

# Yaling Xu

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## Education

<b>Cornell University</b> <i>Ph.D. Candidate in Economics</i>	2026 (expected)
<b>University of Chicago</b> <i>M.A. in Computational Social Science, Economics</i>	2020
<b>Nanjing University</b> <i>B.A. in Business Administration</i>	2018

## Research Interests

Labor Economics; Economics of Education; Health Economics

## Working Papers

"Does Coursework Matter? Uncovering the Role of Skills in the Returns to College"

"Mobile Internet and Mental Health" (*with Lipeng Chen*)

"Causal Inference in Staggered Adoption Panels: The Correct Comparison Units Depend on Your Intervention" (*with Ian Lundberg*)

## Work-in-Progress

"Nurse Education and Productivity" (*with Jessica Lu*)

"Does a College Minor Really Matter?" (*with René Kizilcec*)

"How Coursework and Skills Influence Employer Responses: Evidence from an Audit Study"

## Awards

2025: Ernest Liu '64, Ta-Chung and Ya-Chao Liu Memorial Fellowship, Cornell University  
2024: Brooks School of Public Policy Outstanding PhD Research Paper Award, Cornell University  
2023: Tapan Mitra Memorial Prize (best third-year paper), Department of Economics, Cornell University  
2023: Research Support Grant, Cornell Population Center, Cornell University  
2023: Small Grants in Labor Economics, Cornell University  
2021: Passed with Distinction First Year PhD Sequence, Department of Economics, Cornell University  
2020 - Present: Sage Fellowship, Cornell University  
2019: Social Sciences Scholarship, University of Chicago  
2016: People's Scholarship (Academic merit-based scholarship, top 3% in department)

## Research Experience

<b>Graduate Research Assistant, Cornell University</b> <i>Advisors: Nicolas Bottan; Colleen Carey</i>	2022 – 2024
<b>Research Assistant, University of Chicago</b> <i>Advisors: Robert Kaestner; Dan Black and Carolyn Mary Sloane</i>	2019 – 2020

## Teaching Experience

Spring 2024: PUBPOL 2100: Intermediate Microeconomics, Cornell University  
Fall 2023: ECON 3850: Economics and Environmental Policy, Cornell University  
Spring 2022: ECON 3670: Behavioral Economics and Public Policy, Cornell University  
Fall 2021: PAM 2100: Introduction to Statistics, Cornell University

## Industry Experience

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### Netflix

*Experimentation and Causal Inference Intern*

### Women's World Banking

*Research Intern*

### Los Gatos, CA

*May 2023 - August 2023*

### New York City, NY

*June 2019 - August 2019*

## Presentations and Seminars

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**2025:** Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Conference; American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (ASA)\*; Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)

**2023:** Labor Work-in-Progress Seminar, Health Economics Seminar, Cornell University

*\*Denotes co-author presentation of joint paper*

## Professional Service and Affiliation

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**2024:** Reviewer( $\times 6$ ), 2024 European Association of Young Economists (EAYE) Annual Meeting

**2022-Present:** Graduate Affiliate, Inequality Data Science Lab; Cornell Center for the Study of Inequality; Cornell Population Center; Cornell Center for Social Sciences

**2022-2024:** Mentor, Field of Economics Mentorship Program; Member, Diversity in Cornell Economics

**2021-2022:** Academic Events Chair, Graduate Students in Policy Analysis and Management

## Selected Skills

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**Software and Programming:** Python, Stata, R, SQL, Git, LaTeX

**Skills:** Causal Inference/Econometrics, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Machine Learning (ML), Text Mining, Data Scraping

## References

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### Michael F. Lovenheim (chair)

Professor

Department of Economics

Brooks School of Public Policy

Industrial and Labor Relations

Cornell University

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### Evan Riehl

Associate Professor

Industrial and Labor Relations

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### Nicholas J. Sander

Associate Professor

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