

Xing Xia

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Academic Positions

Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

Senior Lecturer in Economics July 2025 – present

Co-Chair for Master in Public Administration & Management July 2025 – present

Joint Appointment Jan 2024 – June 2025

Courtesy Joint Appointment Feb 2022 – Dec 2023

& Oct 2016 – June 2020

Yale-NUS College

Senior Lecturer in Economics July 2024 – June 2025

Assistant Professor of Economics July 2016 – June 2024

Other Appointments and Affiliations

NUS ALSET (Institute for Application of Learning Science and Educational Technology)

Affiliated Faculty April 2018 – present

Education

Ph.D. Economics, Columbia University 2016

Dissertation Committee: W. B. MacLeod, M. Urquiola, M. Rokkannen, B. Salanié

B.A. Economics & B.S. Mathematics, Wuhan University 2010

Visiting Student & TF LEARN Scholar, National University of Singapore Fall 2009

Research

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Labor Economics, Public Economics, Development Economics

Economics of Education and Health, Human Capital Formation

PUBLICATIONS

1. [“Grades as Signals of Comparative Advantage: How Letter Grades Affect Major Choices”](#) (with Hongyan Li) *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, vol 227, 106717, November 2024
2. [“Does Information on Age-Related Fertility Decline and Fertility Policies Affect University Students’ Family and Career Expectations? Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial”](#) (with Poh Lin Tan and Jessica Pan) *PLoS ONE*, 18(11), e0287526, November 2023
3. [“The Effect of Language Training on Immigrants’ Integration: Does the Duration of Training Matter?”](#) (with Alex Pont Grau, Yu-Hsiang Lei, and Joel Lim) *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, vol 212, pp. 160-198, August 2023
4. [“Selective Mortality and the Long-Term Effects of Early Life Exposure to Natural Disasters”](#) (with Margaret Triyana) *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, vol 85(4), pp. 773-804, August 2023
5. [“Barrier to Entry or Signal of Quality? The Effects of Occupational Licensing on Minority Dental Assistants”](#) *Labour Economics*, vol 71, 102027, August 2021
6. [“Do Nonprofits Manipulate Investment Returns?”](#) (with Douglas Almond) *Economics Letters*, vol 155, pp. 62-66, June 2017

WORKING PAPERS

“Are For-Profit Universities More Responsive to the Labor Market? Evidence from Responses to Occupational Regulation”

“Money and Mission: How Universities Responded to Endowment Shocks from the Great Recession”

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Weather Shocks and Farmers' Responses: Evidence from Indonesia” (with Hyunji Kim and Hyelim Son)

“Conditional Cash Transfers Improve the Coverage of Growth Monitoring and Nutritional Surveillance Programs in the Philippines” (with Joel Lim)

Fellowships and Awards

Early Career Teaching Award, Yale-NUS College	2024
HSS Faculty Research Fellowship, National University of Singapore	Fall 2020
Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University	2010-2016
LEaRN Award, Temasek Foundation & NUS, Singapore	Fall 2009

National Scholarship, Ministry of Education, China	2009
Outstanding Student Award, Wuhan University	2006-2010

Research Grants

Yale-NUS Internal Grant, "The economic impact of internet connectivity in the Philippines"	SGD \$40,000.	2024-2025
PI, JY Pillay Global Asia Fund Yale-NUS Internal Grant, Yale-NUS College, "What qualities do students seek in instructors? Evidence from course bidding at a large public university." (with Jessica Pan).	SGD \$30,000.	2023-2024
PI, MOE Academic Research Fund Tier 2 Grant, Singapore Ministry of Education, "Early Life Shocks: Effects, Responses, and Remedies." (with Margaret Triyana)	SGD \$269,796.	2018-2022
PI, Teaching Enhancement Grant, National University of Singapore, "Teaching Effectiveness, Course Evaluations, and Student Outcomes." (with Jessica Pan)	SGD \$20,400.	2018-2022
PI, Humanities and Social Sciences Seed Fund, National University of Singapore, "Early Life Shocks: Effects, Responses, and Remedies."	SGD \$20,000.	2017-2018
Start-up Grant, Yale-NUS College.	SGD \$45,000.	2016-2020

Teaching

TEACHING AWARD

Early Career Teaching Award, Yale-NUS College	2024
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LEE KUAN YEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

[MPAM] Human Capital Management and Leadership	Spring 24, 25, 26
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YALE-NUS COLLEGE

Intermediate Microeconomics	(8x) Spring 22, 23, 24, Fall 22, 24
Labor Economics	(7x) Spring 17, 23, Fall 17, 18, 21, 23, 24
Urban Economics	(3x) Spring 18, 22, 25
Econometrics	(2x) Spring 20
Comparative Social Inquiry (Common Curriculum)	(7x) Fall 16, 17, 18, 19

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY (as Instructor)

Principles of Economics	Summer 2014
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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY (as Teaching Assistant)

[Ph.D. Core Course] Microeconomic Analysis

[Undergraduate Courses] Principles of Economics, Economics of Race in the U.S., Law and Economics, Game Theory

Professional Activities

ACADEMIC VISITS

Visitor, Department of Economics, Yale University	March-April 2019
Visitor, CIRJE, Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo	May-June 2018

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Organizing Committee, Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics (AASLE)
2019 Conference, 12-14 December 2019, Singapore

Scientific Committee Member, AASLE, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2024

SEMINARS AND INVITED TALKS

2024	Asian Development Bank (ERDI Seminar Series)
2023	Conference on Sustainable Development for Thriving Communities (Monash University Malaysia, invited plenary speaker)
2021	NUS ALSET, NUS East Asian Institute
2019	Virginia Tech (Department of Economics)
2018	University of Tokyo (Department of Economics), Asian School of Business (Kuala Lumpur)
2016	Mount-Holyoke College, Yale-NUS College, Nanyang Technological University (Department of Economics), Ateneo de Manila University (School of Government), University of the Philippines (School of Economics)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024	Meeting of the Society of Economics of the Household (SMU, Singapore), NOVAFRICA Conference on Economic Development (Nova SBE, Lisbon), 2024 Jobs and Development Conference (Cairo)
2023	WEAI 17th International Conference (Melbourne), Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society in East and Southeast Asia (NTU, Singapore), AASLE Conference (NTU, Taipei)
2022	SOLE Annual Conference (Minneapolis), RES Annual Conference (Virtual), WEAI 97th Annual Conference (Virtual), AASLE Conference (Virtual)
2021	IUSSP Conference (Virtual)
2020	WEAI 95th Annual Conference (Virtual)

- 2019 The CSOR Occupational Licensing Conference (Saint Francis University),
APPAM International Conference (UPF, Barcelona), AASLE Conference
(Singapore)
- 2018 ASSA/AEA Annual Meeting (Philadelphia), Asian Meeting of the Econometric
Society (Sogang University, Seoul)
- 2017 Conference on Health and Development (Academic Sinica, Taipei), 10th Asian
Conference on Applied Micro and Econometrics (Singapore), Third Monash
Environmental Economics Workshop (Monash University)
- 2016 APPAM Fall Research Conference (D.C.)
- 2015 AEFPP Annual Conference (D.C.)
- 2014 AEFPP Annual Conference (San Antonio)
- 2013 EconCon (New York)

REFEREING

American Journal of Health Economics, China Economic Review, Economics of
Education Review, Environment and Development Economics, Frontiers in Psychiatry,
Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Human Capital, Journal of
Labor Economics, Labour Economics, PLoS ONE

Supervision and Service

PH.D. ADVISING AT NUS

Li Hongyan (as committee member, NUS Economics, PhD awarded 2023, placement:
Energy Studies Institute, Singapore)

UNDERGRADUATE CAPSTONE SUPERVISION AT YALE-NUS COLLEGE

- 2024/25 Suman Padhi, Fern Thittaya Prapinvanich, Tanmay Raghu
- 2023/24 Nicole Lim
- 2022/23 Cai Shenghao, Jonathan Roy Lara Tellez
- 2021/22 Ang Hui Lyn, Donomic Chan, Jacob Jian Feng Jarabejo, Sakshyat Khadka
- 2019/20 Chu Jincong, Dinh Hai Bao Lien, Sonal Kumar, Uros Perisic
- 2017/18 Colette Chiaranussati, Pareen Chaudhari
- 2016/17 Erika Terrones Shibuya, Spandana Bhattacharya

SERVICE TO LEE KUAN YEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

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| Faculty Teaching Excellence Committee (FTEC) | 2025/26 |
| Admissions Interviews for MPP | 2024/25 |
| Admissions Interviews for MPAM | 2023/24, 24/25 |

SERVICE TO YALE-NUS COLLEGE

Coordinator for Concurrent Degree with LKYSPP	2022/23, 23/24, 24/25
College Ethics Review Committee (Internal IRB)	2021/22
Economics Junior Search Committee (2 positions)	2018/19
CIPE Scholarship Committee: Yenching & Schwarzman	2017/18, 18/19, 19/20
Faculty Advisor for Student Organization KidsAccomplish!	2017/18, 18/19, 19/20
Family Weekend Sample Lecture	2017/18, 19/20
Cendana College Residential Fellow	2018/19, 19/20

Media Appearances

TELEVISION INTERVIEWS

- “Biden First 100 Days: An Asian Perspective.” Channel News Asia, Insight. 22 April 2021 20:00
- “Japan’s Demographic Time Bomb.” Channel News Asia, Insight. 8 Aug 2019 20:00

MEDIA COVERAGE

- “Tech expansion in Singapore fans tussle for talent (by Claudia Chong)”, The Business Times. 26 Feb 2021

Skills

Language	Mandarin (Native), English (Fluent)
Software	STATA, MATLAB, ArcGIS, Python, LyX