

Maiwand Nangyal

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Citizenship: British

EDUCATION

- University of Oxford** Oxfordshire, UK
*DPhil in **Economics**; with full scholarship.* 10/2024 - 12/2027
- University of Oxford** Oxfordshire, UK
*MSc in **Economic & Social History**; with full scholarship.* 10/2023 - 08/2024
- University of Cambridge** Cambridgeshire, UK
*MPhil in **Economics**; with full scholarship.* 09/2020 - 08/2021
- University of Exeter** Devon, UK
*BSc (Hons) in **Economics**; with 18/20 “Firsts”; 3/3 annual commendations.* 09/2016 - 06/2019

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: Development Economics, Economic History, Political Economy.
Secondary: Applied Econometrics, Machine Learning.

SKILLS SUMMARY

Languages: English (native), Pashto (native), Dari, Urdu and Hindi.
Methods: Econometrics, Impact Evaluations/Measurement, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Agent-based Dynamic Microsimulation Modelling.
Programming: Stata, R, Python, Julia, SAS (E-Guide, Studio, E-Miner), SQL, Java.
Modelling, Visualisation & Tools: AnyLogic, QGIS, Mathematica, Excel, Word and PowerPoint.
Documentation: LaTeX, Overleaf and R Markdown.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

- The Game of Thorns: Opium Cultivation and Conflict in Afghanistan, 1994-2021.**

TEACHING AND MENTORING

- University of Oxford** Oxford, UK
Graduate Teaching Assistantship 01/2026 - **Present**
 - Economics for Economic Historians** 01/2026 - 03/2026
Teaching microeconomics, macroeconomics, and applied econometrics to Oxford MSc/MPhil students in Economic and Social History.
Hilary Term 2026 Feedback: Course: **4.55 / 5** (n = 33); Teaching: **4.45 / 5** (n = 33).
- RISE Research** Remote (Part-time)
Research Mentor 11/2025 - **Present**
 - Supervising students across India, the UAE, and the US on original economics research projects, guiding them from research design to publication-ready papers.

EXPERIENCE

- **World Bank Group (IBRD)** Remote
Outcomes Measurement Unit, Department for Outcomes **02/2026 - 05/2026**
 - ESRC-funded placement with World Bank Group and University of Geneva researchers contributing to research on the \$4 trillion sustainable development financing gap, gaining exposure to benchmarking and developing standardised impact measurement frameworks aligned with UN Sustainable Development Goals and evaluating metrics against pre-defined performance criteria.
 - Systematically compiled a corpus of academic papers across leading economics and finance journals using targeted climate-relevant JEL codes, combining direct journal filtering with structured EconLit searches; forming a reusable climate finance literature database.
 - Collected climate impact metrics from practitioner reports across DFI and asset manager signatories; developed a Python script to automate report downloading at scale and prepared a taxonomy document with per-signatory commentary and aggregate coverage analysis.

- **Data for Afghanistan** Remote (Part-time)
Director of Research **02/2025 - Present**
 - Collaborating with [Dr Ahmad Zia Wahdat](#) to compile comprehensive datasets and visualisations on Afghanistan - one of the world's most data-scarce, conflict-affected, and impoverished countries - for empirical research ([URL](#)).

- **UK Civil Service - Department for Work and Pensions** London, UK
Fast Stream Economist Post-DTA (SEO-equivalent) **09/2021 - 09/2023**
 - Selected for the flagship UK Civil Service Fast Stream graduate scheme from 56,667 applicants in 2019-20 (overall 2019-20 offer rate: 2.3%; Economics stream offer rate: 14.9%; [source](#)).
 - **Post 1: Contract Management & Partner Delivery Division (Finance Group)**
 - * Led two employment programme impact evaluations worth £1 billion using Propensity Score Matching on HMRC/DWP microdata, line managing a Statistician, with results informing ministerial policy decisions.
 - * Conducted real-time analyses using SAS and SQL, delivering accurate responses to ministerial briefings, Freedom of Information requests, and Parliamentary Questions under tight deadlines.
 - **Post 2: Working Age Modelling and Forecasting Division (Policy Group)**
 - * Contributed to the development, validation and successful launch of a department-critical agent-based dynamic microsimulation model in AnyLogic/Java covering ≈6 million Universal Credit claimants using billions of observations, integrating machine learning-derived model inputs and securing stakeholder approval for outputs.
 - * Applied advanced SAS programming (Enterprise Miner & Studio) to merge DWP datasets, optimising complex variable interactions and achieving significant runtime efficiency.
 - **Grade Manager for DWP Economist Placement Students (08/2022 - 09/2023)**
 - * As one of three Grade Managers, led end-to-end recruitment and assessment of placement economists across the Government Economic Service, coordinating with Chief Economists and HR whilst overseeing sifting, logistics, and assessment moderation.
 - * Provided pastoral and professional support to placement economists, coaching them through technical assessments and mock interviews in economic theory, introducing structured exit surveys, and adapting communication to diverse audiences, from senior leadership to volunteers and across technical and non-technical colleagues.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Oxford Political Economy Workshop, Manor Road Building (06/2026):** Presented 'The Game of Thorns: Opium Cultivation and Conflict in Afghanistan, 1994–2021'; audience included Dr Eric Chaney and Professor Jean-Paul Carvalho (Associate Editor, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*).
- **Oxford Graduate Seminar in Economic and Social History [[agenda](#)], Nuffield College (11/2025):** Presented DPhil Chapter 1 research; received feedback from faculty and graduate students.
- **32nd Annual Graduate Workshop [[agenda](#)], Nuffield College (04/2024):** Presented MSc dissertation research; audience included Professors Sheilagh Ogilvie and Joel Mokyr (joint 2025 Nobel laureate in Economics) and incorporated their feedback into the final dissertation.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

• Professional Development

upReach

10/2016 - 03/2020

- Selected for the upReach professional development programme; Gold Award recipient.

• Professional & Academic Memberships

Academic (Oxbridge) (*lifelong memberships upon matriculation; dates reflect period of study*)

- Wolfson College, University of Oxford **10/2024 - Present**
- Hertford College, University of Oxford **10/2023 - 08/2024**
- St Edmund's College, University of Cambridge **09/2020 - 08/2021**

Academic

- Royal Economic Society **02/2026 - Present**
- Economic History Society **09/2025 - Present**

Professional

- Society for Professional Economists **08/2022 - 08/2025**
- Government Economic Service **09/2021 - 09/2024**
- Civil Service Fast Stream **09/2021 - 09/2024**
- HM Civil Service **09/2021 - 09/2024**

• Library Readerships

- Library Reader, All Souls College, University of Oxford **10/2023 - Present**

• Research Groups & Seminars

University of Oxford

10/2023 - Present

- Oxford Centre for Economic & Social History
- Oxford Centre for the Study of African Economies
- Oxford Department of Economics Political Economy Research Group
- Oxford Centre for Global History
- St Antony's Asian Studies Centre
- Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies
- Oxford Dept. of Economics Machine Learning & Economics Reading Group

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

**Indicates presentation*

- 2026:** Oxford Political Economy Workshop (06/2026), Oxford, UK*.
Associate Fellowship of the HEA (AFHEA) Workshop 1, Oxford, UK.
SENSS Specialist Training: Introduction to Computational Methods and Simulations, Remote.
- 2025:** OWL (Oxford-Warwick-LSE) Annual Workshop, Oxford, UK.
ESRC Grand Union DTP Annual Conference, Oxford, UK.
Oxford Economic & Social History Graduate Seminar (11/2025), Oxford, UK*.
Oxford Department of Economics Political Economy Seminar, Oxford, UK.
CSAE Lunchtime Seminar, Oxford, UK.
- 2024:** 32nd Annual Graduate Workshop (04/2024), Oxford, UK*.
Oxford Economic & Social History Graduate Seminar, Oxford, UK.
Oxford Department of Economics Political Economy Seminar, Oxford, UK.
CSAE Lunchtime Seminar, Oxford, UK.
- 2023:** DWP Work, Pensions & Labour Economics Study Group Conference, Sheffield, UK.
Oxford Economic & Social History Graduate Seminar, Oxford, UK.
- 2022:** Government Economic Service Annual Conference, London, UK.
Fast Stream Conference, Westminster, London, UK.
- 2021:** Bristol Festival of Economics, Bristol, UK.

REFERENCES

References available upon request; I kindly ask that you contact my referees only with my prior agreement.

Professor Stephen Broadberry
Department of Economics
University of Oxford
Profile: [View Profile](#)
Email: [Contact](#)

Dr Eric Chaney
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University of Oxford
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Professor Sriya Iyer
Faculty of Economics
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