

Taline El Najjar

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EDUCATION

University of California, Irvine – School of Social Sciences

Expected Graduation: June 2027

Bachelors of Arts in Economics | Minor in Management

GPA: 3.5/4.0

- **Awards:** Regents Scholarship, Deans Honors List
- **Programs:** Campuswide Honors Collegium
- **Related coursework:** Econometrics, Game Theory, Marketing Research, Business Intelligence, Industrial Organization, Management Science

Irvine Valley College – School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

August 2023-May 2025

Associates of Arts in Economics

GPA: 4.0/4.0

- **Awards:** Deans Honors List, Summa Cum Laude
- **Programs:** Honors Program
- **Related coursework:** Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Analytic Geometry and Calculus I & II, Statistics for Business and Economics

RESEARCH & PROJECTS

Campuswide Honors Collegium

August 2026 - June 2027

Independent Researcher

Irvine, CA

- Researching how economic, political, and institutional factors interacted to drive the UAE's 2026 OPEC exit, using a multicausal political-economy framework under Prof. Michael McBride.
- Analyzing 2018-2026 OPEC, EIA, and UAE government data, and benchmarking against Kuwait and Nigeria to isolate what distinguished the UAE's exit.
- Producing publishable worthy thesis by June 2027.

180 Degrees Consulting & Irvine Consulting Group

April 2026

Case Competition Participant

Irvine, CA

- Collaborated in a team of 4 to diagnose Nike's revenue decline following its exit from wholesale distribution, competing against 23 teams.
- Recommended Selective Wholesale Revival, Athlete Franchise Model, and Nike as an Online Platform.
- Applied structured problem-solving and gained hands-on exposure to consulting case analysis and recommendation development.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Marriott Resort Palm Jumeirah

July 2025 -August 2025

Sales Intern

Dubai, UAE

- Analyzed client negotiation strategies across four sales meetings and identified retention practices used to sustain long-term luxury hospitality partnerships
- Examined methods for building customer loyalty and sustaining long-term partnerships in a luxury hospitality context.
- Built insight into relationship management and client retention approaches.

SONY FZE Middle East & Africa

July 2024 - August 2024

Finance Intern

Dubai, UAE

- Developed internal training materials in Powerpoint to support structured new employee orientation.
- Proposed and executed the transfer of vendor registration from Finance to HR, streamlining the cross-departmental workflow and saving 4 hours per week.

Nexus Insurance Brokers LLC

June 2024 - July 2024

Business Operations Intern

Dubai, UAE

- Rotated through Marketing, HR, Finance, and General Insurance to build a working view of how the departments operate together.
- Contributed to administrative and project-based assignments across departments, applying problem-solving in varied functional contexts.

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Skills: Economic Research, Data Analysis, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, RStudio, Stata, Written Communication

Interests: Business Strategy, Organizational Decision-Making, Consulting