WAI TING JACINDA SZE

waitingsze.github.io | wsze@udel.edu | (917) 517-4130

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics Expected 2026

University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Dissertation: "Essays on Parental Co-Residence, Wealth, and Family Formation"

Related Coursework: Household Finance (Theory & Empirics), Cross-Section and Panel Data, Time Series Econometrics, Topics in Dynamic Modeling, Topics in Labor Economics, Workshop in Finance: Empirical, Benefit-Cost Analysis

M.S. Economics and Applied Econometrics

2022

University of Delaware, Newark, DE

B.A. Economics and Psychology

2020

CUNY Baruch College, New York, NY, Summa Cum Laude

FIELDS

Household Finance, Housing Economics, Family Economics, Consumption

RESEARCH

"The Dynamics of Co-Residence, Wealth, and Family Formation" (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: It has been increasingly common for adult children to live in their parents' home. This paper studies the causes and consequences of co-residence from the perspective of young adults. There are three main results. First, event studies indicate that household finances are surprisingly disconnected from co-residence changes. Second, marriage and fertility correlate strongly with housing independence. Third, plausibly exogenous rental housing unaffordability estimates only modestly affect co-residence. These findings should inform structural work and forecasts of housing demand.

"Parental Co-Residence and Asset Accumulation"

Abstract: This paper develops and solves a model to examine how young adults' savings decisions are affected by co-residence and student loan payments. Co-residence is typically chosen by individuals are younger and have lower incomes, making it more challenging for them to save compared to those who do not co-reside. Additionally, young adults are more likely to co-reside when housing costs are high and their preference for independent living is low. The model predicts that without the obligation of rental payments, extra savings during co-residence are used to pay off student loans.

"Parental Co-Residence and Marital Transitions" (In Progress)

Abstract: A structural model is built to examine the relationship between parental co-residence and marriage timing. I study how living arrangements may delay marriage, incorporating housing costs, preferences for independence, and match quality.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, University of Delaware

ECON 101: Introduction to Microeconomics

ECON 306: Introduction to Econometrics

ECON 823: Econometric Theory II (Ph.D. level)

ECON 822: Econometric Theory I (Ph.D. level)

Fall 2021

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, University of Delaware

Professor Tom Eisenberg

2024, Spring 2023

Cleaned and structured coal mine data using Stata to create a reliable dataset for future analysis.

Professor Olga Gorbachev

Fall 2022

Applied difference-in-differences models to analyze financial institution visit patterns.

Intern, Economatrix Research Associates, Inc.

Summer 2019

Supported preliminary economic damage analysis by reviewing depositions and replicating damage valuations to verify accuracy.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Innovative Teaching Strategies, IT-Academic Technology Services, University of Delaware

2025

SKILLS

Software: Stata, GitHub, LATEX, Python, Julia

REFERENCES

Hans Holter (Main Advisor) Associate Professor of Economics University of Delaware hansholt@udel.edu Jeremy Tobacman Associate Professor of Economics University of Delaware tobacman@udel.edu Matthew White Principal Developer Econ-ARK mnwhite@gmail.com