

Akshat Kumar

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Education

Bachelor of Arts, Honours in Economics Sept 2022 – May 2026

Vancouver School of Economics (VSE), University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, Canada

- Grade: 88.9 % - Dean's List 2023
- Relevant Coursework: Advanced Econometrics, Methods of Empirical Research, Computational Macroeconomics, Calculus (I-III), Mathematical Proofs, Linear Algebra, Probability Theory, Number Theory, International Trade, Game Theory, Investment Theory, Honours Intermediate Microeconomics and Macroeconomics II
- Awards: Faculty of Arts International Student Scholarship x 2 (\$20,000), Outstanding International Student Award (\$15,000), and Work Learn International Undergraduate Research Award (\$8,700)

Work Experience

Research Assistant - *Vancouver School of Economics* - Vancouver, Canada May 2024 – Present

- Assisting Dr. Réka Juhász on projects for the **Industrial Policy Group**
- Building a pipeline to digitize historical US government documents using a variety of Optical Character Recognition (OCR), Machine Learning (ML), and Large Language Model (LLM) tools
- Conducted primary data collection on technical knowledge via web scraping of online libraries
- Performed large-scale trade data cleaning (UN COMTRADE and historical), processing, and mapping tasks in STATA and Python
- Conducted literature review on Industrial Policy in East Asia

Peer Academic Tutor - *Vancouver School of Economics* - Vancouver, Canada Sept 2024 - Present

- Provided academic support and tutoring in Economics and Mathematics courses to undergraduate economics students in the Bachelor of International Economics (BIE) program
- Organized review sessions for first-year calculus courses

Orientation Leader - *University of British Columbia* - Vancouver, Canada Aug 2024 - Sept 2024

- Led a cohort of 20+ first-year BIE students through a week of orientation activities
- Introduced a new cohort of students to academic life at the Vancouver School of Economics and UBC

Volunteer Experience

Co-Editor-in-Chief - *IONA Journal of Economics* - Vancouver, Canada June 2025 – Present

- The **IONA Journal** is a student-led annual publication that highlights undergraduate research in economics at UBC. Papers are published after 5+ rounds of double-blind review and feedback from faculty at the VSE
- Leading a team of 60+ undergraduate students

Senior Editor - *IONA Journal of Economics* - Vancouver, Canada Sept 2024 – April 2025

- Led a team of 3 lower-year undergraduates in reviewing 9 papers
- Awarded the Outstanding Senior Editor of Volume X

Vice-President Finance - *UBC Debate Society* - Vancouver, Canada May 2024 – May 2025

- Managed financial operations and budgets of over \$50,000 for the oldest club at UBC
- Responsible for organization of high school debate tournaments that generated \$60,000+ in funding for the club

Additional Information

Technical Skills: STATA, Python, Julia, R, Colab, git, and \LaTeX

Languages: English, Hindi, and French

Interests: Reading, Chess, Biking, Board Games, and Basketball