

# Sen Ma

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## Professional Experience

Associate Professor of Economics	
Institute for Economic and Social Research, Jinan University	2023-Present
Assistant Professor of Economics	
Institute for Economic and Social Research, Jinan University	2018-2023

## Education

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of Economics	
Ph.D. in Economics	2012- May 2018
Hong Kong University of Science & Technology, Division of Social Science	2010-2012
M.Phil. in Social Science	
Peking University, School of Economics	2006-2010
B.S. in Economics	
Minor in Statistics	

## Research Interests

Primary: Development  
Secondary: Labor, Demography, Environment

## Publications

- “Overseas Chinese Networks and Processing Trade in China”, with Bin Xie and Yan Zhou, *Review of International Economics*, Forthcoming.
- “Inter-group Contact and National Identity: Evidence from Hong Kong and Macau Students in the Mainland of China.”, with Li, Zehui, Haoye Liao, Junjie Qiu, and Sen Xue, *Journal of Development Economics*, 2025: 103625.
- “Cultural Ties, FDI and Firm Performance: Evidence from Investment in China Originating in Hong Kong and Macau.” *The World Economy*, 2025.
- “Deterrent Effects of Targeted Sanctions by Mainland China on Taiwan: Evidence from 2021-2 sanction Events”, with Fengze Han, Runliang Li, and Tzu-Chang Forrest Cheng. *Economica* 92, no. 365, 2025: 259-284.
- “Land Titling, Human Capital Misallocation, and Agricultural Productivity in China”, with Liu, Shouying, Lijuan Yin, and Jiong Zhu, *Journal of Development Economics*, 165, 2023, 103165.
- “Does School Shutdown Increase Inequality in Academic Performance? Evidence from COVID-19 Pandemic in China”, with Haoye Liao and Hao Xue, *China Economic Review*, 75, 2022, 101847.
- “Who Coresides with Parents: An Analysis Based on Sibling Comparative Advantage”, with

Fangqi Wen, *Demography*, 2016, 53(3), 623-647.

### **Working Papers**

“How Do Smallholder Farmers Adapt to Water Scarcity? Evidence from the Three Gorges Dam”, with Ting Chen and Chong Liu.

“From the Sky to the Soil: The Effects of Drones on Agricultural Productivity”, with Binkai, Chen, Lijuan Yin, and Jiong Zhu.

### **Research Grants**

National Natural Science Foundation of China (No.71903067), Cultural Similarity and Economic Development

### **Conference Presentations**

“Can Foreign Direct Investment Increase Productivity of Domestic Firms? Identifying FDI Spillovers from Borders of Chinese Dialect Zones”

The 2019 China Meeting of the Econometric Society, 2019, Guangzhou

EITI Conference, 2019, Sapporo

Young Economists Symposium at Yale, 2017, New Haven, also served as a discussant

Second China Center for Economic Research Summer Institute, 2017, Yantai

American Economic Association Annual Meeting poster session, 2017, Chicago

Chinese Economist Association Annual Meeting, 2016, Sacramento

European Trade Study Group, 2016, Helsinki

“Who Coresides with Parents: An Analysis Based on Sibling Comparative Advantage”

Population Association of America Annual Meeting, 2013, New Orleans

"The Effects of Environmental Regulation on Industrial Pollution and Industrial Activities: Evidence from China"

2016 International Symposium on Economics and Social Science-Summer Session, Kyoto, presented by co-authors

"Estimating the Long-run Impact of Climate Shock on Agricultural Productivity and Adaptation: Using Construction of the Three Gorges Dam as a Natural Experiment"

The Chinese Economist Association Annual Meeting, 2017, Tuscaloosa

JEEM Conference at Renmin University, 2025, Beijing

“School Closure and Female Labor Force Participation: Evidence from Covid-19 Lock-down”

Third IESR-GLO joint conference, 2020, online

Western Economic Association International Virtual Conference, 2021, online

“From the Sky to the Soil: The Effects of Drones on Agricultural Productivity”, with Binkai, Chen, Lijuan Yin, and Jiong Zhu

Warwick-SUFE-JNU-SDU Conference Program, 2025, Birmingham

### **Honors and Awards**

Pual W. Boltz Fellowship, 2016, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Department Summer Research Grant, summer 2015, summer 2017, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Cleo Fitzsimmons Best Performance in Core Classes Award, 2013, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
University Travel Grant, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Department Fellowship, 2012, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

### **Referee Service**

Demography, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Human Resource, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Population Economics, Labour Economics, PLOS ONE

### **Teaching**

Development Economics (Undergraduate) at Jinan University  
Micro Economics (Ph.D.) at Jinan University  
Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Macroeconomics at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Microeconomics at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Teaching Assistant for Principle of Economics at Hong Kong University of Science & Technology

### **Languages**

Mandarin Chinese (Native), English (Fluent), Japanese (Fluent)