Marcela Aguilar

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Business, Accounting   Aug, 2021- Present
Rice University   Houston, TX
Ph.D. candidate   *Advisor: Dr. K. Ramesh*

Master of Science in Economics and Public Policy   Sep, 2017- Sep, 2018
University of York   York, England
Graduated with distinction
Thesis: El Salvador: Fiscal impact of aging population and their health demands 2010-2050

Bachelor in Economics   Feb, 2011-Nov, 2016
Universidad Centroamericana José Simeón Cañas   La Libertad - El Salvador
Graduated with distinction
Thesis: Education and Demographic Dividend: A Window of Opportunity for the Development of El Salvador

Completed 40% of coursework for Bachelor in Mathematics   Feb, 2013-Nov, 2016
National University of El Salvador   San Salvador - El Salvador

PRIOR RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

· Aguilar, M., Lind, G. and Ramesh, K. (research in progress). Role of accounting in the informal economy.

PRIOR RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

· Chavez, C., Aguilar, M. (2021) [The Impact of Community Violence on Educational Outcomes: A review of the literature.](#)

· ILO (2019) [New forms of child labor](#) (primary researcher).

· ILO (2020) [Diagnosis of the Informal Economy: Emphasis on the Trade Sector in the Northern Countries of Central America: El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala](#) (primary researcher).

· ILO (2020) [Survey of Micro-Businesses in the Informal Economy in the Northern Countries of Central America](#) (primary researcher).

CONFERENCES AND EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

· Lone Star Accounting Conference (2024)
· Financial Accounting and Reporting Section (FARS), Denver (2023, 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)

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)

EXPERIENCE

Regional Project Manager   May, 2019 – May, 2021
International Labour Organization, ILO   Costa Rica, San José (remotely)
· ILO representative at the UN Country Team (UNCT) at El Salvador
· Coordinate research about informal economy in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras
· Coordinate a National Employment Policy at El Salvador
· 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)
· 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
· 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
· 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)
· 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
· 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

HONORS

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

LANGUAGES SKILLS

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