

# Jiusheng Zhu

Webpage: <https://sites.google.com/view/jiushengzhu> — Email: [zhujiusheng@mail.bnu.edu.cn](mailto:zhujiusheng@mail.bnu.edu.cn)

April 28, 2024

## EDUCATION

---

### M.A in Economics

Beijing Normal University

Sept 2020 - June 2023

Beijing, China

### B.A in Economics

University of International Relations

Sept 2014 - June 2018

Beijing, China

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Economics of Education, Experimental Economics, Behavioral Economics.

- *Goal?* Conduct socially impactful research to promote education equity and human capital development
- *How?* Applied econometrics (quasi-experimental design + RCT) and behavioral economics

## WORKING PAPERS

---

- “[Information for Vision: Experimental Evidence on Nudging Low-income Students to Wear Eyeglasses](#)”  
(with Xiaoyang Ye, Xinjie Zhang and Yu Zhao) *R&R at the Journal of Regional Science*

Abstract: This study uses a randomized experiment to examine the effectiveness of informational nudges about eyeglasses on middle-school students’ decisions to purchase glasses after developing myopia. With a sample of 8,808 low-income middle school students in China, the experimental results show that the short-term impact of wearing glasses on academic achievement (vs. long-term impact, social norm, or cost) is the most effective information for students. We also find heterogeneity in baseline belief, peer effects, as well as in how students with different characteristics respond to various types of information. The cost-benefit analysis demonstrates the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of nudges in improving academic outcomes. Our results provide novel evidence of the importance of precise, personalized informational nudges in improving students’ educational input and academic achievement.

- Presented at: AEFPP, March 2024; AERA, April 2024
- Awards: Best Student Paper at Peking University Summer School (presented by Xinjie Zhang), July 2023

- “[Housing Choice and School Admission Uncertainty: Evidence From China’s School Lottery](#)”  
(with Lifang Zhang) *Under Review at the Journal of Development Economics*

Abstract: To relieve the strain on public school seats and mitigate competition for elite schools, Beijing introduced a school lottery that severed the link between housing and school assignments. Using housing transaction data from Beijing, we leverage the school lottery as a quasi-experiment to examine how school admission uncertainty affects parental decisions on residential location. Our findings show that, while the school lottery reduced the school-quality premiums of school district houses (SDHs), especially tier 1 SDHs, its impact on tier 2 SDHs was negligible. Besides, the lottery had heterogeneous effects in different school zonings. In zonings with less admission uncertainty, premiums for SDHs either increased or remained unaffected. These indicate that households, in response to admission uncertainty introduced by the lottery, tended to opt for SDHs with higher admission probabilities. This new pattern of school and residential location choice limited the policy’s effectiveness, which was an unintended consequence from policymaker’s perspective.

- Presented at: AEFPP, March 2024; AERA, April 2024; China Labor Economics Conference, Peking University, August 2023
- Awards: Excellent Paper, 2024 AERA Annual Meeting, April 2024; Second Prize Paper Award, China Educational Finance Annual Forum, Peking University, March 2023; Best Student Paper, Peking University Summer School, July 2022

## WORK IN PROGRESS

---

- “How Research Affects Educational Policy: Experimental Evidence on Nudging Chinese Educators for Optimal Decision-Making” (with Xiaoyang Ye, Amazon)
- “Do Parents Prefer School Quality to Extracurricular Activities? Evidence From China’s School Lottery Policy” (with Siwei Cao, Beijing Normal University)

## PRESENTATIONS

---

**2024:** AEFPP (March 14), AERA (April 11)

**2023:** Annual Conference of Labor Economics for Chinese Economists (Peking University, August 2023), Education Finance for Chinese Economists Under 40 (Peking University, March 2023), Peking University Summer School (July 2023)

## HONORS AND AWARDS

---

Excellent Paper, 2024 AERA Annual Meeting	April 2024
Second Prize Paper Award, Education Finance for Chinese Economists Under 40	March 2023
Outstanding Young Scholar of Education Finance and Policy, Peking University	Aug 2022
Outstanding Reviewer, Annual Conference of Labor Economics for Chinese Economists	July 2022
Best Student Paper, 2023 Graduate School of Education Summer School, Peking University	July 2023
Best Student Paper, 2022 Graduate School of Education Summer School, Peking University	July 2022
Second Class University Fellowship, Beijing Normal University	2020-2023

## REFeree SERVICES

---

AERA Conference, Applied Economics, Chinese Sociological Review, China Economic Quarterly

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

Beijing Normal University:

- Introductory Microeconomics (2021-2023, Undergraduate)
- Economic History of China (2023, Undergraduate)

## RELEVANT COURSES

---

Advanced Econometrics, Advanced Microeconomics, Advanced Macroeconomics, Advanced Microeconometrics, Game Theory, Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics

## SKILLS

---

- **Software:** Stata, R, Qgis, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X
- **Language:** English, Chinese (native)