Reyhan Ayas

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EDUCATION

Princeton University   Princeton, NJ
Doctor of Philosophy in Economics   *Aug. 2015 – May 2021*
Master of Arts in Economics   *Aug. 2015 – May 2017*

London School of Economics and Political Science   London, UK
Master of Science in Economics   *Aug. 2014 – July 2015*

Sabanci University   Istanbul, Turkey
Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Minor in Mathematics, Valedictorian   *Sep. 2010 – June 2014*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Researcher   June 2017 – Present
Princeton University   *Princeton, NJ*

- *Validity and Diversity Implications of GRE-Optional Policies in Graduate School Admissions (Job Market Paper):* Analyzed a large dataset of graduate school applicants using econometric models to quantify the impacts of standardized testing on the long-term success of PhD students and diversity in admitted graduate school cohorts to make policy recommendations
- *Statistical Discrimination:* Formulated a model of economic theory to analyze the impacts of using race and gender information in a general setting of selection under imperfect information, applicable to school admissions, job recruitment or bail decisions. Measured predictive and fairness implications of including demographic variables in algorithmic and human decision-making, employing causal inference and machine learning tools
- *Faculty Meeting vs the Machine:* Developed machine learning algorithms, including lasso and classifiers, that predict admission decisions for applicants with the goal of supporting or supplanting admission committees when selecting candidates for graduate school and addressing questions of efficiency and equity in an analytical manner
- *Women in Politics:* Built a dataset of women elected for state legislatures in United States, conducted a regression discontinuity design analysis on the impact of women taking office on political contributions and engagement of their constituencies
- Presented findings at departmental seminars and other institutions, to audiences of up to 50 participants

Undergraduate Research Assistant   June 2012 – June 2014
Sabanci University   *Istanbul, Turkey*

- Led a project that investigates living arrangements of working age population and its economic consequences
- Constructed and analyzed a dataset of educational outcomes in conflict-impacted regions in Turkey

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNICATION EXPERIENCE

Assistant in Instruction   Sep. 2017 – Present
Princeton University   *Princeton, NJ*

- Developed materials aligned with learning outcomes, taught and facilitated discussion sections for undergraduates, advised students in their undergraduate research in class sizes ranging from 10 to 70 students.
- Courses instructed: *Economics of Gender, Public Economics, Economics of Development, Junior Independent Work, Econometric Applications, Law and Economics*

Ethics of Artificial Intelligence Learning Cohort   Sep. 2019 – Dec. 2019
Princeton University   *Princeton, NJ*

- Outlined an op-ed on the fairness implications on AI-based screening practices
- Participated in weekly discussions on AI policy-making and ethics in an interdisciplinary environment

President and Class Representative, Graduate Economics Council   Sep. 2015 – Sep. 2019
Princeton University   *Princeton, NJ*

- Led an initiative addressing graduate student mental health via interdepartmental collaboration
- Authored and circulated well-being guides to advocate for a more inclusive environment, especially for women and BIPOC, acting as a liaison between graduate students and faculty members

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Computer: Stata, Python (Pandas, NumPy, SciKit-Learn, Matplotlib, sfi), R, Matlab, Java, LaTeX
Language: Turkish (Native), French (Advanced)
Interests: Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT-200), Writes & performs stand-up comedy