
November 2025

Ke Lyu

Pronouns: She/her/hers

Department of Economics
University of Nevada, Reno

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Ph.D. Economics, University of Nevada-Reno, USA, 09/2020-Expected 05/2026
MSc Economics, University of Edinburgh, UK, 09/2018-06/2019
BSc Public Finance, Shandong University of Finance and Economics, China, 09/2014-06/2018

FIELDS

Labor Economics, Economics of Entrepreneurship, Public Economics, Health Economics

REFERENCES

Frank M. Fossen (Chair)
Professor
University of Nevada, Reno
ffossen@unr.edu

Robert W. Fairlie
Professor
University of California, Los Angeles
rfairlie@ucla.edu

Shunfeng Song
Professor
University of Nevada, Reno
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Sankar Mukhopadhyay
Professor
University of Nevada, Reno
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AFFILIATIONS

2025– Special Sworn Status Researcher, U.S. Census Bureau
2025– Research Affiliate, Global Labor Organization (GLO)

PUBLICATIONS

Lyu, K. (2023). Social capital and self-employment dynamics in China. *The Chinese Economy*, 56(6), 459–485

WORKING PAPERS

Lyu, K. (2025). From vice to venture: Evaluating the impact of smoking and drinking on self-employment in China [Major Revision]
Flanigan, R. M., Fossen, F. M., & **Lyu, K.** (2025). Local credit supply shocks discourage startups from loan applications [Reject&Resubmit]
Lyu, K. & Fossen, F. (2025). How do minimum wages affect nonemployer business establishments and transitions in the United States? [Under Review].
IZA Discussion Paper No. 18101, IZA Institute of Labor Economics

- Lyu, K.**, Song, S., & Zhang, M. (2025). Targeted poverty alleviation and unincorporated entrepreneurship: Evidence from China [Under review]
- Fairlie, R., Fossen, F., & **Lyu, K.** (2025). A tale of two startups: The loss and gain of startups in the U.S. economy in the pandemic [Under Review].
CESifo Working Paper No. 12163, CESifo; IZA Discussion Paper No. 18160
- Fairlie, R., Fossen, F., Johnston, A., & **Lyu, K.** (2025). Taxes, incentives and entrepreneurship: Evidence from the universe of U.S. startups

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Liu, K., & **Lyu, K.** (2025). AI exposure and investor reactions to the 2025 Trump tariffs: Evidence from Chinese and U.S. listed firms
- Can, E., **Lyu, K.**, Pham, H., & Yang, J. (2025). The effect of the Kansas tax reform on self-employment hours worked

TEACHING

Lecturer

Summer 2025	ECON 303 Intermediate Macroeconomics (Teaching Evaluation: 4.0/4.0)
Summer 2025	Department Math Camp (for 1 st year Ph.D. and Masters)
Summer 2023	ECON 261 Principles of Statistics (Teaching Evaluation: 3.6/4.0)
Summer 2023	Department Math Camp (for 1 st year Ph.D. and Masters)
Spring 2023	ECON 103 Principles of Macroeconomics (Teaching Evaluation: 3.2/4.0)
Fall 2022	ECON 261 Principles of Statistics
Summer 2022	Department Math Camp (for 1 st year Ph.D. and Masters)

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2024	ECON 743 Applied Microeconometric Methods
Spring 2022	ECON 365 Labor Economics
Fall 2021	ECON 702 Advanced Microeconomics
Fall 2021	ECON 261 Principles of Statistics

SERVICE

2025	Mentor	UNR Honors Career & Community Mentorship Program
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WORKSHOPS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (SELECTED)

2025	NBER Innovation Information Initiative Meeting
2025	NBER Economic Analysis of Business Taxation Workshop
2025	WEFI (Workshop on Entrepreneurial Finance and Innovation) Seminar Series
2025	NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp

- 2024 CSWEP Mentoring Workshop for Third-Year and Beyond Women & Nonbinary Economics PhD Students
- 2024 2nd REGIS Summer School

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting
- 2025 Global GLO-JOPE Conference (GLO-Bonn-2025)
- 2025 95th Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Meeting
- 2025 20th Economics Graduate Student Conference (EGSC), Washington University in St. Louis
- 2025 6th SOLE/EALE/AASLE World Labor Conference
- 2025 100th Western Economic Association International (WEAI) Annual Conference
- 2025 45th Babson College Entrepreneurship Research Conference (BCERC)
- 2025 5th UCLA Price Winter Research Conference
- 2024 3rd Small Business Economics Journal (SBEJ) Online Conference for Young Researchers
- 2024 94th Southern Economic Association (SEA) Annual Meeting
- 2023 98th Western Economic Association International (WEAI) Annual Conference

GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2025 Second Prize, Best Presentation Award, Smart Economic Planning & Industrial Policy (SEPIP) Conference (\$750)
- 2025 Expense Support Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (\$700)
- 2025 William L. Kuncle Memorial Fund, University of Nevada, Reno (\$1,500)
- 2025 Outstanding Graduate Student Award, University of Nevada, Reno
- 2024 Jack Boland Endowed Scholarship in Economics, University of Nevada, Reno (\$1,500)
- 2023 Emeritus Endowed Scholarship in Economics, University of Nevada, Reno (\$2,000)
- 2023 Graduate Student Association Travel Award, University of Nevada, Reno (\$2,500 in total)
- 2022 Department of Economics Best Second Year Paper Award, University of Nevada, Reno (\$500)

REFEREEING

Applied Economics, Asian Economic Journal, Applied Economics Letters, China Economic Journal, Journal of Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies, Sustainable Cities and Society

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND ASSISTANTSHIP

- 04/2020-06/2021 Research Assistant in Southern University of Science and Technology, China
- 09/2019-03/2020 Research Assistant in Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China

SKILLS

- Programming Stata, Python, R, \LaTeX
- Languages English (Fluent), Mandarin (Native), Korean (Basic)