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Curriculum Vitae Fall 2009

TOLGA UMUT KUZUBAS

Personal Data

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Major Fields of Concentration

Labor Economics, Macroeconomics, Financial Economics

Education

<i>Degree</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Year</i>
Ph.D.	Economics	University of Minnesota (expected)	2010
M.A.	Economics	University of Minnesota (expected)	2009
M.A.	Economics	Bogazici University	2005
B.A.	Economics	Bogazici University	2003

Dissertation

Title: "Essays on Social Networks in the Labor Market"

Dissertation Advisor: Professor V. V. Chari

Expected Completion: Summer 2010

References

Professor V. V. Chari	(612) 626-7151 (612) 204-5518 chari@res.mpls.frb.fed.us	Department of Economics University of Minnesota 4-101 Hanson Hall 1925 Fourth Street South Minneapolis, MN 55455
Professor Larry Jones	(612) 624-4553 (612) 204-5519 lej@umn.edu	
Professor José-Víctor Ríos-Rull	(612) 625-0941 vr0j@umn.edu	
Dr. Simran Sahi	(612) 625-6353 ssahi@umn.edu	

Honors and Awards

- Summer 2009 *Distinguished Instructor Award*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Fall 2008 *Distinguished Instructor Award*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Spring 2008 *Distinguished Instructor Award*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Fall 2007 *Distinguished Instructor Award*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Spring 2007 *Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Summer 2006 *Summer Fellowship*, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 1997 - 2001 *Honours List*, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey
- 1997 - 2001 *High Achievement Scholarship*, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey

Teaching Experience

- 2007 - Present *Instructor*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Taught *Principles of Econometrics*, *Intermediate Macroeconomics*, *Introductory Econometrics*, and the Math Refresher course for incoming Ph.D. students.
- 2006 - 2007 *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Led recitation sections for *Principles of Econometrics* and *Introductory Econometrics*
- 2002 – 2005 *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey
Led recitation sections for graduate level Macroeconomics and Econometrics

Research Experience

- 2002 – 2005 *Research Assistant*, Center for Economics and Econometrics, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey. Research Assistant for Professor Refik Erzan.

Papers

- “Endogenous Social Networks in the Labor Market,” work in progress
- “Language as a Network: Evidence from Indonesia,” with Andrea Szabo, work in progress
- “Dynamics of Growth and Unemployment in Turkey,” Bogazici University working paper

Publications

- “Growth and Immigration Scenarios for Turkey and EU,” with Refik Erzan and Nilufer Yildiz, EU-Turkey Working Papers No. 13, December 2004, published in *Turkish Studies*, 2006, Vol. 7.

Presentations

- “Immigration Issues in EU- Turkey Relations: Determinants of Immigration and Integration,” presented at International Conference, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey, 2004.

Computer Skills

Mathematica, Matlab, Stata, Gaus

Languages

Turkish (native), English (fluent), German (fluent)

Dissertation Abstract

I develop an equilibrium model of endogenous network formation. In my model workers differ in their job loss rates and networks enable workers to find jobs more frequently. It is costly for workers to help other members of their network and workers trade off costs against the benefits they will derive from more frequent job offers when they are unemployed. My model is an extension of search and matching model by Pissarides that captures social networks in the matching process and allows for heterogeneity in job loss rates. I analyze survey data from PSID with information on job finding through social networks. Consistent with the data, our model predicts that workers with higher job loss rates are more likely to use their social contacts to find jobs; they have shorter unemployment durations and lower wages. The endogenous framework allows me to analyze how networks are affected by labor market conditions. I show that a more generous unemployment benefit scheme will reduce the use of networks and there is a negative correlation between unemployment rate and the fraction of workers using social contacts to get a job. We also show that social networks exacerbate regional inequalities in the labor market.