

Utkarsh Dandanayak

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EDUCATION

The University of Chicago

B.A. Economics (with Specialization in Data Science)

Sept. 2021 – Jun. 2025

M.A. MAPSS-Economics (4-year BA/MA program)

Sept. 2024 – Jun. 2025

Courses: Honors Economic Analysis I-III, Honors Econometrics I-II, Machine Learning for Economists

GPA: 3.94/4.00 | **Honors:** Dean's List 2021-22, 2023-24, Robert Maynard Hutchins Scholar, Gary Becker Scholar

SKILLS

Languages & Statistical Packages: Python, R, MATLAB, Stata, L^AT_EX

Software: Git/GitHub, VS Code, PyCharm, Google Colab, Overleaf

EXPERIENCE

World Bank | *R, Stata*

Chicago, USA

Research Assistant

Aug. 2024 – Present

- Currently conducting data cleaning tasks for a project on Labor Market Information Systems in South America.

Analysis Group | *R, Python, Excel*

Chicago, USA

Summer Analyst Intern

Jun. 2024 – Aug. 2024

- Assisted with economic data analysis and qualitative research tasks in a litigation context.
- Produced figures and exhibits using Excel and Python. Created summary reports and presented research findings to case managers.

Development Innovation Lab | *R, Git*

Chicago, USA

Research Assistant

Oct. 2023 – Jun. 2024, Aug. 2024 – Sept. 2024

- Assisted with production of replication packages for the Statistics team at DIL.
- Produced figures and analyzed school-level panel data for a project on the economic impact of US school closures.

The Normal Lab | *Python, Stata, Git*

Chicago, USA

Research Assistant

Oct. 2023 – May 2024

- Conducted coding tasks for research projects led by Professor Leonardo Bursztyn.
- Supported development of Python code to digitize screenshots containing app usage data using PyTesseract.
- Helped to clean scraped data and implement/evaluate fuzzy merge procedure in Stata.

Becker Friedman Institute for Economics | *Python, Stata, APIs (Scopus, OSRM), Overleaf, R*

Chicago, USA

Research Assistant, Professor John List

Oct. 2022 – Jul. 2023, Sept. 2023 – May 2024

- Completed data analysis tasks and literature reviews for research projects led by Professor John List.
- Assisted with data cleaning, web scraping, and econometric simulations using Stata and R.
- Analyzed spatial data in R to calculate optimal travel distances between conflict zones and forests across Africa.

LEADERSHIP

Charles River Economics Labs | *R, Git, Python, Google Colab*

Chicago, USA

Research Analyst, Board Member, and Project Lead

Sept. 2023 – Present

- Managed a team of 5 undergraduate economists to produce pro bono empirical research for government organizations and think tanks.
- Led project with the World Bank to develop a data-driven skills taxonomy using several million online job postings from South America.
- Collaborated with U.S. Census Bureau to build new dataset of cannabis businesses, and to examine economic impact of cannabis legalization in various states. Responsible for scraping public business-level data with Python.

UChicago International Development Society (IDS)

Chicago, USA

Senior Cohort Leader and Board Member

Mar. 2022 – Mar. 2024

- Selected to participate in 10-week learning program on major topics/research methods in development.
- Designed and presented a workshop on Education and RCTs to over 30 students in 2023 IDS cohort.