# Malek Hassouneh

| **Address** | **Contact Information** |
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**Personal Information**

Citizenship: Lebanon
Status in Canada: Permanent Resident
Date of Birth: 28$^{th}$ of November 2001

**Education**

M.A. Economics – University of Toronto     Fall 2022 - Spring 2023
Relevant Coursework: Econometrics (Ph.D.),
Advanced Methods for Empirical Microeconomics (Ph.D.), Economic Applications of Machine Learning
Cumulative GPA: 3.91

B.A. Economics (Honours) – McGill University     Fall 2019 - Spring 2022
With a Minor Concentration in Mathematics
Graduating Honours: Dean's Honour List, First Class Honours
Cumulative GPA: 3.96

**Research Experience**

Pre-Doctoral Fellow – University of Toronto     Summer 2023 - Fall 2025
Worked with Professors Eva Vivalt and Stefano DellaVigna (UC Berkeley) as a member of the Social Science Prediction Platform (SSPP) team, facilitating the adoption of the platform by aiding project teams in designing forecast-eliciting surveys, maintaining platform growth and usage statistics for funding applications, gleaning results from various research papers, and conducting meta-analyses on the behavioral patterns in forecasting and the determinants of forecast accuracy. Also contributed to other research projects, including studying the causal effects of guaranteed-income policies, and modeling correlated policy diffusion for understanding spatially correlated standard errors.

Research Assistant – University of Toronto     Summer 2023
Worked with Professor Jiaying Gu on several research projects centered around the implementation of econometric screening and selection techniques for instruments, running simulations, and applying the theoretical methods in an empirical context of the returns to education.

**Teaching Experience**

Teaching Assistant – University of Toronto     Fall 2022 - Spring 2023
ECO375 - Applied Econometrics I
Holding coding tutorials and office hours, grading problem sets and research papers, and all other teaching assistant duties for Professors Eduardo Souza-Rodrigues and Jiaying Gu.

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| **Research Contributions** | "Forecasting Social Science: Evidence from 100 Projects" (DellaVigna & Vivalt, 2025), *NBER Working Paper*<br>*Source Material* |
| | "Using Multiple Outcomes to Adjust Standard Errors for Spatial Correlation" (DellaVigna et al., 2025), *NBER Working Paper*<br>*Source Material* |
| | "The Employment Effects of a Guaranteed Income: Experimental Evidence from Two U.S. States" (Vivalt et al., 2025), *Quarterly Journal of Economics (Forthcoming)*<br>*Source Material* |
| **Group Projects** | The Econometrics Game – VSAE, University of Amsterdam          Spring 2023<br>*Source Material (Upon Request)*<br>     Selected to represent the University of Toronto at a three-day case study competition held at the University of Amsterdam. Used various machine learning techniques to analyze spatial inequality data and trends over time. |
| | The Governor's Challenge – Bank of Canada (Virtual)          Fall 2021<br>*Source Material*<br>     Selected to represent McGill University. Presented forecasts of the economic outlook of Canada with emphasis on economic growth and inflation, gathering macroeconomic data, and estimating benchmark time series models such as VARX and ARDL. Supervised by Professors Francisco Alvarez-Cuadrado and John W. Galbraith. |
| **Presentations** | The Social Science Prediction Platform – J-PAL (Virtual)          Spring 2024<br>     Introducing the Social Science Prediction Platform and the value of forecasting academic results with an online demonstration at a session hosted by the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab. With Professors Eva Vivalt and Stefano DellaVigna. |
| **Awards and Fellowships** | Allen Oliver Fellowship – McGill University ($3,000)          Spring 2022<br>     Awarded to the student who stands highest in first class honours in the Department of Economics at the final B.A. examination. |
| | James McGill Entrance Scholarship – McGill University ($3,000)     Fall 2019 |
| **Technical Skills and Software** | Advanced: R, RMarkdown, Stata, Qualtrics, LaTeX<br>Intermediate: Python, MATLAB, QGIS<br>Beginner: SQL, Mathematica, Julia, Tableau |
| **Languages** | English (Fluent), Arabic (Native), French (Intermediate) |

Last updated: February 1, 2026