

I'm Jefferson Vianna, I was born in Jericoacoara, a known beach in Brazil's northeast. Even though I grew up in a small town, when I was 11 years old, I was awarded a gold medal at OBMEP, a math olympiad. By the time I was 14, I had three gold medals and a silver one, the awards were in Rio de Janeiro, and the then presidents, Lula and Dilma, handed the medals. After this, I won a full scholarship to study in a highschool in Fortaleza through a program called Primeira Chance. In this period I won other medals, mainly in Physics, and I had the best score in math in ENEM, Brazil's equivalent of the SAT. When I finished highschool, Primeira Chance did a partnership with Insper and I moved to São Paulo to study Economics Science, again being awarded a full scholarship.

In 2015 I started the undergraduation program, and right in the first semester I started to teach. I'm a private tutor of Calculus, Game Theory and Finances for other lower-semester students, inclusive of those who also have a scholarship and could not afford a private class. I have done this for 6 semesters and, along with colleges activities, it made me realize that the academic life is what I want for myself. Furthermore, I've been saving money from private classes and summer jobs to do an exchange program. I want to get a master's then a doctor's degree in Microeconomics right after college. I was considering the IMPA, in Rio de Janeiro, where there is a masters in Economics Math, but I didn't know which exchange program I would do, then I found out about NOVA. Lisboa is a great city and cheap to live in, which is important to me. The contact that I will have with English for 18 months will be really helpful for my academic life. I lived 3 years in Fortaleza, 3 in São Paulo and I feel ready to live in Lisboa, it feels like a necessary step for my personal development. An european master's would help me accepted, in the future, in a european doctorate. Despite that I wish to return to Brazil after all this to apply everything that I learned.

So, I hope that the networking and culture of NOVA, totally new to me because of the european environment, the direct contact with English and Spanish, which I will choose as my third language, mandatory for the master's degree, the college level and the possibilities that I will have after the master's conclusion will all help me become a great economist. I believe that I was very fortunate this opportunity appeared in such a good time, and, like all the other lucky shots I've had, I will do everything to deserve this and empower myself. I feel motivated to continue my journey and each step strengthens my belief that I have made the right choices and I must continue on this path.

I appreciate the attention.

Jefferson Vianna