Jacob Bird

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Education

Durham University Sept. 2026 – Sept. 2027

MSc Economics — Master's Achievement Award (merit-based scholarship) *Durham*

- Core: Advanced Microeconomics, Advanced Macroeconomics, Econometric Analysis, Dissertation. Planned options: Microeconometrics, Machine Learning, Data Analytics, Natural Resource Economics.

University of Surrey Sept. 2023 – Sept. 2026

BSc Economics — First-Class Honours (76% average; 77.8% in final year) *Guildford*

- Top module marks: Topics in Development Economics (87%), Economic Analysis with Matrices (83%), Intermediate Microeconomics 2 (82%), Public Economics (81%), Topics in Macroeconomics (78%), Intermediate Econometrics (77%).
- Joint first of 63 in the game theory strategy competition in Economics of Competition Policy.
- Top 10% of a 360-student cohort in Intermediate Microeconomics, overall and on the final exam.

Sutton Grammar School Sept. 2015 – June 2022

A-Levels: Economics, Mathematics, Biology *Sutton*

Research

Residential Solar Adoption and Price Elasticity of Demand Sept. 2025 – Apr. 2026

Undergraduate Dissertation (82%) | Supervised by Dr Eric Golson *University of Surrey*

- Tested whether commodity-price instruments could replace the withdrawn sales-tax instrument in Bukow's (2022) IV estimate of US residential solar demand, using 1.3 million installations (2010–2024) merged with weekly Bloomberg prices in R.
- Replicated the benchmark on 2010–2018 data (elasticities -0.25 to -0.44 vs -0.44), implying subsidies expand solar mainly by bringing in new households rather than larger systems.
- Showed the design fails when extended to 2024: the first stage weakens threefold and elasticities turn positive, so pre-2018 instruments should not be carried forward.
- Found that conventional overidentification tests reject where cluster-robust versions do not, showing how standard diagnostics mislead when observations are clustered.

Experience

Côte Brasserie Oct. 2022 – Feb. 2025

Apprentice Chef *Wimbledon*

- Worked for over two years, including alongside full-time study, delivering to tight service deadlines and consistent quality standards in a high-volume kitchen.
- Took on extra responsibility for running sections of the kitchen during periods of understaffing, coordinating with front-of-house to keep service on time.

Unilever June 2019

Consumer IT Work Experience (2 weeks) *Kingston*

- Supported the launch and maintenance of new webpages, including accessibility checks against WCAG standards, and presented daily progress to the team.

Leadership

University of Surrey Canoe Club Sept. 2023 – June 2026

Treasurer and Social Secretary *Guildford*

- Helped grow membership from 12 to 40 students through active recruitment and a stronger social programme, organising over 10 trips.
- Managed the club budget as Treasurer, allocating funds across boat maintenance, trips and events, and led a fundraising drive that raised £600 for new equipment.
- Laid the groundwork for Canoe Sprint as a new club discipline by building a partnership with the local Wey Kayak Club for training and facilities.

Skills & Interests

Software: R, Stata, Python, Excel, LaTeX

Methods: Regression Analysis, IV / 2SLS, Cluster-Robust Inference, Demand Estimation, Game Theory

Interests: Energy & Climate Economics, Competition & Regulation, Public Policy; Kayaking, Climbing, Cooking