Yanzun Yang

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Education

PhD in Economics, **University of Toronto** 2021 - 2027 (Expected)
Committee: Philip Oreopoulos (Supervisor), Kory Kroft, David Price

Bachelor of Science in Statistics, **Fudan University** 2016 - 2020
Exchange program at the University of California, Santa Barbara (Fall 2018)

Research Interests

Labor Economics, Economics of Migration, Family Economics, Economics of AI

Working Papers

The Impact of Arriving During Recessions on Immigrant Integration (Job Market Paper)
Presentations: SWEAT (@UofT), CES NA 2026 (@Atlanta), CEA 2025 (@Montreal)

The Impact of International Students on US Colleges: Higher Education as a Service Export
with Mingyu Chen

Marriage Type and Immigrant Integration: Evidence from Canada
Presentations: CEA 2026 (@Vancouver), LAPUFIR Seminar (@UofT)

Work in Progress

The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Occupations
Presentations: Applied Micro Brownbag Seminar (@UofT)

Awards and Grants

School of Graduate Studies (SGS) Conference Grant 2026
University of Toronto PhD Conference Travel Grant 2026
University of Toronto Doctoral Fellowship 2021 - 2026
Fudan University Outstanding Undergraduate 2020

Professional Experience

Research Assistant

Avi Goldfarb, University of Toronto	2024
Carolina Arteaga, University of Toronto	2023
Gabriel Carroll, University of Toronto	2022
Zheng (Michael) Song, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Full-Time	2020-2021

Teaching Assistant: University of Toronto 2021 - present

Undergraduate Microeconomic Theory, Introduction to Data Analysis and Applied Econometrics, Principles of Macroeconomics

Undergraduate Advanced Field Courses: Game Theory, Empirical Industrial Organization

Conference Presentations (including scheduled)

Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics Conference (Beijing)	2026
Canadian Economics Association Meetings (Vancouver)	2026
Chinese Economists Society North America Annual Conference (Atlanta)	2026
Canadian Economics Association Meetings (Montreal)	2025

Other Information

Languages: Chinese (native), English (fluent)

Programming: Stata, R, Python, MATLAB, LaTeX, SAS, SQL

Other: Deemed Employee of Statistics Canada

References

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Abstracts

The Impact of Arriving During Recessions on Immigrant Integration

(Job Market Paper)

Temporary labor market conditions at arrival may have lasting consequences for immigrants' economic integration. I study this question using Canadian administrative data that link immigrant landing records to tax returns and employer information. To identify unexpected labor market conditions that are plausibly orthogonal to immigrant selection, I exploit provincial initial unemployment rate (IUR) shocks, defined as the difference between realized unemployment rates at arrival and their one-year-ahead predictions. A one percentage point (p.p.) increase in the shock reduces employment by 1.7 p.p. and annual earnings by 6.5% upon arrival, with effects remaining significant for five and six years, respectively. Employer linkages show that affected immigrants initially work at firms with lower wage premiums and partly recover through moving to higher-paying firms. Adverse entry conditions also increase interprovincial mobility. Observed switchers experience smaller losses than stayers, although Lee bounds accounting for treatment-induced mobility cannot distinguish adjustment from selection. Economic immigrants are significantly less affected than family-sponsored immigrants and refugees. Finally, parents' exposure to adverse entry conditions reduces their children's adult income, providing evidence of intergenerational scarring.

The Impact of International Students on US Colleges: Higher Education as a Service Export

with Mingyu Chen

Between 2003 and 2016, international enrollment in US higher education nearly doubled. We examine how trade shocks in education affect public universities' decision-making. We construct a shift-share instrument to exploit institutions' historical networks with different origins of international students, income growth, and exchange-rate fluctuations. Contrary to claims that US-born students are crowded out, we find that international students increase schools' funding via tuition payments, which leads to increased in-state enrollment and lower tuition prices. Schools also keep steady per-student spending and recruit more students with high math and verbal scores. Lastly, states allocate more appropriations to (research) universities that attract fewer international students.

Marriage Type and Immigrant Integration: Evidence from Canada

Intermarriage with native-born individuals may facilitate immigrants' economic integration through access to host-country networks and information. However, identifying its causal effects is challenging due to endogenous marriage decisions. Using Canada's Longitudinal Immigration Database, I combine exact matching with modern event study methods to estimate the dynamic effects of intermarriage and within-immigrant marriage. I find that both marriage types lead to substantial employment and earnings losses, particularly among women, with little evidence of an additional intermarriage premium. This finding generally holds across immigrant subgroups, including those expected to benefit most from host-country networks and information. Moreover, immigrants married to higher-earning spouses experience larger earnings declines, consistent with household income effects and specialization. Overall, the results suggest that intermarriage provides limited additional labor market benefits relative to within-immigrant marriage, while household-level mechanisms may play an important role in shaping immigrants' economic

outcomes following marriage.

The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Occupations

Complementarity matters for the impacts of AI on occupations. AI possesses the potential to enhance the productivity of certain tasks while automating others. Leveraging a commonly used measure of occupational AI exposure, I create an innovative metric for occupational exposure to AI complementarity. This metric is derived by aggregating the AI exposure of coworkers, identified through China's online job posting data. Results indicate that exposure to AI correlates with a notable decline in occupational hiring growth between 2015 and 2019, a period marked by the widespread adoption of AI, signifying a pronounced displacement effect. Interestingly, occupations complemented by AI demonstrate growth in both wages and hiring. The skill level of the occupation and the capacity of firms to adopt AI emerge as pivotal factors influencing the impact of AI on jobs. Notably, both AI-exposed and AI-complemented jobs undergo significant changes in skill requirements following the AI surge.