





YUSHANG WEI

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EDUCATION

University at Buffalo, SUNY	Aug 2018 – June 2024 (expected)
Ph.D. Economics	New York, USA
Purdue University	Aug 2013 – June 2018
Bachelor of Science - Applied Mathematics and Economics (double major)	Indiana, USA

AREA OF INTERESTS

Research: Health; Transportation; Public Policy; Labor; Development; Applied Microeconomics
Teaching: Micro & Macro Economics; Development; Transportation; Health; Econometrics; Public Policy

WORKING PAPERS

Job Market Paper: "Can High-speed Rail Improve Middle-aged and Elderly People's Mental Health? Evidence from China"
Working Paper: "Road Infrastructure in China: Assessing the Impact on Foreign Direct Investment and Economic Growth"

WORKING IN PROGRESS

"Do College Graduates Serving as Village Officials Help Local Health Level" *with Yuting Bai*
"Public Transportation and Fertility Choice"

CONFERENCES

American Economic Association 2024 Annual Meeting; San Antonio TX (Scheduled)	Presenter, January 2024
Southern Economic Association 93th Annual Conference; New Orleans LA (Scheduled)	Presenter, October 2023
Western Economic Association 98th Annual Conference; San Diego CA	Presenter, Discussant, July 2023
American Society of Health Economists Conference; St.Louis MO	Poster Section, June 2023
2022 APPMAM Fall Research Conference; Washington DC	Attendee, Nov 2022

WORKSHOPS

Difference-in-Difference with Panel Data by Jeffrey M. Wooldridge	Dec, 2022
ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods; University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	Summer 2021
ICPSR Short Workshops; University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	Summer 2021

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduate Student Association Conference Funding; University at Buffalo (SUNY)	2023
Teaching Assistant Fellowship; University at Buffalo (SUNY)	2018 - 2023
Graduate Tuition Scholarship; University at Buffalo (SUNY)	2018 - 2023
Purdue Moves Summer/Short Term Study Abroad Scholarship; Purdue University	Summer 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Instructor – University at Buffalo, SUNY

Summer 2022, Summer 2023

ECO 181: Introduction to Macroeconomics

Graduate Teaching Assistant – University at Buffalo, SUNY

Aug 2018 - 2023

ECO 182: Introduction to Microeconomics

Spring 2021, Spring 2023

ECO 181: Introduction to Macroeconomics

Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2022

ECO 411: Health Economics

Fall 2022

ECO 480/580: Econometrics 1

Spring 2019, Fall 2022

ECO 461: Econ. Forecasting and Fluctuations

Spring 2021

ECO 581: Econometrics 2

Spring 2020

ECO 380: Economic Statistics and Data Analysis

Fall 2019

ECO 551: Mathematics for Economists

Fall 2018

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Stata, ArcGIS Pro, Python, LaTeX

PAPER ABSTRACTS

Job Market Paper: "Can High-speed Rail Improve Middle-aged and Elderly People's Mental Health? Evidence from China"

Abstract: This paper studies the effects of high-speed rail service on the mental health of middle-aged and elderly people aged 45 years or older. I use historical documents and ArcGIS Pro to restore and produce the railway map in the late Qing Dynasty (1911) as an instrument for modern high-speed rail networks in China. I find that high-speed rail service significantly increases the mental health of middle-aged and elderly people. The paper also examines the mechanisms through which high-speed rail improves the mental health of middle-aged and elderly people. There are three potential channels of influence: *income effect*, *resource effect*, and *family effect*. The high-speed rail service increases employment opportunities and improves the availability of medical resources. In particular, the findings suggest that high-speed rail could increase meeting frequency with their children, which reduces loneliness. Additionally, when contrasted with rural residents, the introduction of high-speed rail services has a relatively stronger impact on the mental health of urban residents.

"Road Infrastructure in China: Assessing the Impact on Foreign Direct Investment and Economic Growth" – Working Paper

Abstract: Using a panel of Chinese cities over the period 1999 - 2018, I examine the determinants of economic growth, focusing on the role of foreign direct investment (FDI) and road infrastructure. Consistent with the predictions of a human capital-augmented Solow model, I find that FDI has a positive effect on the per capita GDP growth rate, and this effect is intensified by the city's road infrastructure. This suggests that one way road infrastructure contributes to growth is by facilitating technology transfers stemming from FDI. Furthermore, the findings indicate that the FDI-road infrastructure complementary effect is stronger for technology-intensive FDI than for labor-intensive FDI. The results remain robust across alternative model specifications and estimation methods.

"Do College Graduates Serving as Village Officials Help Local Health Level" with Yuting Bai – Working in Progress

Abstract: The College Graduate Village Officials (CGVOs) program in China is a unique human capital reallocation policy initiated by the government. This program deploys recent college graduates to rural and underdeveloped areas as village-level officials. CGVOs are engaged in various projects, including governance, economic development, education, and healthcare, with the overarching goal of enhancing the quality of life in China's rural regions while providing career opportunities for college graduates. In this paper, We employ a Difference-in-Difference (DD) approach as my baseline estimation strategy, comparing the impact on local health before and after the introduction of CGVOs.

MISCELLANEOUS

Languages: English (Fluent), Chinese (Native)

Citizenship: Chinese (US visa status: F-1)

REFERENCE

Zhiqiang Liu (Chair)
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