

Berkay Saygin

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January 10, 2026

Education

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Ph.D. in Economics	<i>Expected:</i> Jun 2029
M.A. in Economics (<i>en route</i>)	Jun 2024

Columbia University, New York, NY

M.A. in Economics	Dec 2022
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Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey

B.A. in Economics (<i>dual degree</i>)	Jun 2019
B.A. in Management	Jun 2019

Research

Fields: Economic Growth, Entrepreneurship, Spatial Economics

“Turkish Academic Diaspora Report” (2023)

Technical Report with Ufuk Akcigit, Cagatay Koc, Sinan Parmar, Jeremy Pearce, Younghun Shim, Nil Taspinar, and Deniz Tokmakoglu

“Restabilizing Matching Algorithm: Convergence from Non-empty Matching” (2022)

Master’s Thesis, Advisor: Guillaume Haeringer

Research Experience

University of Chicago, Department of Economics, Chicago, IL

Predoctoral Research Fellow for Ufuk Akcigit	Jan 2023 – Aug 2023
Research Assistant for Ufuk Akcigit	May 2022 – Dec 2022

World Bank Group, Washington, DC

Consultant for the 2024 World Development Report	Mar 2023 – Aug 2023
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Columbia University, Department of Economics, New York, NY

Research Assistant for Guillaume Haeringer	Jun 2022 – Aug 2022
Research Assistant for Yeon-Koo Che	May 2022 – Jun 2022

Teaching Experience

Course (Level)	Position	Term
Spatial Economics (Ph.D.)	TA for Esteban Rossi-Hansberg	Winter 2026
Theory of Income I (Ph.D. Core)	TA for Nancy Stokey	Fall 2024
Game Theory (Undergraduate)	TA for Cesar Barilla	Summer 2022
Management Science (Undergraduate)	TA for Mustafa H. Tongarlak	Spring 2018

Other Selected Professional Experience

Google

Product Marketing Manager (Europe Middle East Africa)	Oct 2020 – Aug 2021
Associate Product Marketing Manager (Turkey)	Jan 2019 – Oct 2020
Business Intern (Turkey)	Jan 2018 – Dec 2018

Oliver Wyman

Consulting Intern (Turkey)	Jul 2017 – Sep 2017
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Awards and Honors

Economics of AI Fellowship and Grant (\$10k), Stripe, 2025

Program for Economic Research Fellowship, Columbia University, 2022

High Honors, Bogazici University, 2019

Dean's List, Bogazici University, Every Semester Between 2014–2019

246th Among 1.9m Candidates (0.01%), Turkish National University Entrance Exam, 2013

National Swimmer of Turkey, 2009–2011

Conferences Attended

The Economics of Transformative AI, Stanford Digital Economy Lab, Summer 2025

NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp, 2025

Growth Academy, Global Center for Economic Growth, University of Chicago/World Bank, 2024

Skills

Programming Python, Julia, R, MATLAB, Stata

Languages English, Turkish