

# Nhi Cao

PhD Candidate, Hanken School of Economics

**Date of Birth** 29<sup>th</sup> Nov, 1997  
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## SUMMARY

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I study economic development and its connection to historical roots and cultural norms. I examine past natural experiments and policy events, document rich historical data and employ different empirical strategies to establish causal evidence.

Key words: economic history, culture, cultural norms, economic development.

## RESEARCH & ESSAYS

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### Doctoral dissertation: Essays on economic development

- On-going.
- Member of Academy of Finland [projects](#) in innovation and public procurement, led by [Ari Hyytinen](#) (2023-2026).

### Paper: Persistent effects of colonial rubber plantations

- [Draft](#). To be revised for submission. Part of doctoral dissertation.

### Research visit in 2025 at [UBC](#), Vancouver School of Economics

- Under supervision of [Réka Juhász](#).

### Msc. thesis: Incomplete contracts, mode of organization and global sourcing

- Examines the effects of transaction costs and institutional quality on the make-or-buy decision of multinationals. ([pdf](#), [code](#))

### Essay: An economic approach to sustainability

- Discusses what governments and central banks can do to facilitate the transition to a zero-carbon economy. ([pdf](#))

### Term paper: Trade policy and economic growth

- Addresses the neglect surrounding trade policy in the international trade literature and reviews the mechanisms via which trade policy can influence output growth. ([pdf](#))

### Essay: Sufficient-statistics method for welfare analysis

- Compares and contrasts the reduced-form and structural approach in applied microeconomics and proposes sufficient statistics as a bridging alternative. ([pdf](#))

## EDUCATION

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- 8.2022 - ongoing **Doctor of Science (Economics and Business Administration)**  
*at Hanken School of Economics and Helsinki GSE*
- 8.2020 - 7.2022 **Master of Economics**  
*at Hanken School of Economics and Helsinki GSE*
- 5.2019 - 5.2020 **Open University**  
*at Hanken School of Economics and Aalto University*
- 8.2016 - 3.2019 **Bachelor of Hospitality, Tourism and Experience Management**  
*at Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences*

## EMPLOYMENT

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- 8.2022 - ongoing **Academic Staff** at Hanken School of Economics
- 5.2021 - ongoing **Research Assistant** at University of Helsinki
- 9.2021 - 12.2022 **Co-founder** at Insat Oy
- 5.2019 - 11.2019 **Consulting Director** at 180 Degree Consulting Helsinki
- 6.2018 - 10.2018 **Revenue Management Trainee** at Primehotels Oy
- 3.2018 - 5.2018 **Marketing Communications Intern** at Pullman Danang Beach Resort

## REFERENCES

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Matti Mitrunen  
Assistant Professor, University of Helsinki  
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Topi Miettinen  
Professor, Hanken School of Economics  
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Ari Hyytinen  
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## SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

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### Programming

Stata, Python, R, Matlab, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, QGIS, SPSS

### Languages

*Proficient*                      English, Vietnamese