentation and dissemination of materials.
    - Contributing to research addressing the $4 trillion annual financing gap for sustainable development, in collaboration with World Bank Group and University of Geneva researchers.

- **Data for Afghanistan** Remote (Part-time)
Director of Research ***02/2025 - Present***
    - Collaborating with **Dr Ahmad Zia Wahdat** to compile comprehensive datasets and visualisations on Afghanistan - one of the world's most data-scarce, conflict-affected, and impoverished countries - for empirical research (https://dataforafghanistan.org/posts).

- **UK Civil Service - Department for Work and Pensions** London, UK
Fast Stream Economist **Post-DTA (SEO-equivalent)** ***09/2021 - 09/2023***
- Selected for the flagship UK Civil Service Fast Stream graduate scheme from 56,667 applicants in 2019 (overall 2019 offer rate: 2.3%; Economics stream offer rate: 14.9%; source).

    - **Post 1: Contract Management & Partner Delivery Division (Finance Group)**
        * Led two employment programme impact evaluations worth £1 billion using Propensity Score Matching on HMRC/DWP microdata, line managing a Statistician, with results informing ministerial policy decisions.
        * Conducted real-time analyses using SAS and SQL, delivering accurate responses to ministerial briefings, Freedom of Information requests, and Parliamentary Questions under tight deadlines.

    - **Post 2: Working Age Modelling and Forecasting Division (Policy Group)**
        * Contributed to the development, validation and successful launch of a department-critical agent-based dynamic microsimulation model in AnyLogic/Java covering ≈6 million Universal Credit claimants using billions of observations, integrating machine learning-derived model inputs and securing stakeholder approval for outputs.
        * Applied advanced SAS programming (Enterprise Miner & Studio) to merge DWP datasets, optimising complex variable interactions and achieving significant runtime efficiency.

    - **Grade Manager for DWP Economist Placement Students (08/2022 - 09/2023)**
        * As one of three Grade Managers, led end-to-end recruitment and assessment of placement economists across the Government Economic Service, coordinating with Chief Economists and HR whilst overseeing sifting, logistics, and assessment moderation.
        * Provided pastoral and professional support to placement economists, coaching them through technical assessments and mock interviews in economic theory, introducing structured exit surveys, and adapting communication to diverse audiences, from senior leadership to volunteers and across technical and non-technical colleagues.

- **University of Exeter**   Devon, UK
  Research Assistant - Department of Economics (Internship)   **05/2019 - 06/2019**
  - Assisted Dr Surajeet Chakravarty with experimental design and supported a postgraduate student in data collection. Also developed a thesis proposal on British Afghan cultural identity.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

*Indicates presentation
- **2025:** **OWL (Oxford-Warwick-LSE) Annual Workshop**, Oxford, UK; **ESRC Grand Union DTP Annual Conference**, Oxford, UK; **University of Oxford Economic and Social History Graduate Seminar** (11/2025), Oxford, UK*; **University of Oxford Department of Economics Political Economy Seminar**, Oxford, UK; **CSAE Lunchtime Seminar**, Oxford, UK.
- **2024:** **32nd Annual Graduate Workshop** (04/2024), Oxford, UK*; **University of Oxford Economic and Social History Graduate Seminar**, Oxford, UK; **University of Oxford Department of Economics Political Economy Seminar**, Oxford, UK; **CSAE Lunchtime Seminar**, Oxford, UK.
- **2023:** **DWP Work, Pensions & Labour Economics Study Group Conference**, Sheffield, UK; **University of Oxford Economic and Social History Graduate Seminar**, Oxford, UK.
- **2022:** **Government Economic Service Annual Conference**, London, UK.
- **2021:** **Bristol Festival of Economics**, Bristol, UK

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- **upReach**: Selected for the upReach professional development programme (2016-2019), earning the Gold Award.
- **Society for Professional Economists**: Member between 2022-25.
- **Economic History Society**: Active member.
- **Oxford Research Groups**: Affiliated with Economic History, CSAE, and Political Economy; seminar attendee and occasional presenter.

REFERENCES

References available upon request; I kindly ask that you contact my referees only with my prior agreement.

Prof Stephen Broadberry	**Dr Eric Chaney**	**Professor Sriya Iyer**
Department of Economics	Department of Economics	Faculty of Economics
University of Oxford	University of Oxford	University of Cambridge
Email: Contact	Email: Contact	Email: Contact
Profile: View Profile	Profile: View Profile	Profile: View Profile