

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 M.Phil. in Social Science	2010-2012
Peking University, School of Economics B.S. in Economics Minor in Statistics	2006-2010

Research Interests

Primary: Development
Secondary: Labor, Demography, Environment

Publications

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

Working Papers

“Cultural Ties, FDI, and Firm Performance: Evidence from Investment in China Originating in Hong Kong and Macau”, *Conditionally Accepted at The World Economy*

“Inter-group Contact and National Identity: Evidence from Hong Kong, and Macau

Students in the Mainland of China”, with Zehui Li , Haoye Liao , Junjie Qiu , Sen Xue,
Revise and Resubmit at Journal of Development Economics.
“Environmental Change, Water Scarcity and Farmers' Differentiated Adaptations:
Evidence from the Three Gorges Dam”, with Ting Chen and Chong Liu.
“Overseas Chinese Networks and Processing Trade in China”, with Bin Xie and Yan Zhou,
Revise and Resubmit at Review of International Economics.

Work in Progress

“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 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)