

Sara Gong

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Education	University of Southern California	Aug 2017 – May 2021
	B.S. in Economics and Math B.A. in Philosophy • Awarded five competitive scholarships, including USC’s Presidential Scholarship. • Courses: Real Analysis, Probability Theory, Mathematical Statistics, Linear Algebra, Calculus III, Econometrics, Intermediate Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, Thematic Option Honors Program	Los Angeles, CA
	London School of Economics and Political Science	Sep 2019 – May 2020
	The General Course • Courses: Game Theory, Public Economics, Logic and Argumentation, Philosophy of Morals and Politics	London, U.K.
Experience	Research Assistant	May 2019 – present
	Columbia Business School • Coauthoring working paper with Dr. Jorge Guzman, studying the role of identity in innovation through a behavioral microeconomics paradigm. • Designing and implementing an experiment to study how a priming intervention affects entrepreneurial decision-making, modeling how the growth of startups is constrained by the personal commitments and motivations of their founders. • Writing R code for econometric analysis and developing an R package for stratified block randomization.	New York, NY
	Research Assistant	Sep 2017 – May 2019
	USC Viterbi School of Engineering MINERVA Lab • Coauthored working paper, “Financing Cascades: Sequencing Public and Private Funding in University Spinoffs,” with Dr. Andrea Belz and Dr. Fernando Zapatero, studying entrepreneurial finance and technology transfer to explore how innovative ideas are developed into successful technologies. • Designed surveys in Qualtrics, performed econometric analysis in R, Stata, and Excel, discussed research at weekly lab meetings, and interviewed undergraduate candidates for research assistant positions.	Los Angeles, CA
	Legislative Intern	May 2018 – Jul 2018
	U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations • Drafted legislative language for the Labor-Health-Education FY 19 appropriations bill and committee report, including an amendment offered by Congressman Henry Cuellar (TX 28) and accepted by the committee into H. Rept. 115-862. • Conducted research, wrote memos, and performed fact-checking for the Democratic Committee Staff (Financial Services Subcommittee) under Ranking Member Nita Lowey (NY 17). • Assisted both Democratic and Republican Members of Congress at committee markups and attended briefings by government agencies, interest groups, and think tanks.	Washington, DC
	Organizing Fellow	Aug 2016 – Nov 2016
	Hillary for America • 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. • 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.	Las Vegas, NV
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	Public policy, politics, swimming, piano, poetry, traveling, programming, AI and machine learning	