

Siu Yuat Wong

Address: Department of Economics
Yale University
New Haven, CT 06520-8268

Telephone: +1 203 645 4839

E-mail: siuyuut.wong@yale.edu

Web page: To be completed

Citizenship: New Zealand, J-1 Visa

Fields of Concentration:

Primary Field: Development Economics
Secondary Field: Econometrics

Desired Teaching:

Development Economics
Econometrics
Microeconomics

Comprehensive Examinations Completed:

2018 (Oral): Econometrics, Development Economics (*with distinction*)
2017 (Written): Microeconomics, Macroeconomics

Dissertation Title: *The Impact of Temporary Migration on Educational Outcomes of Left Behind Children: Evidence from the Philippines*

Committee:

Professor Mark Rosenzweig (Chair)
Professor Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak
Professor Orazio Attanasio

Degrees:

Ph.D., Economics, Yale University, 2023 (expected)
M.Phil., Economics, Yale University, 2019
M.A., Economics, Yale University, 2018
BCom Hon. with First Class Honors in Economics, University of Auckland, 2015
BCom/BSc Marketing, Economics, and Physiology, University of Auckland, 2014

Fellowships, Honors and Awards:

Economic Growth Center Fellowship, Yale University,	2016 – 2019
Cowles Foundation Fellowship, Yale University,	2016 – 2020
Yale Graduate Fellowship, Yale University,	2016 – 2023

The Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund,	2018 – 2019
Peter C.B. Phillips Fellowship, Yale University,	2018 - 2019

Research Grants (as PI):

2019 Robin E. Evenson Fund, Economic Growth Center, \$5000 USD
2019 MacMillan International Dissertation Research Fellowship \$18,000 USD
2021 Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund Research Award, \$20,000 USD
2021 Economic Growth Center PhD Dissertation Research Grant, \$25,000 USD
2021 Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Migration, ILO-UN Women BRIDGE project, \$25,800 USD

Teaching Experience:

Fall/Spring/Summer 201x, Teaching Assistant to Prof. X, course name (U, G?), Yale College
Etc.

2014: Teaching Assistant to Senior Lecturer Michael Anstis, ECON 191 (Undergraduate) Microeconomics, University of Auckland
2015: Teaching Assistant to Prof. Prasanna Gai, ECON 351 (Undergraduate) Financial Economics, University of Auckland
2016: Teaching Assistant to Prof. Susan St John and Prof. Thema Vaithianathan, ECON/POL 702, (Graduate) Public Economics, University of Auckland
Fall 2018: Teaching Assistant to Prof. Nicholas Ryan, ECON 117a (Undergraduate) Introduction to Data Analysis and Econometrics, Yale College
Spring 2019: Teaching Assistant to Prof. Michael Booser, ECON 559 (Graduate) Development Econometrics, Yale University
Fall 2019: Teaching Assistant to Prof. Steven Berry, ECON 115a (Undergraduate) Introductory Microeconomics, Yale College
Spring 2020: Teaching Assistant to Prof. Michael Booser, ECON 559 (Graduate) Development Econometrics, Yale University
Fall 2020: Teaching Assistant to Prof. Michael Booser, ECON 545 (Graduate) Microeconomics, Yale University
Spring 2021: Teaching Assistant to Prof. Bonnie Palifka, ECON 208B. Causes and Consequences of Corruption, Yale College
Summer 2021: Teaching Assistant to Prof. Bonnie Palifka, ECON 208B. Causes and Consequences of Corruption, Yale College

Research and Work Experience:

Research Assistant, Retirement Policy Research Center, University of Auckland, 2014 – 2016
Research Assistant, Prof. Ryan Greenaway-McGrevy, University of Auckland, 2014 – 2016
Research Assistant, Prof. Peter C.B. Phillips, University of Auckland, 2014 – 2015
Research Assistant, Prof. Prasanna Gai, University of Auckland, 2015 – 2016

Publications:

“Subjective Wellbeing Impacts of National and Subnational Fiscal Policies” (2016), with A. Grimes, J. Ormsby, A. Robinson, *REGION*, 3, pages 43- 69.

Working Papers:

“The Impact of Temporary Migration on Educational Outcomes of Left Behind Children: Evidence from the Philippines”, *Job Market Paper*

Work In Progress:

“Impact of COVID-19, Remote Learning, and School Closures on Educational Outcomes of Children: Evidence from Migrant Families in the Philippines”, (August 2022).

“Climate-Driven Natural Disasters and Human Capital Accumulation: Evidence from the Philippines” with Winston Hovekamp, (August 2022).

Languages:

English (native), Cantonese (native), Mandarin (fluent), Tagalog (basic)

References:

Prof. Mark Rosenzweig
Yale University
Department of Economics
New Haven, CT 06520
PO Box 208269
Phone: 203-432-3588
mark.rosenzweig@yale.edu

Prof. Mushfiq Mobarak
Yale University
Department of Economics
New Haven, CT 06520
PO Box 208269
Phone: 203-435-0186
ahmed.mobarak@yale.edu

Prof. Orazio Attanasio
Yale University
Department of Economics
New Haven, CT 06520
PO Box 208269
Phone: 203-434-3569
orazio.attanasio@yale.edu

Dissertation Abstract

The Impact of Temporary Migration on Educational Outcomes of Left Behind Children: Evidence from the Philippines [Job Market Paper]

This paper studies the impact of temporary migration by parents on the educational outcomes of their children who are left behind. This question is important given the large amount of temporary migration that takes place in developing countries. In China alone there are 69 million children left behind by one or both parents as these parents temporarily migrate from rural to urban areas in search of work. As of 2017, there were 2.3 million Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) - Filipino citizens who temporarily migrate to another country for the sole purpose of employment - many of which are parents to school age children. Figures estimate there may be as many as 9 million Filipino children who do not have a parent physically present in their life due to migration. With policy makers in developing countries having an increased interest in utilizing policies that encourage temporary migration to alleviate poverty and raise overall economic welfare, this question is undoubtedly policy relevant.

Leveraging a ground-breaking retrospective panel dataset from the Philippines, I first estimate an age specific child education production function. Specifically, I estimate a linear in parameters Generalized Leontief production function to provide basic intuition. I then further use a cutting edge Non-Parametric Instrumental Variables sieve estimator, where the sieve dimension choice is completely data driven. To identify the endogenous parental inputs, I utilize child fixed effects and a set of novel gender-specific instruments. I then simulate counterfactual scenarios of migration and no-migration, while controlling for the inherent heterogeneity in a migrant's setting.

My approach and identification strategy allows me to control for the presence of child characteristics observed by parents that influence their decisions, despite these characteristics not being directly observed in the data. It also allows me to study a rich set of interactions between past and current parental investments made into a child, trade-offs between time and expenditure inputs, substitutability between maternal and paternal time inputs, as well as the substitutability between different categories of child expenditures. The richness of the data set permits us to relax many of the stringent assumptions made in the past.

Results to come.

In summary, this paper improves on prior literature by exploiting the systematic and widespread international migration of parents in the Philippines that result in substantial variation in both mothers and fathers time inputs and monetary investments.