2019 PhD Data Scientist Internship - Public Policy, Research & Economics

San Francisco, USA

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https://www.uber.com/en-GB/careers/list/41488/

At Uber, we ignite opportunity by setting the world in motion. We take on big problems to help drivers, riders, delivery partners, and eaters get moving in more than 600 cities around the world.

We welcome people from all backgrounds who seek the opportunity to help build a future where everyone and everything can move independently. If you have the curiosity, passion, and collaborative spirit, work with us, and let’s move the world forward, together.

We’re looking for PhD intern candidates to join the Research and Economics team in Summer 2019 (3 months). We seek candidates with a strong background in economics, transportation research, or other quantitative social sciences. Depending on your background and interests, you could focus your work in one of two areas:

- **Economics:** Conduct research to understand our business and driver-partners in the context of the economies in which Uber operates. For example: We know that the flexible work model is very valuable to Uber drivers (see Chen *et al.*, Angrist *et al.*) and that dynamic pricing is vital in protecting the health and efficiency of the dispatch market (see Castillo *et al.*, “Surge Pricing Solves the Wild Goose Chase”); however, it’s likely that consistency (e.g., of pricing or earnings) also carries some value for riders and drivers. What values should we put on these opposing virtues?

- **Cities and Urban Mobility:** Study Uber's impact on riders and cities around the world with a special focus on different facets of urban mobility. For example: What is the relationship between on-demand transportation and existing public transport systems. Do they complement or compete with each other? Or, does this relationship change depending on external factors? What could these external factors be and how do they change rider behavior?
What You’ll Do

- Conduct rigorous, careful statistical and econometric analysis in support of our research priorities
- Develop assets (maps, visuals etc.) that explain our research for policy and communications needs
- Manage relationships with outside academics and research partners to ensure research collaborations run smoothly
- Communicate cross-functionally to understand the intersection of policy, product, legal, and operations and develop research that informs business or policy decisions
- Present your results internally and externally; in some cases, writing academic papers with great researchers from top universities

What You’ll Need

- PhD student (anticipated graduation in 2020) in Economics, Statistics, Public Policy, or other quantitative social science.
- 2+ years of quantitative research or data science experience
- Strong data skills and the ability to learn to use tools such as SQL, Python, R, and GIS mapping tools to work efficiently at scale
- The capacity to work independently and execute a research plan with minimal oversight
- The ability to organize and synthesize analyses and communicate data insights with clarity
- Enthusiasm for learning and growth

About the Team

The Research and Economics team, led by the Chief Economist, is responsible for addressing the thorny policy and business challenges impacting Uber globally. As a data scientist on this team, you would be expected to bring analytical and empirical rigor to bear on important questions relating to economics, transportation policy, and urban planning.

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