Filip Zaleski

Ongoing Past

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FORMAL EDUCATION

NYU Stern School of Business & NYU Shanghai — **New York City, Shanghai**

- M.S.: Quantitative Finance — May 2026-May 2027
  - A program bridging my economics and data analytics foundation with advanced finance theory across portfolio management, derivatives, fixed income, and quantitative forecasting methods. Includes 9 months in Shanghai from Sept. 2026.
  - Notable courses: *Stochastic Modelling & Simulation, Corporate Finance, Advanced Portfolio Management, Debt Instruments and Markets, Volatility Modeling, Futures & Options, Chinese Financial Markets, Statistics & Data Analysis*.

University of Toronto — **Toronto, Canada**

- B.A.: Economics Major (Focus in Data Analytics), Political Science Major — 2021-2025
  - Notable courses: [Economics:] *Big-Data Tools for Economists, Financial Economics, Time Series and Forecasting Econometrics, Econometrics II [Math:] Linear Algebra I/II, Multivariable Calculus, Elements of Analysis*.
  - EXCHANGE SEMESTER (2023): University of Melbourne, Australia. This unforgettable experience has challenged me with an alternate academic system, developed my global connections and friendships, and enhanced my cultural perspectives.

CERTIFICATES

Advanced Valuation with Aswath Damodaran (NYU Stern) — **May 2024**

- Mastered DCF, dividend discount, and comparable company valuation frameworks under Professor Damodaran; applied learnings directly to an independent valuation report on Novo Nordisk. Gained exposure to S&P Cap IQ, Moody's, and more.

EXPERIENCE

Value Alpha [Fintech Startup] — **New York City, USA (Remote)**

- Founder's Associate — Since August 2026
  - Value Alpha is an AI-native acquisition assistant focused on SMBs. Our core product is a valuation engine that empowers business owners and buy side players alike, with reliable, transparent, industry-specific valuation models and data processes.
  - My broad range of responsibilities includes financial modelling work, sales, strategy, fundraising, market research, and more.

Innova Capital [Private Equity] — **Warsaw, Poland**

- Off-Cycle Intern — January-March 2026
  - Built Excel valuation models for portfolio company reports and conducted independent comparable company, precedent transaction, and sector analysis to support deal teams.
  - Used LSEG, MergerMarket, PitchBook, and EMIS extensively to source market intelligence. Prepared internal as well as investor-focused presentation materials communicating fund performance and strategic positioning.

UBS [Finance] — **Zurich, Switzerland**

- Summer Intern – Internal Audit; Third Party Risk Management — July-August 2025
  - Tested controls and documented audit findings on third-party risk; performed Excel data analysis to identify risk patterns and developed Python scripts to automate recurring reporting tasks.
  - Reviewed vendor contracts and risk assessments against UBS standards; assisted in drafting audit observations for senior stakeholders and researched regulatory requirements to support audit planning.

Young Think [Public Policy Think Tank] — **Warsaw, Poland**

- Co-Founder, Head of Speakers Outreach Team — Since June 2024
  - Leading speaker relations for the Policy Briefs Health 2026 programme — identifying, vetting, and recruiting senior experts from academia, medicine, and public policy to mentor student researchers and speak at culminating conferences. For this year's edition, secured 19 mentors and specialists across public health, digital governance, and clinical medicine.

Europlan Group [Real Estate] — **Warsaw, Poland**

- Summer Intern – Financial Analysis — May-July 2023
  - Worked alongside the firm's CFO on strategic financial analysis, leading a client segmentation project in Excel and Power BI that generated insights into customers, sales strategies, and future investment priorities. Presented to senior management.

PROJECTS

(1) *Rebalance, Don't De-Risk: Lessons from 10,000 Simulated Retirements Under Market Regime Uncertainty.* **Co-Author**, August 2026
- Built a Markov regime-switching Monte Carlo simulation of 30-year retirement drawdowns, showing annual rebalancing cuts failure risk (7.5%→6.5%) while conventional glide paths backfire, and validating a 4.34% sustainable withdrawal rate. Link.

(2) *Give People Housing and They Will Have Kids; House Prices and Fertility across U.S. Counties, 2000–2023*. **Author**, April 2025
- Examined how rising housing costs depress fertility, showing affordability as the key driver of demographic decline, particularly in urban areas. Developed a market sentiment index via Random Forest to enhance my analysis. Selected as one of the best Economics undergraduate papers of 2024/25. Presented findings at 5th Economics Tech E-Conference. Link.

(3) *Valuation Report: Novo Nordisk.* **Author**, May 2024
- Studied Novo at its peak in Q1 2024, building DCF & relative valuation models which indicated that Novo's shares were 30–60% overvalued despite exceptional growth fundamentals. Link. *Other projects available on my website.*

SKILLS, ACTIVITIES, & INTERESTS

- Languages: Polish (native), English (fluent), Spanish (advanced), French (beginner).
- Technical: Python (advanced), Excel & Power BI (advanced), R Studio (intermediate), STATA (basic), SQL (basic).
- Sports: kickboxing (17 years; former competitive junior fighter), wind/kitesurfing (12 years), skiing & snowboarding (15 years).
- Music: Acoustic/electric guitar player of 15 years, piano player of 6 years with interest in classical and jazz music.