# Claire Chi-Hung Kang

Department of Economics

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EDUCATION

University of Houston, Ph.D., Economics, 2020 (expected)

Job Market Paper: Entrepreneurship and Self-employment in Developing Countries: Evidence

From Indonesia

Dissertation Committee: Chinhui Juhn, Aimee Chin, Elaine Liu

National Taiwan University, M.A., Economics, 2011

National Taiwan University, B.A., Economics (Summa Cum Laude), 2009

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Applied Microeconomics, Development Economics, Labor Economics, Entrepreneurship, Health

Economics

Pre-Doctoral Publication

Kang, Chi-Hung, Nan-Kuang Chen and Hung-Jen Wang. 2017. "The Communication Effect of the Central Bank of Taiwan on Interest Rates and Exchange Rates." (In Chinese) Taiwan

Economic Review, 45(3): 421-452.

Working Papers "Entrepreneurship and Self-employment in Developing Countries: Evidence From Indonesia" [Job Market Paper] (Click here for the latest version)

Abstract: I use the Indonesia Family Life Survey to study selection into entrepreneurship as well as the returns to such activity. I first distinguish between entrepreneurs—those who are entrepreneurs of permanent workers—and other self-employed. I find that both entrepreneurs and wage workers are positively selected in terms of education and cognitive skills relative to the self-employed. I also find that entrepreneurs score higher on "openness" and "extraversion" on the Big Five Personality Traits when compared to wage workers. The panel data also allows me to focus on the transition into entrepreneurship. Those who enter entrepreneurship are more likely to be open, and interestingly, less likely to be conscientious than wage workers. For each percentile of the earning distribution, entrepreneurs always earn more than wage workers and the self-employed, and the self-employed earn the least beyond the first quintile. My research shows that individual traits are important factors in explaining entrepreneurship even in developing economies where liquidity and institutional barriers are presumed to play a large role.

Works in Progress "School's out, Lunch's out? The Effect of Summer Break on Student's Body Size." (with Shreya Bhattacharya)

Abstract: School meal programs in the US have been shown to improve nutritional intake and test scores. The onset of summer break reduces the operative scale of these programs, which may mitigate some of the positive effects of these programs. We use data from National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) to examine the effect of the short-term unavailability of school meal program on the height and weight of students aged 12-17 from low socio-economic status (SES) families. Exploiting the random timing of survey month, we employ the difference-in-difference strategy to identify the summer effect on students who are eligible to school meal program. We show that summer break, July and August, has significantly positive effect on the probability of being overweight for low-SES students, while post summer break, September and October, does not have a similar effect. Moreover, most low-SES students aged 13 to 17 are less likely to skip

meals. The results suggest the increase in becoming overweight during summer break may be driven by the difference in nutrition and calories of meal content when the school meal program is absent.

"How Does Social Capital Affect Household Finance? An Investigation of Thai Villages."

"Marital Status and Mental Health: Are Married People Less Depressed, Divorced People More Depressed?"

## Relevant Experience

#### Professional Experience

- Research Assistant for Professor Chinhui Juhn, University of Houston, Summer 2017
- Research Assistant for Professor Elaine Liu, University of Houston, Winter 2015
- Research Assistant for Professor Ming-Ching Luoh, National Taiwan University, 2012
- Research Assistant for Professor Nan-Kuang Chen, National Taiwan University, 2011-2012
- Intern, Manulife Asset Management (Taiwan), 2009 2010

## Teaching Experience

- Lecturer, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory, University of Houston, Summer 2018
- Lecturer, Principles of Microeconomics, University of Houston, Fall 2017 & 2018
- Teaching Assistant, Econometrics (Master's level, lead the lab session for Stata), University
  of Houston, Fall 2016 & 2019

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Dean's Fellowship, University of Houston, 2015 - 2019

Honorable Mention for Master Thesis, Taiwan Economic Association, 2011

Scholarship for students in Economics and Finance, Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank, 2011

Jia-Fan Lin Memorial Scholarship, National Taiwan University, 2008

PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

Missouri Valley Economic Association, October 2019 Poster Session at Stata Texas Conference, September 2019 NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp, July 2019

COMPUTER SKILLS Stata, R, Matlab, LATEX

LANGUAGES

English (Advanced), Mandarin (Native), French (Beginner)

CITIZENSHIP / VISA

Taiwan

REFERENCES

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Department of Economics University of Houston Phone: (713) 743-3861 E-mail: emliu@uh.edu Dr. Aimee Chin

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