

Maysam Q. RABBANI

Economist | PhD Candidate

[in](https://www.linkedin.com/in/Rabbani-Maysam) linkedin.com/in/Rabbani-Maysam [+1 \(813\) 585-3341](tel:+18135853341) [@ maysamq@mail.usf.edu](mailto:maysamq@mail.usf.edu)

[📍](#) Department of Economics, U of South Florida: 4202 E. Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL 33620, USA

EDUCATION

PH.D. ECONOMICS

EXPECTED MAY 2020

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA
Dissertation: essays in the industrial organization of healthcare market

Advisor: Dr. Gabriel Picone

M.A. ECONOMICS

2016

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA

M.Sc. ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

2014

University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran
Thesis: performance assessment of marketable pollution permits in developing countries

Advisor: Dr. Gholamali Sharzei

B.Sc. INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

2011

Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran, Iran

INTERESTS

Industrial organization, health economics, behavioral economics

WORKING PAPERS

- [1] “Non-Profit Hospital Mergers: The Effect on Healthcare Costs and Utilization” (**job market paper**)
- [2] “Should the Federal Trade Commission Deny Mergers with Future Rivals?”
- [3] “The Effect of the Value-Modifiers Program on Medicare Costs and Quality of Care: Evidence from New York”

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2019 Vernon Grigg Scholarship for academic achievement and leadership skills
- 2018 Babakhani Scholarship of Graduate Studies for academic excellence
- 2015 Ranked 1st among 2463 participants in the Iranian nationwide Ph.D. entrance exam
- 2012-15 Full tuition waiver fellowship for graduate studies
- 2011 Top 0.5% in the Iranian nationwide graduate studies entrance exam
- 2005-11 Full tuition waiver fellowship for undergraduate studies
- 2005 Top 1% in the Iranian nationwide undergraduate studies entrance exam

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2019-current | **Adjunct lecturer, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA**

Instructor of record for two classes

macroeconomics (2)

2017-19 | **Instructor, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA**

Instructor of record for five classes

macroeconomics (3) microeconomics (2)

- 2015-17 | **Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA**
Teaching assistant for professors Philip Porter, Michael Loewy, and Joshua Wilde
intermediate macroeconomics intermediate price theory
- 2005-19 | **Tutoring**
Listed from the most recent to the least
econometrics game theory statistics probabilities calculus optimization linear programming
- 2005-19 | **Software tutoring**
Listed from the most recent to the least
Stata Excel Matlab C++ Visual Basic VBA

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2017-18 | **Treasurer, Iranian Students Association at USF, Tampa, FL, USA**
 - > I streamlined financial procedures for purchase requests and item procurement.
 - > I was the first person to bring external funds to the association. I bargained and secured \$7,000 to cover event costs.
 - > I documented my fundraising experience into a short training video to pass it to future treasurers. Then I served as their consultant during 2019 and 2020.
budget management procurement fundraising documentation financial reports legal/financial compliance
- 2011-13 | **Financial Analyst, Amin Corporation, Tehran, Iran**
I had two main responsibilities:
 - > Cost-benefit analysis for IT projects.
 - > Conceptual design and development of an IT appraisal software that facilitated investment decision making for the top management.
cost-benefit analysis feasibility study information technology software design
- 2009-11 | **Economic Analyst, Iranian Housing Company, Tehran, Iran**
In the Strategic Planning Department, I contributed to multiple projects:
 - > housing market forecasts using the hedonic model
 - > cost-benefit analysis of housing investments
 - > company-wide implementation of the balanced scorecard model
 - > implementation of productivity measures in the company
cost-benefit analysis forecasting housing market hedonic model productivity balanced scorecard
- 2006-07 | **Production Engineer, Nuritazeh Corporation, Tehran, Iran**
In the Quality Assurance Department, I have been responsible for the following tasks:
 - > I reported and monitored production quality
 - > I improved productivity by balancing production lines and using motion/time study techniques
 - > I documented production line processes using operation/flow process charts
cost-benefit analysis forecasting housing market hedonic model productivity balanced scorecard

SHORT-TERM PROJECTS

- 2013 | **Farjam Plastic Surgery Clinic, Tehran, Iran:** cost-benefit analysis and feasibility study
- 2012 | Cost-benefit analysis and feasibility study of an RC race field in North-west Tehran, Iran
- 2011 | **Personal project:** I developed an expert stock market investment software that generated 74% profits in less than a year
- 2011 | **Zhik Sushi Bar:** I conducted the feasibility study and developed a menu pricing software to calculate optimum prices as a function of production inputs and demand.
- 2009 | Cost-benefit analysis and feasibility study of corn-plastic cup production, Tehran, Iran

SKILLS

Technical	Econometrics, statistical analysis, big data, machine learning, optimization, financial modeling, cost-benefit analysis, feasibility study
Software	Stata, Python, MATLAB, Excel, SAS, R, SPSS, EViews, C++
Certificates	Machine learning with Python (2019), an IBM course; divide and conquer, sorting, searching, and randomized algorithms (2019), Stanford University ↗ Coursera ; algorithm thinking (2019), Rice University ↗ Coursera ; the data science toolbox (2017), Johns Hopkins University ↗ Coursera ; Advanced stock investing (2014), Iranian Securities and Exchange Organization; Technical and fundamental analysis (2013), Iranian Securities and Exchange Organization; econometrics in MATLAB (2013), University of Tehran; econometrics in EViews (2012), University of Tehran; Complex decision making using Analytical Hierarchy Process (2008), Polytechnic of Tehran
Languages	English (fluent), Persian (native), Arabic (intermediate)

REFERENCES

Prof. Gabriel Picone

Department of economics
CMC 207C, 4202 E. Fowler Ave
Tampa, FL 33620, USA

@ gpicone@usf.edu
☎ +1 (813) 974-6537

Prof. Andrei Barbos

Department of economics
CMC 208F, 4202 E. Fowler Ave
Tampa, FL 33620, USA

@ abarbos@usf.edu
☎ +1 (813) 974-6514

Prof. Padmaja Ayyagari

Department of economics
CMC 208C, 4202 E. Fowler Ave
Tampa, FL 33620, USA

@ padmajaa@usf.edu
☎ +1 (813) 974-6520

ABSTRACTS

Non-Profit Hospital Mergers : The Effect on Healthcare Costs and Utilization

In this study, I use a unique proprietary data set and consider a non-profit hospital merger case to answer multiple questions regarding the impact of market power on healthcare market outcomes. It is the first paper that directly studies the impact of a merger on out-of-pocket (OOP) payments. I find large increases in OOP payments that immediately follow the merger. The merger substantially decreases the utilization of care and creates a potentially large welfare loss. Given the non-profit nature of the merger, the findings show that non-profit hospital mergers may be more harmful than what is often assumed. Merger courts often show more leniency to non-profit cases. The findings cast doubt on the merits of this practice. I also show that the effect of market power on market outcomes is asymmetric: payment increases and welfare losses created by an increase in market power may last even after the market power is gone. It indicates that harmful mergers need to be denied before they go through.

Should the Federal Trade Commission Deny Mergers with Future Rivals?

In this paper, I point to a possible loophole in the approach of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to merger analysis. To decide whether to deny/challenge a merger, the FTC estimates the value of the Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HHI) before and after the merger. Thus, a merger between an incumbent and a future rival may not be denied/challenged by construction. In this paper, I study a pharmaceutical merger between a large incumbent and a strong future rival and I show that shortly after the merger, the incumbent boosts the drug prices. It implies that incumbents — who are not free to take over existing rivals — are free to add to their market dominance indefinitely as long as they scout for and acquire rivals before they enter the market. It leaves a potential loophole in the FTC's approach in merger analysis. In this study, I offer a possible solution to the problem.