
THONG MINH TRINH

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Education

PhD in Education University of California, Berkeley • Adviser: Dr. Jennifer Delaney and Dr. Jose Eos Trinidad	2024 – Present
EdM in Education Policy, Organization and Leadership University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign • Illinois International Graduate Achievement Award Winner • Edwin J. O’Leary Fellow – Forum on the Future of Public Education • Adviser: Dr. Paul Bruno and Dr. Jennifer Delaney	2024
MSc in Business Analysis and Consulting University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom	2022
BSc in International Business Banking Academy of Vietnam, Vietnam	2019

Research Focus

Higher Education Policy, Higher Education Finance, Financial Aid, Student Loan Program, Quantitative Research, Quasi-Experimental Designs

Publications

[Google Scholar profile](#)

Book Chapters

- Trinh, T.M.**, Pham, H., Luong, A.T. (2024). Biến định danh, biến thứ bậc, biến định khoảng và biến tỷ lệ [Nominal, Ordinal, Interval, and Ratio Variables]. In A.T. Luong, K.N. Do, H.-H. Pham (Eds.), *Từng bước thực hành phương pháp thư mục lượng (Step-by-Step Guide to Quantitative Research in Social Sciences)*. Hanoi: Dan Tri Publishing House.
- Trinh, T.M.**, Pham, H., Luong, A.T. (2024). Tổng thể và mẫu [Population and Sample]. In A.T. Luong, K.N. Do, H.-H. Pham (Eds.), *Từng bước thực hành phương pháp thư mục lượng (Step-by-Step Guide to Quantitative Research in Social Sciences)*. Hanoi: Dan Tri Publishing House.
- Trinh, T.M.**, Pham, H., Luong, A.T. (2024). Lỗi loại I và lỗi loại II [Type I and Type II Errors]. In A.T. Luong, K.N. Do, H.-H. Pham (Eds.), *Từng bước thực hành phương pháp thư mục lượng (Step-by-Step Guide to Quantitative Research in Social Sciences)*. Hanoi: Dan Tri Publishing House.
- Trinh, T.M.**, Pham, H., Luong, A.T. (2024). Mẫu phi ngẫu nhiên [Non-probability Sampling]. In A.T. Luong, K.N. Do, H.-H. Pham (Eds.), *Từng bước thực hành phương pháp thư mục lượng (Step-by-Step Guide to Quantitative Research in Social Sciences)*. Hanoi: Dan Tri Publishing House.
- Trinh, T.M.**, Pham, H., Luong, A.T. (2024). Mẫu ngẫu nhiên [Probability Sampling]. In A.T. Luong, K.N. Do, H.-H. Pham (Eds.), *Từng bước thực hành phương pháp thư mục lượng (Step-by-Step Guide to Quantitative Research in Social Sciences)*. Hanoi: Dan Tri Publishing House.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

1. **Trinh, T.M.**, Nguyen, T.T.H., Pham, O., & Pham, H.-H. (2025). The financial sustainability of Vietnamese higher education institutions: unveiling the hidden factors. *Asian Education and Development Studies*. doi.org/10.1108/AEDS-07-2024-0136
2. **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, T.-T.K., Le, K.-M, A., Nguyen, C., & Tran, T. (2024). Shaping Choices: Factors Influencing Vietnamese High School Students' Transition to Higher Education. *Higher Education*. doi.org/10.1007/s10734-024-01384-x
3. **Trinh, T.M.** (2024). Can training doctoral students to participate in peer review alleviate the shortage of peer reviewers in academic publishing? *Science Editing*, 11(1), 73–76. <https://doi.org/10.6087/kcse.331>
4. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023). [Review of the book A New Moral Vision, by Andrea L. Turpin]. *Paedagogica Historica*. doi.org/10.1080/00309230.2023.2218806
5. Duong, A.C., Nguyen, H.N., Tran, A., & **Trinh, T.M.** (2023). An investigation into teachers' occupational well-being and education leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Frontiers in Education*, 8. doi.org/10.3389/feduc.2023.1112577
6. Delaney, J.A., **Trinh, T.M.**, & Odle, T.K. (2023). Direct Admissions – Policy and Principles. *College & University Journal*, 98(3), 75–80.
7. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023). [Review of the book Black Power on Campus]. *Journal of American Ethnic History*, 42(4), 131–132. doi.org/10.5406/19364695.42.4.13

Under Peer Review

1. Tran, V., Pham, O., Pham, H.-H., **Trinh, T.M.**, Nguyen, T.T.H., & Dinh, H. (2025). Funding or Autonomy: Assessing Efficiency in Vietnamese Higher Education Using Two-Stage DEA Approach.
2. **Trinh, T.M.**, Cao, P., Dang, C., Nguyen, C., Le, T.-T.K., & Tran, T. (2025). Decoding Signals: The Role of Institutional Tiers in Shaping College Choices.
3. **Trinh, T.M.**, Kim, H., & Hwang, J. (2024). Sustaining Financial Resilience: Exploring Income Diversification in South Korean Private Universities.
4. **Trinh, T.M.**, & Nguyen, M.L. (2023). Promoting Quality and Accessibility of Higher Education in Vietnam: A Case for Income Contingent Loan Programs.

Op-Ed Articles

1. **Trinh, T.M.** (2025): Income share agreements: A game-changer for student finance? *University World News*, <https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=20250325090340246>
2. **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, T.-T.K., Le, K.-M, A., Nguyen, C., Tran, T. (2025): Bước ngoặt đại học: Những yếu tố quyết định tương lai của học sinh phổ thông [College Turning Point: Factors That Determine High School Students' Futures]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/41YmyHP>
3. **Trinh, T.M.** (2025): Thỏa thuận chia sẻ thu nhập: Một mô hình tài chính giáo dục đại học linh hoạt. Kỳ 3: Cơ hội cho mô hình ISA tại Việt Nam [Income Share Agreement: A Flexible Financial Model for Higher Education – Part 3: Opportunities in Vietnam]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/4khrIFG>
4. **Trinh, T.M.** (2025): Thỏa thuận chia sẻ thu nhập: Một mô hình tài chính giáo dục đại học linh hoạt. Kỳ 2: Lý thuyết và thực tiễn [Part 2: Theory and Practice]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/4biizsH>
5. **Trinh, T.M.** (2025): Thỏa thuận chia sẻ thu nhập: Một mô hình tài chính giáo dục đại học linh hoạt (Kỳ 1) [Income Share Agreement: A Flexible Financial Model for Higher Education (Part 1)]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/43hyOEp>

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6. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023): Loại bỏ yếu tố sắc tộc trong tuyển sinh đại học Mỹ: Tác động tới du học sinh Việt Nam [The End of Affirmative Action – Impacts on Vietnamese Students]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/3sJ8SRS>
 7. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023): Tăng học phí đại học: Cần các biện pháp đi kèm [Increasing University Tuition Fees: Needing Accompanying Measures]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/3LaIPt4>
 8. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023): Tuition fees: Finding a balance between quality and access. *University World News*, <https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=20230117141832985>
 9. **Trinh, T.M.** (2023): Chương trình tín dụng sinh viên: Cần có cách làm sáng tạo hơn [Student Loan Programs: A More Creative Implementation is Needed]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <https://bit.ly/3RzAyAG>
 10. **Trinh, T.M.** (2022): Income Contingent Loan: Practice in some countries [Tín dụng sinh viên dựa trên thu nhập: Thực tế triển khai ở một số nước]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3RAgqhU>
 11. **Trinh, T.M.** (2022): Income Contingent Loan: Solution for tuition fees and access in higher education [Giải pháp cho bài toán học phí và tiếp cận giáo dục]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3X9oRSH>
 12. **Trinh, T.M.** (2021): Free college education and overlooked resources [Miễn phí giáo dục đại học và những nguồn lực bị bỏ qua]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3HJHl6G>
 13. **Trinh, T.M.**, Nguyen, A.V. (2021): Why do entrepreneurs choose universities to sponsor? [Vì sao doanh nhân chọn trường đại học để tài trợ]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3RzBDIK>
 14. **Trinh, T.M.** (2021): The dual goals of Vietnamese higher education: Paradoxes and difficulties [Mục tiêu kép của giáo dục đại học Việt Nam: Những nghịch lý và khó khăn]. *Journal of Science and Development*, <http://bit.ly/3wWpcgT>

Conference Presentations

1. **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, T-T.K., (2025): Future-Oriented Stress and Coping: Experiences of Vietnamese International Students in Canada [Poster Presentation], *American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference*, Denver, CO.
2. **Trinh, T.M.**, Kim, H., Hwang, J. (2025): Sustaining Financial Resilience: Exploring Income Diversification in South Korean Private Universities [Paper Presentation], *Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) Conference*, Chicago, IL.
3. **Trinh, T.M.**, Kim, H., Hwang, J. (2025): Sustaining Financial Resilience: Exploring Income Diversification in South Korean Private Universities [Poster Presentation], *Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Conference*, Washington, D.C.
4. **Trinh, T.M.**, Cao, P., Dang, C.N., Nguyen, C., Le, T-T.K., Tran, T. (2024): Decoding Signals: The Role of Institutional Tiers in Shaping Higher Education Choices [Paper Presentation], *Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Conference*, Minneapolis, MN.
5. **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, T-T.K., Nguyen, C., Le, K-M, A., Tran, T. (2024): Shaping College Readiness: Factors Influencing Vietnamese High School Students' Transition to Higher Education [Paper Presentation], *American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference*, Philadelphia, PA.
6. **Trinh, T.M.**, Kim, H., Hwang, J. (2024): Sustaining Financial Resilience: Exploring Income Diversification in South Korean Private Universities [Paper Presentation], *National Education Finance Academy (NEFA) Conference*, Charlotte, NC.
7. **Trinh, T.M.**, Cao, Y. (2024): Beyond Borders: The Evolution of Transnational Higher Education in China and Vietnam [Paper Presentation], *College of Education Graduate Student Conference*, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

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8. Castro, N., McDowell, J., **Trinh, T.M.**, Varner, A. (2024): Exploring Technology Readiness in Academia [Paper Presentation], *College of Education Graduate Student Conference*, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
 9. **Trinh, T.M.**, Pham, H.-H. (2023): The Financial Health of Higher Education Institutions: Unveiling the Hidden Factors [Paper Presentation], *Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Conference*, Minneapolis, MN.
 10. Le, T.T., Nguyen, T.L., **Trinh, T.M.**, Le, V.T., Pham, H.-H. (2019): The Willingness and Ability to Pay Tuition Fees of Undergraduate Students in Vietnam Public Universities [Paper Presentation], *Vietnam National University Conference on Financial Policies for Higher Education*, Hanoi, Vietnam.
 11. **Trinh, T.M.**, Nguyen, V.A. (2018): Belt and Road Initiative – Opportunities, Threats and Solutions for Vietnam [Paper Presentation], *Undergraduate Student Conference*, Banking Academy of Vietnam.
 12. **Trinh, T.M.** (2017): Integration of ASEAN Economic Community – Perspectives from Singapore Logistics and Logistic Development in Vietnam [Paper Presentation], *Undergraduate Student Conference*, Banking Academy of Vietnam.

Teaching Experience

Graduate Student Instructor

Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley

POLSCI 3: Introduction to Empirical Analysis and Quantitative Methods

09/2025 – Present

- Lead weekly discussion sessions about statistical reasoning, causal inference frameworks, and empirical research design in political science.
- Demonstrate and teach data analysis using R, including data cleaning, visualization, and regression modeling.
- Assess written assignments and coding projects, providing detailed feedback on methodological rigor and empirical argumentation.

Department of Statistics, University of California, Berkeley

STAT 21: Introductory Probability and Statistics for Business

06/2025 – 08/2025

- Supported students in foundational statistical reasoning, emphasizing real-world data interpretation.
- Provided academic support through office hours and exam proctoring.
- Assessed assignments and exams to reinforce applied statistical concepts in business contexts.

Berkeley School of Education, University of California, Berkeley

EDUC 40AC: Experiencing Education (In)equality in and beyond Schools

08/2024 – 12/2024

- Facilitated discussions on systemic inequality, schooling experiences, and educational opportunity structures.
- Supported student learning through tailored feedback, tutoring, and reflective writing assessments.
- Integrated policy perspectives to deepen analysis of educational justice and institutional reform.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

LAS 291/292: Global Perspectives Course

08/2023 – 08/2024

- Guided international and domestic students in exploring identity, culture, and global education.
- Facilitated reflection on study abroad and its impact on global citizenship.
- Delivered courses aligned with intercultural learning goals and inclusive pedagogy.

Research Experience

Graduate Student Researcher

Berkeley School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley

NSF IGE Track 1 (Award 2429533)

05/2025 – 09/2025

Empowering Tomorrow's Scholars: A Comprehensive Training Initiative for Graduate Students in Scientific Peer Review (PI: Sarah Klass; co-PI: Stefano Bertozzi)

- Analyzed longitudinal survey data to assess learning outcomes in an NSF-supported peer review training program.
- Conducted mixed-methods analysis and contributed to instrument redesign to improve construct validity and longitudinal comparability.
- Authored internal evaluation report and developed actionable recommendations for future scaling and NSF reporting.

Berkeley School of Education, University of California, Berkeley

01/2025 – 05/2025

- Conduct research on student debt burden and college admissions policies.
- Handle data cleaning, analysis, and manuscript drafting for publication.
- Coordinate IRB submissions and ensure compliance with research ethics.

Forum on the Future of Public Education, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

2022 – 2024

- Collaborated on writing manuscripts and published one paper on Direct Admission.
- Conducted literature reviews and quantitative data analysis.
- Supported faculty in research design and publication development.

Research Fellow

Office of Illinois State Senator Chapin Rose

05/2024 – 08/2024

- Analyzed higher education funding models and administrative policies in Illinois.
- Drafted policy briefs and evidence-based recommendations.
- Collaborated on strategies to reduce barriers in higher education governance.

Center for Research and Practice on Education, Phu Xuan University

09/2019 – 08/2022

- Collaborated on writing manuscripts and published two papers on higher education finance in Vietnam.
- Led five funded quantitative research projects on education topics.
- Managed data analysis and manuscript preparation for peer-reviewed publication.

Graduate Student Assistant

Proposal Development Office, National Center for Supercomputing Applications, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

05/2024 – 08/2024

- Led a benchmarking project to improve researcher support tools (e.g., ORCID, SciENcv).
- Assisted in database and educational resource development for grant alignment.
- Supported proposal preparation for NSF submissions.

Research Intern

Vietnam Institute for Economic and Policy Research (VEPR)

06/2019 – 12/2019

- Collected and analyzed data on industrial zones in Vietnam.
- Applied econometric methods using SPSS and R for policy research.

Undergraduate Student Research Project

Impact of Foreign Direct Investment on economic growth in Hanoi, Vietnam

2018

Impact of Corporate Social Responsibility in the Banking Sector on customers' behavior

2017

Invited Academic Services and Membership

Editorial Board Member

- Journal of Comparative & International Higher Education (JCIHE).
- Journal of Student Financial Aid.
- Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice.

Chair

- Institutional Approaches to Cost Management: Tuition and Financial Aid Policy - Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) 2024 Conference.
- Policy Futures for K-12 and Higher Education: Advancing Policy and Broadening Participation – American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2024 Conference.
- Navigating College Stressors: Food Insecurity, Finances, and Well-Being - American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2024 Conference.
- Considering International Mobility: Potentialities and Problematics’ at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) 2023 Conference.

Member of STAR Scholar Association

Reviewer

For the latest update, see [Web of Science](#) and [ORCID ID](#)

- **Journal Reviewer:** Journal of Applied Research in Higher Education; Humanities and Social Sciences Communications; Policy Futures in Education; Evaluation Review; Education Policy Analysis Archives; Journal of Student Financial Aid; Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice; Journal of International Students; European Journal of Education; Journal of Comparative & International Higher Education; Journal of International and Comparative Education; Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies in Education; Journal of Asian Business and Economic Studies; Asian Journal of Business Research.

- **Conference Reviewer:** Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) Conference; American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference; Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Conference.

Grants, Awards and Fellowships

Education Research Scholarship, ICPSR Program in Quantitative Methods	2025
Berkeley Fellowship	2024 – Present
Policy and Research Legislative Fellowship	2024
Illinois International Graduate Achievement Award	2024
AERA Graduate Student Travel Award	2024
AERA Division J Travel Grant	2024
Career Exploration Fellowship	2023
Edwin J. O’Leary Fellow	2023 & 2024
Strathclyde Business School Dean’s Excellence Scholarship	2021
Valedictorian, Undergraduate Program, Hai Phong City	2019
Chancellor’s Commendation, Banking Academy of Vietnam	2019
The State Bank of Vietnam Scholarship	2018
Full-Ride Summer School Scholarship, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom	2018
Winner – First Prize, Student Research Competition (University Level)	2017 & 2018

Outreach Activities

Graduate Student Advisory Committee Member

2022 – 2024

Education Policy, Organization and Leadership Department, University of Illinois

One of 10 students elected to assist the department head, associate head, and co-directors of graduate studies, and the faculty advisory committee, to make informed decisions about how departmental policies

and practices affect graduate student experiences.

Delegate 2019

WFUNA International Model United Nations Conference, United States

One of 200 delegates selected - Delegate of Colombia in the Commission on Population and Development with the topic "Changing Population Demographics and Sustainable Development".

Guest Speaker 2018

Les Entretiens de l'Excellence au Vietnam, Vietnam

Delivered a talk on college and career orientation to 200 high school students in Hanoi.

President 2017 – 2018

International Business Club - Banking Academy of Vietnam, Vietnam

Led teams of 50 members, made plans, and organized all the activities and events, especially the "Beyond The Case" Competition - the first competition for students interested in International Business in Hanoi attracted 500 participants.

Software and Computational Skills

- **Programming & Statistical Tools:** R, Python, Stata, SPSS
- **Development & Documentation:** VS Code, L^AT_EX
- **Spreadsheet & Automation:** Excel (VBA)
- **Simulation Software:** SIMUL8