

RAN GU

January, 2026

Contact Information

Website: <https://rangu.org/>

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Employment:

2025-Present Senior Lecturer, Economics, City St George's, University of London
2018-2025 Lecturer, Economics, University of Essex
2018-Present Research Associate, Institute for Fiscal Studies
2015-2018 Research Economist, Institute for Fiscal Studies
2013-2015 PhD scholar, Cemmap, Institute for Fiscal Studies

Education:

PhD, Economics, University College London, 2018
Visiting Student, Economics, Yale University, 2016
Master (Merit), Economics, UCL, 2011
Master, Policy Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2010
B.A., Economics, Peking University, 2009
B.A., Japanese, Beijing Foreign Studies University, 2008

Research Interests:

Household Finance, Macro Labour, Applied Microeconomics

Publications:

1. “[Durables and Lemons: Private Information and the Market for Cars](#)” (with Richard Blundell, Soren Leth-Petersen, Hamish Low, and Costas Meghir). *Quantitative Economics*, 2026. Also issued as NBER Working Paper 26281.
2. “[Does the ‘right to request’ flexible work policy influence men’s and women’s uptake of flexible working and well-being — Findings from the UK Household Longitudinal Study](#)” (with Baowen Xue, Heejung Chung, and Anne McMunn). *Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health*, 2025.
3. “[The Gender Gap in Household Bargaining Power: A Revealed-Preference Approach](#)” (with Cameron Peng and Weilong Zhang). *Review of Financial Studies*, 2024.
4. “[Effects of Stay-at-home Orders on Skill Requirements in Vacancy Postings](#)” (with Ling Zhong). *Labour Economics*, Volume 82, 2023
5. “[Human Capital and the Business Cycle Effects on the Postgraduate Wage Premium](#).” *Review of Economic Dynamics*, Volume 48, 2023.

Working Papers:

1. “[Housing Energy Efficiency and the Horizon Effect](#)” (with Egle Jakucionyte and Swapnil Singh).

Work in Progress:

1. “[Unemployment Insurance Extensions and the Dynamics of Labour Force Participation](#)” (with Similan Rujiwattanapong).
5. “[Human Capital and the Business Cycle Effects on the Postgraduate Wage Premium](#).” *Review of Economic Dynamics*, Volume 48, 2023.

Non-refereed Publications and Policy Reports:

1. “[Who really holds the purse strings? Why it matters which partner decides where the money goes.](#)” *The Conversation*, 2024-10
2. “[Husbands still dominate investment decisions.](#)” Policy report, *University of Essex*, 2024-08
3. “[Can you buy a good second-hand car?](#)” *The Economist*, 2019-09
4. “[A postgraduate degree protects you against the business cycle.](#)” *LSE Business Review*, 2018-06

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards:

2020	BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grant (9,310 GBP)
	Keynes Fund (16,158 GBP)
2013-2015	ESRC award for PhD student
2011	David Pearce Scholarships, UCL
2010	Excellence for the Future Award, UIUC

Teaching:

2025-Present	Money and Banking (UG) and Macroeconomics (MSc) City St George’s, University of London
2021-2025	Computational Economics (Machine Learning Focus, MSc Economics with Data Science Core Module), University of Essex
2018-2025	Topics in Macro (Ph.D.-level course), University of Essex
2018-2020	Computational Methods in Agent Based Economics and Policy Simulation, Essex
Pre 2018	Intermediate Macroeconomics, Yale University, TA for Prof. William Nordhaus Intermediate Macroeconomics, Yale University, TA for Prof. Michael Peters Stochastic Frontier and Efficiency Estimation, Cemmap, TA for Prof. William Greene Microsimulation/Microeconometrics, Cemmap, TA for Prof. Alan Duncan Microeconomics Principle/Intermediate Economics Theory, UIUC

Journal Referee Services:

The Review of Economic Studies (REStud), International Economic Review (IER), Review of Economic Dynamics (RED), Labour Economics, European Economic Review (EER), Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control (JEDC), Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, ILR Review, Oxford Economic Papers, Economic Theory, China Economic Review, Journal of Population Economics, Fiscal Studies, Empirical Economics, Economica, Review of Behavioral Finance, Economics, Routledge.

Conference and Workshop Organization:

Programme Committee Member, Royal Economic Society Conference, 2025 - 2027

Co-organizer of Essex Search and Matching Workshop, 2024

Departmental Services:

Deputy Director for China Recruitment, 2022-2025

Member of the Department's Internal Staffing Committee, 2023-2025

Co-chair, Athena SWAN Self-Assessment Committee, 2024-2025

Departmental Server Lead, 2018-2025

Organizer, Macro Seminar Series, 2020-2021

Organizer, Departmental Seminar Series, 2019-2020

Organizer, Department's Internal Seminar Series, 2018-2019

PhD Supervision:

Supervisor: Moe Suzuki (current), Guohua He, Deo Sande

Internal Examiner: Pavlos Balamatsias, Kai Zhang, Sofia Bounahai, Junko Iwagami

Chair of Supervisory Board: Taichi Yoshida, Zhexin Feng

Conference & Seminar Presentations:

2025	Southwestern University of Finance and Economics (China), Essex, City St George's University of London, Queen Mary University of London
2023-2024	UCL, AMES, UCL Structural Econometrics Workshop, Penn Labor Firms and Macro Workshop, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
2019-2022	IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting of Labor Economists, RCEA, SWUFE, AASLE, SOLE, SED, SEHO, IFS, ES World Congress, Essex SaM Workshop, Cambridge, EEA-ESEM, AMES, CMES, NAMES, ISER, RES, Bristol SaM Workshop
2017-2018	Essex, RES, EIEF, Royal Holloway, IFS, UCL
2013-2016	Yale University, Sciences Po Paris, UCL, Peking University, Xiamen University