

Matthew Lee Chen

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Education

Harvard University

- PhD in Economics, 2022-present

University of Cambridge

- MPhil in Economic Research, *with Distinction*, 2021-22
- BA (Hons) in Economics, *Double First Class Honours*, 2018-21

Research

Selected Work in Progress

- **Innovation and a Culture of Science, 1660-1870** (with Nathan Lazarus and Chantal Pezold)
- **Science and Imperialism** (with Matthias Weigand)
- **Long-Distance Trade and the Coalition of Power Holders** (with Axel Boerrigter)
- **The Dutch Opinion on Colonialism** (with Melissa Dell and Leander Heldring)

Pre-PhD Research

- **Road Infrastructure and Civil Conflict: Evidence from Colombia** (Master's Thesis, 2022)
- **The Comparative Development Legacies of Dutch Colonial Rule and the *Vorstenlanden* in Java** (Undergraduate Thesis, 2021)

Selected Awards & Prizes

- Internal Graduate Studentship (*MPhil full funding award*), Trinity College, Cambridge, October 2021
- Adam Smith Dissertation Prize (*Best Undergraduate Thesis in Economics*), University of Cambridge, July 2021
- Sir Dennis Robertson Dissertation Prize, Trinity College, Cambridge, July 2021
- Examination Prize, Trinity College, Cambridge, July 2021 & July 2019
- Senior Scholarship, Trinity College, Cambridge, July 2021
- Roger Moore Prize, Trinity College, Cambridge, July 2019
- Junior Scholarship, Trinity College, Cambridge, July 2019

Fellowships & Grants

- The Lab for Economic Applications and Policy (LEAP) Fund, Harvard Department of Economics, January 2024 & March 2023
- Warburg Fund, Harvard Department of Economics, December 2023 & January 2023
- The Molly and Dominic Ferrante Research Fund, Harvard Department of Economics, October 2023
- Project Participant, Semester Undergraduate Program in Economics Research (SUPER), Harvard Department of Economics, August 2023
- Academic Research Grant, Google Cloud Research Program, June 2023
- Research Grant, Center for History and Economics, Harvard University, May 2023
- The Kenneth C. Griffin Research Fund, Harvard Department of Economics, April 2023
- Research Grant, Centre for History and Economics, University of Cambridge, October 2021
- Summer Studentship Research Award, Trinity College, Cambridge, July 2020

Teaching

Fall 2024 & Spring 2025: EC985 Senior Thesis Research Seminar

Academic Service

Fall 2023 & Spring 2024: Co-Organizer, Harvard Economic History Reading Group

Presentations

Spring 2024: Graduate Student Workshop in Economic History (Harvard)

Fall 2023: Graduate Student Workshop in Economic History (Harvard), Graduate Student Workshop in Political Economy and Rational Choice (Harvard)

Spring 2023: Development/Political Economy/Economic History Tea (Harvard)

Affiliations

- Graduate Student Affiliate, Center for History and Economics, Harvard University (2023-)
- Prize Research Student, Centre for History and Economics, University of Cambridge (2021-2022)

Personal

Birthday: May 27, 2000

Citizenship: United Kingdom