

Laura Weiwu

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Positions

Assistant Professor, UC Berkeley Haas School of Business	2025-
IDEAL Provostial Fellow, Stanford Department of Economics	2024-2025

Education

PhD in Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2018-2024
<i>Dissertation:</i> “Essays on Inequality in Cities”	
<i>Committee:</i> David Autor, Dave Donaldson, David Atkin	
BA in Economics, <i>with Honors and Distinction</i> , Stanford University	2014-2018
BS in Applied Mathematics, <i>with Distinction</i> , Stanford University	2014-2018

Research Interests

Labor, Urban, Economic History

Working Papers

Unequal Access: Racial Segregation and the Distributional Impacts of Interstate Highways in Cities

Opportunity in Motion: Equilibrium Effects of a Place-Based Policy on Economic Mobility

The Intergenerational Effects of Local Shocks: Income, Migration, and Human Capital
(with Martha Stinson and Sean Wang)

Works in Progress

Municipal Coordination, Zoning, and Inequality in Public Goods (with Vincent Rollet)

Other Papers

Intergenerational Linkages between Historical IRS 1040 Data and the Numident: 1964-1979 Cohorts
(with Martha Stinson) Census Bureau Center for Economic Studies (CES) Technical Note

Intergenerational Linkages between the 1940 Full Count Census and the Numident: 1930-1940 Cohorts
(with Martha Stinson) Census Bureau Center for Economic Studies (CES) Technical Note

Fellowships and Awards

Allan Nevins Prize, <i>best dissertation in American history</i> , Economic History Association	2024
Best Graduate TA of the Year (Top 3), MIT Economics	2024
Best Student Paper Prize, Urban Economics Association	2023
Institute for Humane Studies Fellowship	2023
C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy	2023
Graduate Women of Excellence, MIT	2023
Graduate Student Council Teaching Award in the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS), <i>one professor or TA from each school</i> , MIT	2021
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	2018-2023
Department of Economics Graduate Fellowship, MIT	2018-2020
David M. Kennedy Thesis Prize, <i>best thesis in the Social Sciences</i> , Stanford	2018

Firestone Medal, <i>best thesis in Economics</i> , Stanford	2018
Phi Beta Kappa, <i>elected as Junior</i> , Stanford	2017
R. Richard Hodge Undergraduate Scholarship, Stanford	2015-2017

Grants

George and Obie Shultz Fund Grant (x4), MIT Economics	2020, 2023
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Refereeing

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Review, Econometrica, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics

Conferences & Seminars

2025	AREUEA-ASSA (discussant), Bocconi (applied micro), LSE (trade/urban), UCLA (trade), Opportunity Insights seminar, Stanford (labor & history)
2024	Stanford, Stanford GSB, Dartmouth, UC Berkeley Haas, UChicago Booth, UChicago Harris, UPenn Wharton, Boston University, Department of Transportation, Northwestern Kellogg (Strategy RookieFest), Society of Labor Economists (SOLE), UChicago & Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland Barriers to Economic Opportunity Workshop, Urban Economics Association (Europe), Barcelona Institute for Economics (Urban Workshop), Economic History Association, Northwestern (history), LSE Barriers to Economic Opportunity Workshop, UC Davis (history), UBC Sauder, UC San Diego (trade/spatial), Opportunity Insights Conference, UW Madison (public)
2023	RUSH (Regional/Urban/Spatial/Housing) Brownbag, NBER Economics of Transportation, Urban Economics Association Summer School, NBER Summer Institute (Urban), U.S. Census Bureau, MIT (Applied Micro Seminar), Harvard/Boston University Economic History Workshop, Urban Economics Association (North America),
2022	Urban Economics Association (Europe), Jerusalem Advanced School in Economic Theory for International Economics, Rising Scholars Chicago Booth, U.S. Census Bureau

Teaching

TA for PhD Labor Economics with David Autor and Nina Roussille, MIT	Spring 2024
TA for Microeconomics for Public Policy, MIT	Fall 2020
TA for Intermediate Microeconomics, MIT	Fall 2020

Relevant Positions

Part-time Economist, U.S. Census Bureau	2020-2024
RA to David Autor, MIT	2019
RA (Summer) at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York	2017
RA to Rebecca Diamond & Petra Persson, Stanford	2016-2017
RA (Summer) at the White House's Council of Economic Advisers	2016
RA to Matthew Gentzkow, Stanford	2015-2016

Organizing

RUSH (Regional/Urban/Spatial/Housing) Graduate Brownbag organizer	2022-2023
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Personal

Citizenship: United States. Date of Birth: October 1996