

# Yichao Jin

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## Education

**Ph.D., Public Policy and Political Economy (Health Economics)**, University of Texas at Dallas, Expected Spring 2026

- Dissertation: *Explore the Determinants of Time Discount Rate for Covid-like Diseases Vaccination: A Discrete Choice Experiment in Three Districts of Wuhan* - Chair: Dohyeong Kim - Minor: International Business and Public Policy

**M.S., Social Data Analytics and Research**, University of Texas at Dallas, Expected Spring 2026

**Master of Development Economics**, University of Queensland, 2019

- Advisor: Mohammad Alauddin

**B.A., Economics**, University of California, Riverside, 2017

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## Research Fields

**Primary:** Health Economics, Behavioral Economics, Public Health

**Secondary:** Public Policy, Applied Microeconomics

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## Working Papers

1. **“How Humans Value Delayed Protection: Biological Vulnerability and Intertemporal Health Decisions”**  
(with Dohyeong Kim)  
*Under Review at Economic Analysis and Policy — Job Market Paper*
    - DCE with 1,000+ respondents in Wuhan estimating hyperbolic and exponential discount rates; highlights role of biological vulnerability in shaping time preferences.
  2. **“How CEO Succession Influences Firm AI Innovation: The Role of Academic Experience”** (with Zhimin Tian, Yu Xiang)  
*Under Review at Journal of Business Research*
    - Analyzes 1,776 CEO succession events in Chinese high-tech firms.
  3. **“The Price of Waiting: Evidence on Cash–Time Trade-Offs in Vaccination Time Discount”**  
*In Preparation — Target: Social Science & Medicine*
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## Work in Progress

### 1. “Behavioral Elasticities of Early Vaccination Incentives”

- Structural simulation tools estimating incentive elasticity; integrates MWTA/WTW and iso-uptake surfaces.

### 2. “Time Preferences in Preventive Health: A Multi-Domain Behavioral Study”

- Explores domain-specificity of impatience across vaccination, mask acquisition, and antiviral adoption.

### 3. “AI-Assisted Behavioral Forecasting” (SHARP + Stanford AI Certificate Integration)

- Combines DCE with ML forecasting to identify high-discount subgroups for targeted intervention.
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## Research Experience & Affiliations

**Doctoral Researcher**, Spatial Health AI Research Partnership (SHARP), UT Dallas  
- Interdisciplinary collaboration using geospatial analytics, AI, and behavioral science.

**Graduate Researcher**, Behavioral Health Economics Laboratory, UT Dallas  
- Vaccine uptake, discounting, and experimental design.

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## Conference Presentations

### 2026

- American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), March 2026

### 2025

- APPAM Fall Research Conference, Seattle, WA, November 2025

“*Estimating Time Discount Rate for Covid-like Diseases Vaccination*” - UT Dallas Graduate Research Symposium, September 2025

“*Modeling Vaccination Decisions with Hyperbolic Discounting*”

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## Teaching Experience

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Texas at Dallas

- Quantitative Methods for Policy Analysis (Graduate)  
*Econometrics labs, R programming, model interpretation*
- Public Policy Analysis (Undergraduate)  
*Policy memo coaching, applied policy evaluation*
- Health Economics & Public Policy (Undergraduate)  
*Lecture support, case studies, student advising*

### Courses Prepared to Teach:

Behavioral Economics; Health Economics; Microeconomics; Public Policy Analysis; Applied Econometrics; Quantitative Methods; Experimental Methods

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## Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Year	Award
2025	Dean of Graduate Education Dissertation Research Award, UT Dallas
2025	Betty & Gifford Johnson Graduate Travel Award, UT Dallas
—	Omicron Delta Epsilon, International Honor Society for Economics
—	Multiple Academic Excellence Recognitions (UQ & UCR)

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## Certifications

- **Stanford Artificial Intelligence Graduate Certificate**, Stanford Online  
*AI Foundations, Machine Learning, and Applications*
- **CITI Human Subjects Protection** (Social & Behavioral Research)  
*Completed Oct 2022; Valid through Oct 2025*

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## Technical Skills

**Software:** Stata, R, Python, MATLAB, LaTeX

**Methods:** Discrete Choice Experiments (DCE), Mixed Logit, Hyperbolic Discounting, Causal Inference, Machine Learning

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## Languages

English (Fluent), Mandarin (Native)

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## References

### **Dohyeong Kim** (Chair)

Professor, School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences  
University of Texas at Dallas  
Email: dohyeong.kim@utdallas.edu

### **Soyoung Kwon**

Associate Professor of Sociology  
University of Texas at Dallas  
*Research: Social Determinants of Health, Health Disparities, Quantitative Methodology*  
Email: soyoung.kwon@utdallas.edu

**Richard Scotch**

Professor, School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

University of Texas at Dallas

*Ph.D. Harvard; Research: Disability Policy, Health and Social Policy*

Email: richard.scotch@utdallas.edu

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