





# YUSHANG WEI

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## EDUCATION

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University at Buffalo, SUNY	Aug 2018 – Present
Ph.D. Economics (June 2024 expected)	New York, USA
University at Buffalo, SUNY	Aug 2018 – June 2020
M.S. Economics	New York, USA
Purdue University	Aug 2013 – June 2018
Bachelor of Science - Applied Mathematics and Economics (double major)	Indiana, USA

## AREA OF INTERESTS

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

## WORKING PAPERS

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**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

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

## CONFERENCES

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American Economic Association 2024 Annual Meeting; San Antonio TX (Scheduled)	Presenter, January 2024
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

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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

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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

## WORKING PAPER ABSTRACTS

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

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. Due to the non-random placement of high-speed rail service, there exists endogeneity in the analysis. To address this issue, I use the earliest official railway map (1962) and ArcGIS Pro to restore and produce the railway map in the late Qing Dynasty (1911) according to historical documents. Using the unique historical geographic data as the instrument for high-speed rail networks, I find that high-speed rail service significantly increases the mental score 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. In particular, the findings suggest that high-speed rail could increase meeting frequency with their children, which reduces loneliness. However, the introduction of high-speed rail service also exacerbates the disparity in mental health between urban and rural areas, with the urban population experiencing a more significant impact than those in rural regions.

## "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.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Adjunct Instructor** – University at Buffalo, SUNY  
**ECO 181: Introduction to Macroeconomics**

Summer 2022, Summer 2023

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** – University at Buffalo, SUNY

ECO 182: Introduction to Microeconomics

ECO 181: Introduction to Macroeconomics

ECO 411: Health Economics

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

Aug 2018 - 2023

Spring 2021, Spring 2023

Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2022

Fall 2022

Spring 2019, Fall 2022

Spring 2021

Spring 2020

Fall 2019

Fall 2018

## PROGRAMMING SKILLS

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Stata, ArcGIS Pro, Python, LaTeX

## MISCELLANEOUS

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

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

## REFERENCE

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