

# Kai Song

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## Personal Statement

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Aspiring economist with strong interests in public and development economics, inequality studies, and econometrics. Research experience in optimal taxation and income inequality. Passionate about careful data-driven solutions that impact real-world policy.

## Education

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<b>Australian National University, Acton, ACT, Australia</b> Bachelor of Economics (Honours)	Feb 2025 – Nov 2025
• Thesis on <i>Optimal Intergenerational Sugar Tax: a Sufficient Statistics Approach</i> , Supervised by: <b>Dr. Ash Craig</b> • The highest thesis mark in the 2025 cohort.	
<b>Australian National University, Acton, ACT, Australia</b> Bachelor of Economics Bachelor of Science in Mathematics <b>GPA for Economics: 6.38/7</b> , overall: 5.94/7	Feb 2021 – Nov 2024

<b>London School of Economics, Holborn, London, UK</b> Development Economics (Summer compacted course)	Jul 2023 – Aug 2023
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## Experience

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<b>Research Assistant, Research School of Economics, ANU, – ACT, Australia</b>	Jun 2024 – Current
• Supported quantitative analysis for optimal carbon tax research using R and Stata. • Managed and cleaned large datasets from Consumer Expenditure Survey (CEX), ensuring data accuracy and consistency for econometric analysis. • Reviewed theoretical literature on sufficient statistics and optimal taxation to support empirical design. • Collaborated with lead researcher and co-authors in survey data, model review and micro-data analysis.	
<b>Research Assistant, Mandala, – ACT, Australia</b>	Nov 2023 – Dec 2023
• Performed data analysis and visualisation to support client projects on Australian liquor exporting's background and context, using Excel. • Prepared reports and presentations with colleagues, searching for figures and data to support the story.	
<b>Teaching Assistant, Research School of Economics, ANU, – ACT, Australia</b>	Feb 2023 – Jul 2024
• Prepared and delivered tutorials for first and second-year undergraduate microeconomics. • Provided office hours and marked assessments to support students effectively. • <b>The first undergraduate student</b> demonstrating tutorial for second-year economics class. • More than 100 hours of facing students directly.	
<b>Front Desk Reception, ANU sport and recreation association, – ACT, Australia</b>	Oct 2022 – Apr 2023
• Corresponding email, phone calls and managing membership, paperwork, and retailing.	
<b>Tutor, Self-employed</b>	Jun 2020 – Aug 2020
• Deliver private tutorials to year 7-8 students in English and mathematics.	

## Award

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### Economics Society Prize for Economics Honours Research Essay

Dec 2025

- The award was given each year to the student who achieved the best result in the economics honours thesis.

### Bob Gregory Honours in Economics Scholarship

Jan 2025

- The research school of economics offer such an award to high-achieving students in the honours program.

## Project

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### Decomposing the Gap: Tracing the Sources of Indigenous Income Inequality

ECON3020 project

- Perform an Oaxaca decomposition via public data.
- Demonstrated the possibility of income inequality analysis without individual-level data.
- Highlighted the role of education and the employment conditioned on education in the income analysis, both theoretically and empirically.

### Optimal Intergenerational sin tax: a sufficient statistics methods

Honour thesis

- Derive optimal sugar tax, as an intrinsically paternalistic corrective tax.
- Aims at estimating the result with empirical data, to better fit into the policy debate.
- Highlighted the interaction between parents and policy makers, two paternalistic agents and the result of different knowledge and bias.

## Activity

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### Team ANU member, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD

Apr 2024

#### Nudgeathon 2024

- Represented ANU with 3 other peers in Nudgeathone 2024: a behavioural economics and policy studies competition.
- Prepared a brief report and gave a short presentation on national bio-security and strategies to encourage bio-hazard reporting under time pressure.

### Marketing team leader, College of Business and Economics, ANU, virtual internship program

Nov 2021 - Dec 2021

- Assisting a start-up company in constructing an optimal social media marketing strategy, supporting team members, and communicating with the client.

## Skill Set

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- R, Matlab, STATA
- LaTeX, Microsoft
- Economics, Econometrics, Applied Mathematics
- Teaching and demonstrating

## Referees

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**Dr. Ash Craig** RA and Honours supervisor ashley.craig@anu.edu.au  
**Prof. Bob Gregory** ECON3020 course convenor bob.gregory@anu.edu.au