Gizem Kaftan

Newton, MA 02466 | 617-301-1955 | kaftangizem@gmail.com | [Website](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

EDUCATION

Boston University, Boston, MA   **2025**
Ph.D. in Political Science (GPA:3.84)
Interests: Quantitative Methods, Data Science, Statistical Analysis
Committee: Vivien A. Schmidt, Kaija Schilde, Taylor C. Boas

Relevant Coursework: Maximum Likelihood Estimation, Linear Models, Generalized Linear Models, Political Analysis, Computational Linguistics, Probability, Survey Methods, Quantitative Methods I, Qualitative Methods

Northeastern University, Boston, MA   **2019**
M.A. in International Affairs (GPA:3.82)
Global Impact Scholarship

Relevant Coursework: Microeconomic Theory, Political Economy, International Economic Development, Statistical Analysis

Koç University, Istanbul, TR   **2017**
Bachelor of Arts in International Relations & Bachelor of Arts Sociology (GPA: 3.69)
Magna Cum Laude, Vehbi Koç Scholar

Relevant Coursework: Finite Mathematics, Calculus, Financial Accounting, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Calculus, Social Network Analysis, Introduction to Financial Management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Boston University, Boston, MA   **2020-2023**
Data Research Analyst & Research Consultant
- Analyzed large datasets to measure the effect of Middle Eastern wars on ethnic fragmentation.
- Recommended and applied new data analysis methods such as survival and generalized linear models.
- Created a data set using NATO and European Union defense databases to estimate the size of the aftermarket services for military weapons.

Boston University Office of the Provost & Academic Affairs, Boston, MA   **June-August 2021**
Data Science & Analytics Intern
- Analyzed a novel data set using SPSS on a new educational program implemented in 2017 to evaluate the program's performance.
- Created presentations related to the new educational program using Power BI, Tableau, and Microsoft PowerPoint.
- Designed graphics using the Qualtrics Survey Software and wrote new survey questions to measure student satisfaction with the new educational program.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Warsaw, Warsaw, PL   **February-July 2023**
Visiting Researcher
- Interviewed 30 Polish politicians at different levels of government to evaluate their opinions about the European Union.
- Analyzed the interview data using R, NVivo, and Quanteda to create word frequency tables.

Northeastern University, Boston, MA   **2018-2019**
Graduate Research Assistant & Project Manager
- Conducted qualitative coding of the interview transcripts and wrote short memos about the interview content using NVivo.
- Managed and arranged coding and research team meetings to improve communication.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Boston University, Boston, MA   **2020-Present**
Instructor & Graduate Teaching Assistant
- Guided students on course material by holding weekly office hours and review sessions before exams.
- Covered graduate-level coding-based lab sessions to improve students' understanding of R.
- Graded and proofread homework, projects, and exams for undergraduate and graduate-level courses.
- Created response paper prompts and exam questions for the Introduction to Comparative Politics class aimed at first-year students.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Boston University Director of Graduate Studies Liaison, Boston, MA   **2023-2024**
Advanced Graduate Student Representative
- Represented the advanced Ph.D. student interests by conducting opinion surveys and setting up monthly meetings with the Director of Graduate Studies.

Boston University Graduate Student Organization, Boston, MA   **2019-2024**
Department Representative
- Represented the student interests in my department by attending monthly meetings and guaranteed grant funding to graduate students.

Boston University, Boston, MA   **2019-2024**
Graduate Student Speaker Series Co-Organizer
- Invited speakers and arranged the speaker series meeting for graduate students in the political science department.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate, Boston, MA   **April 2018**
Kid Convention Volunteer
- Led a button-making workshop for kids and encouraged them to make buttons about topics they feel passionate about.

SKILLS

Quantitative: Classical Statistics, Natural Language Processing, Social Network Analysis, Optimization, Regressions
Data Processing, Statistical Analysis & Presentation: Stata, Python 3, R, SPSS, Microsoft Office Suite, LaTeX
Additional Methodological Training: Advanced Network Analysis II, Introduction to Python, and Data Science and Text Analysis (completed at Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan)
Languages: Turkish (Native), French, Polish, German (Basic)