





# 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"  
"Natural Gas Pipeline and Infant Health in the United States"

## CONFERENCES

American Economic Association 2024 Annual Meeting; San Antonio TX (Scheduled)	Presenter, January 2024
Southern Economic Association 98th Annual Conference; New Orleans LA	Presenter, November 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 - Jeffrey M. Wooldridge	Dec, 2022
ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods (Panel Data; Casual Inference; Time Series)	
- University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	Summer 2021
ICPSR Short Workshops (RDD; Diff-in-Diff) - 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  
ECO 461: Econ. Forecasting and Fluctuations  
ECO 581: Econometrics 2  
ECO 380: Economic Statistics and Data Analysis  
ECO 551: Mathematics for Economists

Spring 2019, Fall 2022  
Spring 2021  
Spring 2020  
Fall 2019  
Fall 2018

## PROGRAMMING SKILLS

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Stata, ArcGIS Pro, Python(Pandas), LaTeX

## PAPER ABSTRACTS

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

Abstract: The paper studies the effect of the high-speed rail (HSR) service on the mental health of individuals aged 45 and older. I use historical documents and ArcGIS Pro to produce the railway map of the late Qing Dynasty (1911) and use it as an instrument for the modern HSR network in China. I find that the HSR service significantly improves the mental health of middle-aged and elderly people, and the causal impact is larger for urban than for rural residents. I also explore and find supporting evidence for three channels of influence: income, access to medical services and in-person interactions. The HSR increases employment opportunities and, hence, individual income, improves the accessibility of medical resources outside the local area, and increases the frequency of in-person visits by children who do not live in the same city as their parents.

### **"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

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**Languages:** English (Fluent), Chinese (Native)

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

## REFERENCE

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