

XUQIAN MA

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Education

University of California Berkeley

PhD Health Policy (Health Economics)

Dissertation title: “Economics Rationality, Aging, and Health Behaviors”

Berkeley, CA
May 2027 (expected)

Cornell University

MS Economics (International and Development Economics)

Thesis title: “Particulate Matter, Micronutrient Supplement, and Early Childhood Development”

Ithaca, NY
May 2022

University of Minnesota Twin Cities

BS Economics (Quantitative Economics and Econometrics)

Minneapolis, MN
May 2020

References

William H. Dow (Chair), Shachar Kariv, Edward Miguel

Research interests

Fields: Health economics, development economics, behavioral and experimental economics

Job Market Paper

“Economic Rationality and Preventive Health Behaviors”

Papers Under Review

- “Mitigating Cognitive Deficits from Prenatal Air Pollution: Experimental Evidence from a Nutrition Intervention,” *with Yuhang Pan, Lingling Hou, Renfu Luo* (R&R in *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*)
- “Impacts of Contemporaneous Air Pollution Exposure on Cognitive Performance in Kenya,” *with Michelle Layvant, Edward Miguel, Eric Ochieng, Ajay Pillarisetti, Michael Walker* (R&R in *Journal of Health Economics*)

Working Papers and Work in Progress

- “The Long-Term Consequences of the Vietnam War on Older Adults’ Cognition and Mental Health” *with William H. Dow and Yasuhiko Saito* (in preparation for submission)
- “Economic Preferences and Health Behaviors,” *with Edward Miguel* (in progress)
- “Predicting Personal Air Pollution Exposure in Kenya using Machine Learning,” *with Edward Miguel* (in progress)

Presentations

ESE–RGHI–GHE Workshop on Health Economics in LMICs

2026 (forthcoming)

Population Association of America Annual Meeting (Best Poster Award)

2025

Psychology and Economics of Poverty Convening

2024

Pacific Conference for Development Economics	2024
4 th Asian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics	2023
Harvard Spatial Data Lab Monthly Webinars on Spatiotemporal Innovation	2023

Teaching

Economics of Population Health <i>MPH, Berkeley Public Health, William H. Dow</i>	Spring 2025 and 2026
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Cost Effectiveness Analysis <i>MPH, Berkeley Public Health, William H. Dow</i>	Spring 2025 and 2026
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Other research experience

Center for Effective Global Action <i>Research Assistant to Edward Miguel</i> <i>Project: Kenya Life Panel Survey</i>	Berkeley, CA May 2023 – present
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Funded fellowships and awards

Preparing Future Faculty UDL Working Group Grant	Summer 2025
Summer Research Fellowship	Summer 2023, Summer 2024, Summer 2025
Best Poster Award - Population Association of America Annual Meeting	Spring 2025
Shortell/Schaeffer Fellowship	Fall 2024-Spring 2025
Berkeley Fellowship for Graduate Study	Fall 2022-Spring 2024
Berkeley Health Policy Department Conference Travel Grant	Fall 2023, Spring 2025
Berkeley Graduate Division Conference Travel Grant	Fall 2023