

# Merykokeb Belay

[mb2478@georgetown.edu](mailto:mb2478@georgetown.edu) • <https://mkkbelay.github.io> • [linkedin.com/in/merykokeb-belay](https://www.linkedin.com/in/merykokeb-belay)

## EDUCATION

---

**Georgetown University, McCourt School of Public Policy**

*Washington, DC*

*M.S. Data Science for Public Policy*

*2020 - 2022*

- **Relevant Coursework:** Data Mining; A/B Testing; Applied Statistical Learning and Modeling; Time Series Forecasting; Relational Database Systems and SQL; Data Structures and Algorithms; Data Visualization

**Manchester University, Department of Biology**

*North Manchester, IN*

*B.S. Biology*

*2013 - 2017*

## PROJECTS

---

- **Sentiment Analysis of Yelp Star Ratings**: employed natural language processing techniques to estimate the sentiment of Yelp reviews.
- **Estimating the Causal Effect of Political Party on Ideology**: used a regression discontinuity design to explain congressional ideology as a function of political party.
- **Predicting Access to Healthful Food Retailers**: trained supervised machine learning models to classify U.S. census tracts into one of three food accessibility categories.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

---

**Amida Technology Solutions**

June 2021 - August 2021

*Data Science Intern*

*Washington, DC*

- Researched and built an ETL pipeline using Python and MongoDB to support a team of engineers building a healthcare quality forecasting application for hospitals
- Collaborated with data scientists, engineers, and product managers to prototype a time series forecasting model; created APIs to integrate the analytics pipeline into an existing microservice architecture
- Prepared a company-wide presentation to share best practices for preparing data for traditional and automatic time series forecasting tasks

**Georgetown University**

January 2021 - June 2021

*Research Assistant*

*Washington, DC*

- Led data collection and analysis efforts for two economics research projects on housing prices and welfare benefits
- Conducted data cleaning, exploratory data analysis, and geospatial analysis in Python and R, linking publicly available datasets to census data on socioeconomic and income indicators

**American Institutes for Research**

July 2018 - June 2020

*Analytics/Research Assistant*

*Washington, DC*

- Provided analytics support for social science research projects: created data ingestion, cleaning, and reporting processes using R and Stata
- Partnered with a cross-functional team to conduct statistical modeling and translate technical output into non-technical recommendations and insights
- Participated on business development projects: supported bidding efforts by managing subcontractors

## SKILLS

---

**Programming/Analytics:** Python, R, Stata, MySQL, MongoDB

**Statistics and Machine Learning:** Causal inference, hypothesis testing, experimental and quasi-experimental research designs, supervised and unsupervised machine learning, time series forecasting

**Data Visualization:** Tableau, ggplot, streamlit, RShiny