

Marcela Aguilar

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Business, Accounting

Rice University
Ph.D. candidate

Aug, 2021- Present
Houston, TX
Advisor: Dr. K. Ramesh

Master of Science in Economics and Public Policy

University of York
Graduated with distinction

Sep, 2017- Sep, 2018
York, England

Thesis: El Salvador: Fiscal impact of aging population and their health demands 2010-2050

Bachelor in Economics

Universidad Centroamericana José Simeón Cañas
Graduated with distinction

Feb, 2011-Nov, 2016
La Libertad - El Salvador

Thesis: Education and Demographic Dividend: A Window of Opportunity for the Development of El Salvador

Completed 40% of coursework for Bachelor in Mathematics

National University of El Salvador

Feb, 2013-Nov, 2016
San Salvador - El Salvador

WORKING PAPER

- Aguilar, M., Lind, G. and Ramesh, K. (2024). The Role of Accounting in Microenterprises.

PRIOR NON-ACADEMIC RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

- Chavez, C., Aguilar, M. (2021) [The Impact of Community Violence on Educational Outcomes: A review of the literature.](#)
- ILO (2020) [Analysis of the Potential Impact on the Salvadoran Youth Labor Market Resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (research coordinator).
- ILO (2020) [Survey of Micro-Businesses in the Informal Economy in the Northern Countries of Central America](#) (primary researcher).
- ILO (2020) [Diagnostic of the Informal Economy](#) (primary researcher).
- ILO (2018) [New forms of child labor](#) (primary researcher).

PRESENTATIONS

- Discussant at the FARS conference (2024)
- Understanding the Informal Economy Forum, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (2024)
- Global Knowledge Sharing Forum on Informal Economy, Turin, Italy (2019)
- Global Youth Employment Forum (informal economy), Abuja, Nigeria (2019)

CONFERENCE AND EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

- Survey Design Experimental Methods Workshop, Michigan State University (2024)
- Lone Star Accounting Conference (2024)
- Financial Accounting and Reporting Section (FARS), Phoenix (2023) and Denver (2024)
- American Accounting Association (AAA), Denver (2023)
- Machine Learning Boot Camp, Rice University (2023)
- Machine Learning and Causal Inference, Mixtape Sessions (2023, online)
- Accounting Theory Summer School, Duke University (2022)

- Academy on the transition to formal economy. International Labour Organization, Turin, Italy (2018)
- Course in Quantitative Methods, STATA and Matlab. Alberto Hurtado University, Chile (2017)
- Diploma in constitutional law. Universidad Centroamericana "José Simeón Cañas", El Salvador (2016)
- Diploma in National Employment Policy. International Labour Organization, Turin, Italy (2015)

HONORS

AAA Midyear Meeting Outstanding Discussant Award	2024
Deloitte Foundation Doctoral Fellow	2024
York Award Gold by the University of York	2018
Chevening Program Scholar by the British Government	2017
Mentor for young women in vulnerable situations, ESEN, El Salvador	2017
Central American Women Chess Champion	2011
National Women Chess Champion of El Salvador	2010
Member of the National Women Chess Team of El Salvador	2009-2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Rice University	Summer 2024
Financial Accounting - BUSI 305 (a required junior-level course for business majors and minors)	

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Regional Project Manager	May, 2019 – May, 2021
International Labour Organization, ILO	Costa Rica, San José (remotely)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · ILO representative at the UN Country Team (UNCT) at El Salvador · Coordinate research about informal economy in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras · Design a survey for microenterprises and a strategy for the transition to formal economy 	
Informal Economy Consultant	Jan, 2019 – Apr, 2019
International Labour Organization, ILO	Costa Rica, San José (remotely)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Research about the main causes of informal economy, including qualitative and quantitative analysis for Central America 	
Research Assistant	Nov, 2018 – May, 2019
United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, UNICEF	Florence, Italy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Research about the impacts of violence on educational outcomes for school-aged children in Latin American countries 	
Internship in the Sustainable Development Department	Sep, 2018 – Nov, 2018
International Labour Organization, ILO	Turin, Italy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Prepare and promote course materials on procurement management in the public sector · Undertake research on sustainable procurement 	
Child Labour Consultant	Ago, 2017 – Dic, 2017
International Labour Organization, ILO	Costa Rica, San José (remotely)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Research on new child labour models in the context of gangs in El Salvador 	
Analyst of Economic and Social Affairs	Jul, 2015 – Jul, 2017
National Association of Private Enterprise, ANEP	San Salvador, El Salvador
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Analyze global and national policy choices, and assess their impact on the performance of the private sector. · Establish and maintain relationships with governments, civil society members, and international organizations. 	
Assistant Economic Affairs and Project Coordinator	Feb, 2015 – Jul, 2015
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of El Salvador	San Salvador, El Salvador

LANGUAGES SKILLS

- Spanish (native), English (advanced), Italian (basic)