NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp 2025 - Application

Name:
Abhimanyu Dubey

Contact Information:
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School:
New York University, Stern School of Business

Area of Interest:
Entrepreneurship, Economics of Innovation, Field Experiments, Machine Learning in Strategy

PhD Program Details:
Year of Entry: 2023
Expected Year of Completion: 2028

Letter of Recommendation:
Faculty Sponsor: Prof. Deepak Hegde

ABHIMANYU DUBEY

New York City, USA | LinkedIn

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EDUCATION

New York University, Department of Management & Organizations; *2nd Year Strategy PhD* | 2023-Present

- *Relevant Coursework*: Strategy, Microeconomics, Econometrics, Industrial Organization, Machine Learning

Duke University, Sanford School of Public Policy; *Master of Public Policy* | 2021-2023

- *Relevant Coursework*: Quantitative Evaluation Methods, Microeconomics: Policy Applications, Causal Inference/Program Evaluation, Environmental & Development Economics, Machine Learning using Text Data

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi; *Bachelor of Technology* | 2013-2017

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Entrepreneurship, Economics of Innovation, Machine Learning in Strategy Research, Field Experiments

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- Constructed a novel multi-source dataset to track scientist mobility by integrating data from LinkedIn (Revelio Labs), ProQuest PhD dissertations, PitchBook start-ups, Dimensions publication records & DISCERN
  - Advisors: Prof. Deepak Hegde, Prof. JK Suh
- Investigating how a founder's educational & professional background influences startup success
  - Compare performance outcomes of PhD vs non-PhD entrepreneurs to examine how specialized knowledge, managerial expertise, and venture capital access overall firm success
  - Advisor: Prof. Deepak Hegde
- Examining how scientist migration from public firms to academia impact peer scientists' research productivity
  - Evaluating shifts in novelty and impact using text based metrics on large publication and patent corpus
  - Advisor: Prof. JK Suh

TEACHING

- Teaching Fellow, Endless Frontiers Lab, MBA Course (Prof. Deepak Hegde, New York University ; Fall 2024)
- Peer Tutor, Statistics & Economics, MPP Course (Duke University; Spring 2023)
- Teaching Assistant, Quantitative Methods, MPP Course (Prof. Sarah Komisarow - Duke University; Fall 2022)
- Teaching Assistant, Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship, MPP Course (Prof. Matt Nash, Duke University; Spring 2022)

WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Doctoral Workshops & Consortia with Selected Participants

- East Coast Doctoral Consortium, Stern School of Business, New York University, New York (2025)
- Summer School on the Economics of Innovation organised by the Fuqua School, Duke University (2022)
- Invited Speaker**,** *'Mapping the Research Transition of Indian Technical Higher Education & Research Institutions Beyond Numbers'*, Workshop on Design & Evaluation of Innovation Policy, IISc Bangalore & UNU-Merit (2019)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

International Finance Corporation; *Intern*, *Development Impact Measurement Department* | Aug 2022

- Compiled statistics for 150 projects assessed under IFC's new *AIMM framework* included in the Country Private Sector Diagnostic report

DST - Centre for Policy Research; *Project Associate and Project Scientist* | 2017-2021

Supervisor**:** Prof. Ambuj D. Sagar, Head, School of Public Policy, IIT Delhi

- Experiences of Technically Skilled Returnees in India (Co-Supervisor: Prof Sourabh Paul)
- Published report, 'Mumtaz, S., Dubey, A., Paul, S.B., Sagar, A.D., *Experiences of Technically Skilled Returnees in Academic & Other Sectors and Factors Impacting Their Productivity*', submitted to Department of Science & Technology, Government of India

- Evolution of Science & Technology Research in Indian Higher Education & Research Institutions
  Presented work to Principal Scientific Advisor, Govt. of India as recommendations for promoting research
- Understanding the Patterns and Determinants of India's Science & Engineering Research Hotspots
  Report submitted to DST- 'Patterns and Determinants of Science and Engineering Research Hotspots in India'

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Racquet Sports: Squash, Pickleball, Badminton; Hiking, Strategy Board Games, Cooking Indian Cuisine

Application Statement **NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp**

Abhimanyu Dubey

As a second-year PhD student in Strategy at NYU Stern, I study technology entrepreneurship and innovation. My research examines whether PhD entrepreneurs have a distinct advantage in high-tech startups or face unique challenges due to differences in specialized knowledge, managerial expertise, and access to venture capital. I am enthusiastic about applying to the NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp as it offers a unique chance to deepen my understanding of the current landscape of entrepreneurship research. Engaging with scholars whose work has shaped my thinking and discussing ideas with peers who share my interest in entrepreneurial strategy will refine my approach and push my research in new directions.

A key question in my research is how a founder's educational and professional background influences startup success. Hegde and Tumlinson (2020) argue that information frictions push highly skilled individuals toward entrepreneurship when traditional employers undervalue their abilities. Additionally, Kolev et al. (2022) highlights that startups produce more original and general innovations compared to incumbent firms, suggesting they may have a unique advantage in driving technological progress. Building on these insights, my research aims to examine whether differences in success rates between technology based start-ups of PhD and non-PhD entrepreneurs can be explained by differences in prior specialized knowledge, managerial expertise, or access to different venture capital networks.

For my research, I have constructed a novel dataset that tracks PhD entrepreneurs, linking their professional histories to startup outcomes. This dataset is built through a three-way match between Revelio Labs' LinkedIn data (providing career histories), the ProQuest Dissertation database (identifying PhDs), and PitchBook (capturing entrepreneurial activity). Additionally, I map these entrepreneurs' prior work organizations to publicly listed firms using DISCERN to assess industry experience and integrate publication records from Dimensions to analyze their research output. While this dataset serves as the foundation for my current research, it also opens avenues for future work—particularly in examining how university professors transition into entrepreneurship and commercialize scientific discoveries.

Attending the NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp will allow me to engage with leading scholars in the field, gain exposure to cutting-edge research in entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial finance, and refine my methodological approach. The structured lectures and exposure to a rigorous syllabus will provide invaluable insights into entrepreneurial decision-making, financing constraints, and knowledge spillovers. Additionally, connecting with fellow participants will foster collaborations and enhance my ability to contribute meaningfully to the field.

In sum, participation in the boot camp aligns perfectly with my research trajectory and professional development. I appreciate your consideration of my application and look forward to the opportunity to engage with the NBER community this summer.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
NYU STERN
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February 15, 2025

Dear Committee Members,

I am pleased to recommend Abhimanyu Dubey, a second-year doctoral student in NYU Stern's Strategy PhD program, for the 2025 NBER Entrepreneurship Bootcamp.

As Abhimanyu's primary advisor, I have had the opportunity to closely observe his research interests and academic progress. He joined Stern's PhD program ahead of typical admits, having already completed graduate-level coursework in Economics at Duke's Public Policy program. While at Duke, he actively sought out coursework from Ashish Arora and his colleagues at the business school, strengthening his foundation in innovation and entrepreneurship research. Additionally, he worked on various projects with them to deepen his understanding of the field.

Since joining Stern, Abhimanyu has quickly honed his research focus on the relationship between human capital and entrepreneurship. Despite the rigorous coursework required of early-stage PhD students, he has demonstrated remarkable initiative, assembling and analyzing multiple datasets—including LinkedIn, ProQuest's dissertation database, and PitchBook—to support research in the areas that interest him. Abhimanyu and I are currently investigating how startup founders with STEM PhDs influence their companies' trajectory and success, a topic that addresses the ongoing debate on the value of education for entrepreneurs. Separately, he is exploring how mobility between industry and academia affects the nature and rate of scientists' research.

Beyond his own research, Abhimanyu engages deeply with material presented in seminars and academic discussions, offering insights that are unusually perceptive and original for someone at his stage.

Accordingly, I am confident that Abhimanyu's participation in the entrepreneurship bootcamp will significantly accelerate his development as an

entrepreneurship scholar. At the same time, I think he is motivated to go beyond the assigned readings and will bring an enthusiastic perspective to the high-quality discussions that the bootcamp's organizers typically foster.

In sum, I strongly endorse Abhimanyu for this opportunity. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely Yours,



Deepak Hegde