





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: Applied Microeconomics; Health; Development; Public Policy; Environmental
Teaching: Micro & Macro Economics; Development; Urban; Health; Econometrics; Public Policy; Environmental

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

"Too Shiny to Handle: The Effect of Light Pollution on Mental Health" *with Kaiyi Wen*
"Do College Graduates Serving as Village Officials Help Local Health Level" *with Yuting Bai*

CONFERENCES

American Economic Association 2024 Annual Meeting; San Antonio TX	Presenter, January 2024
Southern Economic Association 93th 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

Stata, ArcGIS Pro, Python(Pandas), R, MATLAB, Experience in SAS, LaTeX

PAPER ABSTRACTS

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 from 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 road infrastructure contributes to growth by facilitating technology transfers stemming from FDI. Furthermore, the findings indicate that the complementary effect of FDI on road infrastructure is stronger for technology-intensive FDI than for labour-intensive FDI. The results remain robust across alternative model specifications and estimation methods.

"Too Shiny to Handle: The Effect of Light Pollution on Mental Health" *with Kaiyi Wen – Working in Progress*

Abstract: In this paper, we present the first study to establish a causal relationship between light pollution and mental health in the US. We utilize a nationally representative sample at the individual level, coupled with precise measurements of light pollution at the 9-digit zip code level. Our findings demonstrate that 2.7% of respondents who previously reported minimal mental health concerns are now showing mild symptoms of mental health issues. This translates to an annual welfare loss of up to \$47 billion attributed to lost earnings in the labor market. Additionally, this study explores specific channels, where we observe a significant negative correlation between light pollution and respondents' sleep duration.

MISCELLANEOUS

Languages: English (Fluent), Chinese (Native)
Citizenship: Chinese (US visa status: F-1)

REFERENCE

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