

Yang Xun

Curriculum Vitae

CEMFI
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Education	Ph.D. in Economics			2020 - July 2024 (Expected)
	Advisor: Monica Martinez-Bravo			
	CEMFI, Madrid, Spain			
	M.A. in Economics and Finance			2018 - 2020
	CEMFI, Madrid, Spain			
References	B.Sc. in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics			2014 - 2018
	B.Ec. in Finance			2014 - 2018
	Renmin University of China, Beijing, China			
	International Exchange			2016 - 2017
	University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA			
Placement Coordinators	Monica Martinez-Bravo	Manuel Arellano	Cauê Dobbin	
	CEMFI	CEMFI	Georgetown University	
	mmb@cemfi.es	arellano@cemfi.es	Caue.Dobbin@georgetown.edu	
	Nezih Guner	Tom Zohar		
	CEMFI	CEMFI		
Research Fields	nezih.guner@cemfi.es	tom.zohar@cemfi.es		
	Development Economics, Political Economy			
	Government Audits and Talent Allocation (Job Market Paper)			
	<i>Abstract:</i> Human capital is a key input in the delivery of public services, yet less is known about what affects talent supply for the public sector. This paper studies the role of political corruption in shifting talent allocation across public and private sector careers. I do so by exploiting a randomized anti-corruption audit program in Brazil together with rich micro-data on educational and labor market outcomes of college students. Using a generalized difference-in-difference research design, I find that high-ability students in audited municipalities are less likely to choose majors more tailored toward public sector careers, such as business administration and law. Moreover, tracking students to the labor market demonstrates that audits also lead to a lower share of high-ability students working as civil servants. Finally, I provide evidence that the effects of audits on equilibrium talent allocation are likely attributed to dampened perceptions of rent-seeking. Taken together, these findings highlight an understudied negative consequence of corruption on the economy: the distortion of a society's talented individuals towards rent-seeking in the public sector.			
Working Papers				
Selected Work in Progress	Economic Integration and Political Dispute Across the Taiwan Strait (with Chi Man Cheung and Tzu-Ting Yang)			
	<i>Abstract:</i> Does economic integration foster political affinity, or can it trigger a back-			

lash? We approach this question by investigating an unconventional type of “China shock” in the context of the Taiwanese export surge to mainland China. Applying a shift-share design with newly delineated commuting zones in Taiwan, our preliminary findings suggest that an interquartile change in China export exposure leads to a 1.2% increase in pro-independence vote shares during 2000-2016. Individual data from socioeconomic surveys reveals similar effects on pro-independence attitudes. We do not, however, find evidence of export exposure affecting inclination toward a more exclusive Taiwanese versus Chinese identity. To understand the mechanisms behind the political backlash of trade integration, we plan to disentangle the potential roles of labor market adjustments to trade versus a direct political deterrence effect from overall economic dependence.

Immigration and Assimilation of the Chinese Diaspora in Indonesia

Abstract: This paper studies the effects of state-enforced assimilation policy on immigrant integration. I focus on the Chinese diaspora in Indonesia when long-lasting anti-Chinese legislation during the New Order (1966-1998) was revoked after the fall of Suharto. I exploit across-regency differences in ethnic Chinese shares prior to the revoke as a proxy for the intensity of out-group exposure. The difference-in-difference estimates suggest the revoke of the legislation fostered cultural assimilation of Chinese Indonesians, as measured by language use and religious affiliation. Additional data collection is in process to study economic and political assimilation, as ethnic Chinese are perceived as economic insiders but political outsiders in Indonesia. All in all, this study aims to contribute to understanding how state policy affects immigrant integration in the context of south-south migration.

Conferences and Seminars (*Scheduled)	2023 NEUDC (*Harvard)	
	2022 CAGE Summer School (Warwick), ACES Political Economy Summer School (LSE)	
Teaching Experience	<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Mathematics (Graduate), CEMFI Fall 2021	
	<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Uncertainty and Information (Graduate), CEMFI Winter 2021, 2023	
Relevant Positions	<i>Research Assistant</i> , Dr. Yarine Fawaz, CEMFI	2021 - Present
	<i>Research Assistant</i> , Prof. Manuel Arellano, CEMFI	2020 - 2021
	<i>Research Assistant</i> , Prof. Monica Martinez-Bravo, CEMFI	2019
Grants, Awards, and Honors	<i>Maria de Maeztu</i> Research Grant (€2000)	2023
	CEMFI Ph.D. Scholarship	2020-2024
	CEMFI Master in Economics and Finance Scholarship	2018-2020
	Presidential Scholarship for International Exchange, RUC	2016-2017
	China National Scholarship	2015 & 2016
	China National Petroleum Corporation Scholarship	2014
Short-term Visits	<i>INEP</i> , Ministry of Education Brasilia, Brazil	Apr. 2023
Citizenship	Chinese	

Languages

Mandarin (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Intermediate), Portuguese (Basic)

Last Updated: Oct. 2023