

Ryan Giordano

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Education:

London School of Economics (two year program)

2006-present

Expected graduation: July 2008

MSc in Econometrics

Coursework includes econometric theory, mathematical economics, probability and statistical inference, computational learning theory, discrete math and complexity.

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

1997-2002

BS Engineering Mechanics *cum laude*, BS Mathematics, GPA 3.62

Coursework included mathematical statistics, real and complex analysis, partial differential equations, computational methods in mechanics, continuum mechanics, intermediate dynamics, linear and abstract algebra, differential geometry, and Russian.

GRE General Scores (August 2005): Math: 800/800, Verbal: 720/800, Analytical Writing: 5/6

Academic Awards / Honors

- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention (2006)
- Theoretical and Applied Mechanics Merit Award (given by the Engineering Mechanics department of UIUC to one student, undergraduate or graduate, per year) (2002)
- Undergraduate Mechanics Research Conference - best project, best presentation (2002)
- Fred B. Seely, George M. Sinclair, and Marvin Stippes Scholarships (each given by the Engineering Mechanics department of UIUC to one undergraduate per year) (1998-2001)
- Engineering Open House Presentation - First place (2002)
- University of Illinois Campus Honors Scholar (1998-2002)

Foreign Languages

Russian –Fluent (Advanced-High in Peace Corps aptitude test)

Kazakh – Conversationally Fluent (Advanced-Mid in Peace Corps aptitude test)

Mandarin Chinese – Beginner

Work Experience:

United States Peace Corps, Kokshetau, Kazakhstan

June 2004 – June 2006

Education Volunteer,

- Designed and executed an experimental program to teach math in English in secondary schools. Created a curriculum, wrote and published a textbook, and taught the program to four groups of seventh and eighth graders.
- Created an inexpensive internet café for students and teachers out of underutilized computers in a local NGO. Taught classes in internet research and Microsoft Office to local educators and students.
- Coordinated the National Association of Teachers of English in Kazakhstan (NATEK) annual conference in Kokshetau, which attracted almost 200 participants from Kazakhstan, the US, and other Central Asian countries. The conference comprised over fifty seminars and workshops over three days. I was responsible for all facilities, including the schedule of events, participant registration, tourist activities, and computer facilities.
- Transformed, with local support, a grant-dependent NGO English language resource center into a self-sustaining, profitable enterprise by working with the local Kazakh NGO leader to develop and implement a business model based around providing private English tuition. Created a computer system for member, book, and budget management, and worked with the local NGO members to implement it.
- Selected by the Kazakhstan country director as a representative Peace Corps "Success Story" for a congressional report.

- Executed a pilot program of a new kind of holistic personal printer test, which included creating a new style of database, script generation programs, failure-reporting, and radically new operating procedures.
- Expanded the aforementioned pilot program into a large-scale division-wide standard. Under my leadership, the test went from a two-week pilot for a single printer model, employing five people and with a capacity for testing four printers, to a large-scale test for all different styles of printers, with a capacity for testing over twenty printers and employing thirty people. The test as I implemented it continues to be one of a handful of exit criteria for product release in the LaserJet division.
- Designed and implemented all aspects of routine test plans including procedures, personnel, database management, and facilities simultaneously for numerous projects in a very time-sensitive business environment.
- Reported test results to all levels of the organization and provided engineers with triage and detailed failure-mechanism information.
- Managed the pilot project for the organization's migration from a MS Access-based platform to an Oracle-based platform.
- Migrated MS-Access based reporting code to PL/SQL.
- Wrote programs to automate test script generation.
- Created MS Excel macros to interface dynamically with our database to empower design engineers to access data directly over the intranet.

Computational Fluid Mechanics Research Assistant,
University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois

Oct 2001 – August 2002

- Wrote a computer program to generate the correlations between velocity components of isotropic, homogeneous turbulence predicted by the EDQNM (eddy-damped quasi-normal Markovian) model of energy transfer across scales. These correlations were of interest for generating theoretical inputs for Prof. Robert Moser's optimal LES (large eddy simulation) models of isotropic turbulence.
- Presented the results of my research at the Undergraduate Mechanics Research Conference at the University of Illinois, winning the awards both for best project and best presentation.

Modal Analysis Group Engineering Intern,
Pratt and Whitney, Hartford, Connecticut

Jan 2000 – Sept 2000

- Executed and reported the results of modal analysis tests on jet engine components.
- Improved and documented operating procedures, including writing a program to standardize the design of broach blocks for turbine blade testing, and learning and documenting for the department a new, more sophisticated type of modal analysis software.

Selected Extracurricular Experience:

- President of the Engineering Mechanics student society (UIUC)
- Assistant Director / Actor in the UIUC Penny Dreadful Players Student Theater Association (UIUC)
- Black belt and club president in Kuk Sool Won (traditional Korean martial arts) at UIUC. Instructor and club founder in Boise, Id.
- Volunteer at the Crisis Nursery and Women's and Children's Alliance (UIUC and Boise, Id.)
- Member, Yoga Society (LSE)
- Member, Development Society (LSE)

Computer Skills

- Typing speed: 92 wpm
- Language experience: C, PHP, LaTeX, Visual Basic, SQL, html, Gauss, and more.
- Able to learn new programming languages quickly and independently.
- Advanced user of the Microsoft Office Suite, particularly Excel, Word, and Access
- Comfortable in the Windows, Macintosh, and Linux operating systems

References available upon request