

# Sara Gong

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Education	<p><b>University of Southern California</b> Aug 2017 – May 2021 <b>B.S. in Economics and Math   B.A. in Philosophy</b> Los Angeles, CA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Awarded five competitive scholarships, including USC's Presidential Scholarship.</li><li>Courses: Real Analysis, Probability Theory, Mathematical Statistics, Linear Algebra, Calculus III, Econometrics, Intermediate Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, Thematic Option Honors Program</li></ul> <p><b>London School of Economics and Political Science</b> Sep 2019 – May 2020 <b>The General Course</b> London, U.K.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Courses: Game Theory, Public Economics, Logic and Argumentation, Philosophy of Morals and Politics</li></ul>
Experience	<p><b>Research Assistant</b> Sep 2017 – present <b>USC Viterbi School of Engineering   MINERVA Lab</b> Los Angeles, CA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Created a data pipeline for a survey project conducted by the Innovation Node—Los Angeles (part of the National Science Foundation's National Innovation Network), writing bash and R scripts in order to clean, validate, and harmonize messy records from an existing flat file database.</li><li>Performed data cleaning and econometric analysis for a research paper with Dr. Andrea Belz and Dr. Fernando Zapatero, studying entrepreneurial finance and technology transfer to explore how innovative ideas are developed into successful technologies.</li><li>Presented paper at the 2019 Western Academy of Management Doctoral Student Consortium.</li></ul> <p><b>Research Assistant</b> May 2019 – present <b>Columbia Business School</b> New York, NY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Coauthored a working paper with Dr. Jorge Guzman, studying the role of identity in innovation through a behavioral microeconomics paradigm.</li><li>Designed, implemented, and analyzed an experiment to study how a priming intervention affects entrepreneurial decision-making, in order to model how the growth of startups is constrained by the personal commitments and motivations of their founders.</li><li>Presented poster at the Young Scholars Initiative's 2019 Cognitive Economics Workshop.</li></ul> <p><b>Legislative Intern</b> May 2018 – Jul 2018 <b>U.S. House of Representatives   Committee on Appropriations</b> Washington, DC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conducted research, wrote memos, and performed fact-checking for the Democratic committee staff under Ranking Member Nita Lowey; collaborated with Congressman Henry Cuellar's legislative director to draft an amendment for the Labor-Health-Education FY 19 appropriations committee report.</li><li>Assisted Members of Congress at committee markups and attended briefings by government agencies, interest groups, and think tanks.</li></ul> <p><b>Organizing Fellow</b> Aug 2016 – Nov 2016 <b>Hillary for America</b> Las Vegas, NV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Managed daily voter registration, phone banks, and get-out-the-vote drives at community centers across Las Vegas for the 2016 presidential campaign of Hillary Clinton.</li><li>Trained hundreds of volunteers for canvassing duties and staffed events, including campaign rallies and the 3rd Presidential Debate at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.</li></ul>
Skills	R, Python, MATLAB, Git, LaTeX, HTML/CSS, Excel
Honors	USC Presidential Scholar (present), USC Easterlin Fellow (present), USC Undergraduate Research Fellowship (2019), Lime Connect Fellow (2018), National Merit Scholar (2017)
Interests	Swimming, piano, poetry, traveling, programming, AI and machine learning, public policy