

Dear Admissions Committee,

My name is Liu Changyuan, and I am writing to express my sincere interest in MA in economics at Barcelona School of Economics. Barcelona School of Economics's commitment to innovation, interdisciplinary excellence, and social impact deeply resonates with my academic journey and aspirations. Allow me to share my story, shaped by curiosity, perseverance, and a drive to bridge theory with action.

Growing up in a small town, I was fascinated by how mathematics could unravel the hidden patterns of everyday life—from the symmetry of snowflakes to the rhythm of market prices. This curiosity led me to pursue a dual degree in Economics and Mathematics at Renmin University of China, where I discovered that the intersection of these disciplines holds the key to solving complex real-world challenges.

My academic journey has been both rigorous and transformative. In November 2023, I was honored with the Academic Excellence Third-Class Scholarship, a milestone that fueled my determination to aim higher. One year later, I achieved the National Scholarship (November 2024), a testament to my relentless pursuit of excellence. Beyond grades, I thrive on intellectual challenges. At the 15th National College Mathematics Competition (December 2023), I secured a Second Prize in the Mathematics category after months of solving intricate problems late into the night—a process that taught me resilience and creative thinking.

But my passions extend beyond equations. In August 2023, I combined logic and coding skills to design an AI-powered "Gomoku" strategy algorithm, earning a Merit Award in the Information School's programming competition. That same month, I joined the "Snake King Challenge," a microsimulation contest where I optimized resource allocation under constraints, further sharpening my analytical agility. These experiences solidified my belief that innovation lies at the crossroads of disciplines.

Yet, I believe true growth requires stepping outside the classroom. As Class Academic Officer (2023–2024), I organized peer tutoring sessions that raised our cohort's average GPA by 8%, learning the power of collaboration and leadership. In October 2023, I ventured into rural China with the "Thousand Villages, Hundred Schools" social survey, interviewing farmers and local officials to understand poverty-alleviation policies. This project, which culminated in a published report, grounded my theoretical knowledge in human stories and ignited my passion for data-driven policymaking.

My curiosity also led me to explore the world of cryptography and puzzles. At Baidu's "Cipher & Code Bar Competition" (August 2024), my team ranked 37th nationally by cracking encrypted challenges that blended math and linguistics. Weeks later, at Shanghai Jiao Tong University's Just Puzzle Hunt (September 2024), we placed 12th, solving riddles under time pressure—a thrilling exercise in teamwork and composure. These adventures remind me that intellectual rigor and joy are not mutually exclusive.

Thank you for considering my application. I would be honored to bring my passion for interdisciplinary problem-solving to MA in economics and learn from your community of thinkers and changemakers.

Sincerely,

Liu Changyuan

Renmin University of China