JOO-HYUNG (GRACE) SHIN
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Department of Economics
Columbia University
New York, NY 10027

(+1) 917-617-5088
js4759@columbia.edu
https://econ.columbia.edu/e/js4759

Placement Co-chairs: Donald Davis, drd28@columbia.edu, Suresh Naidu, sn2430@columbia.edu
Placement Administrator: Amy Devine, (+1) 212-854-6881, aed2152@columbia.edu

EDUCATION

2022 (expected)	Ph.D. in Economics, Columbia University
2018	M.Phil. in Economics, Columbia University
2017	M.A. in Economics, Columbia University
2015	M.A. in Economics, Yonsei University
2013	B.A. in Economics, Yonsei University
Fall 2011 –Spring 2012	Undergraduate Exchange Program, University of California, Berkeley

AWARDS

2020–2021	Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University
2015–2020	Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Labor Economics, Macroeconomics

JOB MARKET PAPER

"Occupation Specificity and the Decline in the Aggregate Job Separation Rate"

Abstract: The long-run decline in the aggregate job separation rate in the United States has been documented in the literature. This paper proposes that the increase in occupation-specific training, which results in human capital becoming less transferable across occupations, explains the falling aggregate job separation rate. I do a shift-share decomposition of the decline in the aggregate job separation rate to find that it is accounted for mostly by the within-occupation increase in required occupation-specific training. Then I build a search-and-matching model where the increase in occupation-specific training within occupations reduces job separations. The model predicts 60% of the decline in the aggregate job separation rate. When occupations become more specific, human capital acquired from one occupation becomes less transferable to another, resulting in larger wage cuts for occupation switchers. Occupation switchers must also undergo a longer period of occupation-specific training in their new occupation, during which they earn low wages. In the model, after occupations become more specific, workers separate less to avoid switching occupations, accepting lower wages at their current job at the same level of productivity.

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WORK IN PROGRESS

"Occupation Specificity, Endogenous Occupation Switching, and Unemployment Duration"

Abstract: It is documented in the literature that the average unemployment duration has increased in the United States. This paper studies how the increase in occupation-specific training results in longer unemployment spells. I do a shift-share decomposition to find that the observed increase in the average unemployment duration is driven by the within-occupation increase in required occupation-specific training. Then I build a search-and-matching model where the increase in occupation-specific training within occupations lengthens unemployment duration. The model predicts all of the increase in the average unemployment duration. In the model, the longer unemployment spells come from the unemployed workers who are trained in their previous occupation. They become less motivated to switch occupations because their human capital has become more specific to their previous occupation. If they switch occupations, they could quickly end their unemployment spell. This would, however, come at the cost of larger wage cuts because their human capital has become less transferable to other occupations. Occupation switchers would also have to earn these lower wages for a longer time until they become trained in their new occupation. Hence, despite a low probability of becoming employed in the same occupation as before, previously trained workers increasingly choose to not switch occupations. This results in longer average unemployment duration.

PUBLICATIONS

"A Simple Correction of Gini Estimates Using Tax Return Data" (with So-Hye Yoon and Tae-Hwan Kim), The Review of Social & Economic Studies, 2020, Vol. 63, No. 1, pp.1–38. (in Korean)

"Top Income Shares Based on Household Income and Expenditure Survey Data" (with Yunmi Kim and Tae-Hwan Kim), The Korean Journal of Economics, 2015, Vol. 22, No. 1, pp. 87–97. (in Korean)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

September 2016 –May 2020	Teaching Assistant, Columbia University

- (Master's Level) International Economics (Spring 2019)
- (Master's Level) Macroeconomic Analysis II (Spring 2018)
- Financial Economics (Fall 2019)
- Money and Banking (Fall 2017, Spring 2020)
- Intermediate Macroeconomics (Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2018)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

July 2016
–August 2016

Research Assistant to Professor Christian Moser, Columbia University
- Worked with Brazilian microdata (Brazil National Household Sample Survey and Brazilian Monthly Employment Survey) to construct inequality time series and labor market transition rates
- Wrote the dictionary files and relevant codes to import Brazilian microdata into Stata

August 2014

Young Scientist at the 5th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting on Economic Sciences

OTHER EXPERIENCES

September 2009
–June 2011

The Yonsei Annals, Republic of Korea
- Monthly English-language news magazine of Yonsei University
- Editor of Research, Photo, Campus Affairs, Global Affairs, Culture Divisions (March 2011–June 2011)
- Reporter (September 2009–December 2010)

OTHER INFORMATION

Programming: Stata, Matlab, R
Citizenship: United States, Republic of Korea

REFERENCES

Suresh Naidu
Professor of Economics and
International and Public Affairs
Columbia University
sn2430@columbia.edu

Bernard Salanié
Professor of Economics
Columbia University
bs2237@columbia.edu

Andrés Drenik
Assistant Professor of Economics
The University of Texas at Austin
andres.drenik@austin.utexas.edu