YI CHEN

Curriculum Vitae updated April 2026

Contact Information

ShanghaiTech University
School of Entrepreneurship and Management
Room 303
Shanghai, China
Zip code: 201210

86-(021)-20684771
chenyi1@shanghaitech.edu.cn
http://chenyiecon.weebly.com/
Citizenship: China
Birth: June, 1988

Education

University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, California, United States)

Ph.D. in Economics (June 2015)
M.A. in Economics (June 2012)

Peking University (Beijing, China)

B.A. in Economics, Peking University (June 2010)
B.S. in Applied Mathematics, Peking University (Double degree, June 2010)

Research Interests

Labor Economics, Population Economics, Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics

Professional Experience

School of Entrepreneurship and Management, ShanghaiTech University

Tenured Associate Professor, June 2025–present
Associate Professor, July 2020–May 2025

Institute for Economic and Social Research, Jinan University

Associate Professor, October 2019–June, 2020
Assistant Professor, October 2016–September 2019

Jinhe Center for Economic Research, Xi'An Jiaotong University

Assistant Professor, September 2015–September 2016

Professional Affiliations

Associate Editor, *Journal of Population Economics*, December 2021–present

Fellow of Global Labor Organization, March 2018–present

Publications

"The State of Mental Health Among Older Chinese and the Role of Children." (with Hanming Fang). 2024. *Japanese Economic Review*, Vol.75, 485–517.

- Best Article Award for The Japanese Economic Review, 2024

"Evaluating the Effects of a Massive Rural Education Expansion in Pre-reform China." (with Ziying Fan, Xiaomin Gu, and Li-An Zhou). 2024. *Journal of Population Economics*, Vol.37.

"The Timing of First Marriage and Subsequent Life Outcomes: Evidence from a Natural Experiment." (with Yi Zhao). 2022. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, Vol.50(3), 713–731.

"Motherhood and Gender Wage Differentials within a Chinese Firm." (with Hong Zhang and Li-An Zhou). 2021. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol.70(1), 283–320.

"The Long-Term Consequences of China's "Later, Longer, Fewer" Campaign in Old Age." (with Hanming Fang). 2021. *Journal of Development Economics*, Vol.151, 102664.

"Arrival of Young Talents: Send-Down Movement and Rural Education in China." (with Ziying Fan, Xiaomin Gu and Li-An Zhou). 2020. *American Economic Review*, Vol.110(11), 3393–3430.

- A reply in response to a comment by Guan Gong, Gordon G. Liu, Ding Lu, James G. Wen, and Huizhong Zhou—
  "Arrival of Young Talent: The Send-down Movement and Rural Education in China: Reply." (with Ziying Fan, Xiaomin Gu and Li-An Zhou). 2021. Available as SSRN Working Paper 3787288.
- A further reply in response to their further comment—
  "Arrival of Young Talent: The Send-down Movement and Rural Education in China: Further Reply." (with Ziying Fan, Xiaomin Gu and Li-An Zhou). 2021. Available as SSRN Working Paper 3917492.

"The Power of the Government: China's Family Planning Leading Group and the Fertility Decline since 1970." (with Yingfei Huang). 2020. *Demographic Research*, Vol.42, 985–1038.

"Estimating Returns to Education in Urban China—Evidence from a Natural Experiment in the Schooling Reform." (with Sheng Jiang and Li-An Zhou). 2020. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, Vol.48(1), 218–233.

"Explaining the Decline of the U.S. Saving Rate: the Role of Health Expenditure." (with Maurizio Mazzocco and Béla Személy). 2019. *International Economic Review*, Vol.60(4), 1823–1859.

"Does Raising Family Income Cause Better Child Health? Evidence from China." (with Xiaoyan Lei, Li-An Zhou). 2017. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol.65(3), 495–520.

"县级财政负担与地方公共服务：农村税费改革的影响"（与周黎安合作），《经济学（季刊）》，2015年第2期，417–434

"劳动合同对于进城务工人员收入影响的有效性分析"（与刘阳阳合作），《经济学（季刊）》，2009年第2期，687–712

Working Papers

"Cultural Change and Policy Implementation: Promoting Later Marriage in 1970s China." 2026. Under review.

"Remedy or Retreat? Investigating *Ex-post* Incentives under the One-Vote Veto System." (with Qiang He, Jiaqi Liu, and Li-An Zhou) 2026. Under review.

"Measuring Labor Market Match Quality in China with Large Language Models." (with Hanming Fang, Yi Zhao, and Zibo Zhao). 2026. Under review.

"The Trajectory of Aging: Correcting the Equal-Weighting Bias in Health Measurement with Large Language Models." (with Qian Lyu). 2026.

"College Affirmative Action and Students' Long-Term Outcomes: A Matter of the Dose." (with Chao Fu, Hongbin Li, Teng Li, and Siyan Tang). 2026.

"The Costs and Benefits of Being Conservative: Evidence from Gender Differences in the Chinese College Entrance Examination." (with Sikun Dou, Hongbin Li, and Roujing Wu). 2026.

"The Source of Individual Alpha: Cognitive Ability vs. Elite Education in a Retail-Dominated Market." (withSumit Agarwal, Siyu Chen, Hongbin Li, and Teng Li). 2026.

"Never Too Old to Save? Explaining High Savings Rates among Urban China's Elderly." 2016.

Grants

Excellent Young Scholars Fund, National Natural Science Foundation of China, 2025–2027, 2,000,000 RMB, "Empirical Research on Human Capital in China."

Young Scholars Fund, National Natural Science Foundation of China, 2020–2022, 170,000 RMB, "The Dynamics and Mechanisms of the Gender Wage Difference: Evidence from a Firm Personnel Data."

Other Publications

"家庭内部分工、性别歧视与性别工资差异"，《经济资料译丛》，2017年第3期，42–45

Media Coverage

"How Zero-Tolerance Accountability Rules Can Produce "Lying Flat" Officials", Research Brief, Standford Center on China's Economy and Institutions, 2026.

"多上一年中学能提高我们的收入吗？"，黄埔大道西观点，2020
Republished by 中国经济学教育科研网

"有关计划生育的五个"错误"认知"，澎湃/黄埔大道西观点，2020
Republished by 中国经济学教育科研网

""3+1+2"方案下，化学可能成为物理之后的遇冷科目"，黄埔大道西观点/羊城派，2019

"How Do Family Planning Policies Reshape the Life of the Chinese Elderly?" (with Hanming Fang), VoxChina, 2018
Republished by VoxDev.org, VoxEU.org, and 黄埔大道西观点

""上山下乡"带动农村教育"，政见 CNPolitics.org，2018

""性别歧视"是女性在劳动力市场处于弱势的万恶之源么？"，黄埔大道西观点，2017

Teaching

ShanghaiTech University

Undergraduate: Introduction to Economics (2020 Fall, 2021 Spring, 2021 Fall, 2023 Spring, 2024 Spring, 2025 Spring, 2026 Spring), Data and Social Science (2022 Spring, 2023 Spring, 2024 Summer), Probability Theory and Business Statistical Analysis (2023 Fall, 2025 Fall)

Jinan University

Graduate: Applications of Econometric Software (2017 Fall, 2018 Fall, 2019 Fall)
Undergraduate: Statistical Software for Data Analysis (2018 Fall, 2019 Fall)

Xi'An Jiaotong University

Graduate: Health Economics, Labor Economics (2016 Spring)
Undergraduate: Introduction to Econometrics (2015 Fall)

Referee

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Applied Economic Letters, British Journal of Political Science, China Economic Quarterly International, China Economic Review, Comparative Political Studies, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Inquiry, Economics and Human Biology, Economics of Transition and Institutional Change, Health Economics, Journal of Asian Economics, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Business Venturing, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic History, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Macroeconomics, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of the Economics and Aging, Labour Economics, Management Science, Population and Development Review, Population Research and Policy Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Research in Higher Education, Review of Economics and Statistics, Social Science & Medicine, SSM - Population Health, Review of Economics of the Household, World Development, 经济学（季刊）

Presentation

2026: Asian Meeting of Econometrics Society (scheduled)

2025: Peking University (Guanghua School of Management), Peking University (National School of Development), Fudan University (School of Economics), 402th NSFC Shuangqing Forum, ABFER Annual Conference, Hong Kong Labor Symposium, Annual Conference of China Population Association, the 4th Zhejiang University Workshop on Labor Economics and Public Policy,

the CCES Workshop on Development and Health Economics, the International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics, Sun Yat-Sen Conference of Labor Economics

2024: Jinan University (IESR), Peking University (School of Economics), Development Therapy (Shanghai Jiaotong University), Shanghai Summit Labor Economics Seminar, The 7th International Conference of China Development Studies, Asian Meeting of Econometrics Society, China Economic Society China Conference, IESR Labor Conference, Sun Yat-Sen Conference of Labor Economics, The 7th Renmin University of China / GLO Annual Conference

2023: Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (School of Economics), Shanghai Jiaotong University, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (School of Public Economics and Administration), Duke Kunshan University, Zhejiang University, The 6th International Conference of China Development Studies, 2023 SUFE Workshop on Frontiers of Resource and Environmental Economics, The 7th Annual Conference of China Labor Economists Forum

2022: Xiamen University, The 5th International Conference of China Development Studies, The 6th Annual Conference of China Labor Economists Forum, GLO-IESR Joint Workshop, Jinan University (Institute for Economic and Social Research)

2021: Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (School of Economics), Fudan University (School of Management), Renmin University of China (School of Labor and Human Resources), Fudan University (School of Economics)

2020: The 3rd Renmin University–GLO Conference on Chinese Labor Market, International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics, ShanghaiTech University

2019: CUHK–ShanghaiTech Forum on Chinese Economy, International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics, Wuhan University, The 4th Biennial Conference of China Development Studies, China Meeting of the Econometric Society, Renmin University of China (School of Labor and Human Resources)

2018: International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics, IESR Workshop on Family and Labor Economics, Chicago–Jinan Joint Initiative Workshop, The 11th China Economics Summer Institute, International Conference on "Addressing Population Aging: Institutional and Public Policy Innovations", CCER Summer Institute, IESR-GLO Joint Labor Workshop, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (School of Public Economics and Administration)

2017: International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics, IESR Labor Workshop, The 3rd Annual Workshop on Population Ageing and the Chinese Economy, 25th Annual Colloquium of Superannuation Researchers, Firms in Emerging Economies Workshop, China Meeting of the Econometric Society, Xi'an Jiaotong University (Jinhe Center for Economic Research), The 4th Camphor Economist Circle Workshop

2016: The 2nd Camphor Economist Circle Workshop for English Working Papers, Shanghai Lixin University of Accounting and Finance, The 16th China Economics Annual Conference, The 1st Annual Conference of China Association of Labor Economics, Workshop on "The structural approach to understanding the Chinese economy," The 2nd Annual Workshop on Population Ageing and the Chinese Economy, NBER Chinese Economy Working Group Meeting, The 3rd Symposium of Chinese Labor Economists

2015: The 7th International Symposium on Human Capital and Labor Markets, The 15th China Economics Annual Conference, Peking University (National School of Development), Central University of Finance and Economics School of Economics (School of Economics), International Conference on "Institutions, Reforms and Economic Development"

Honors and Awards

Keynote Speaker, Release Conference of the 2022 China Family Panel Studies, 2024

The 9th Outstanding Achievements in Scientific Research in Colleges and Universities (Humanities and Social Sciences), Third Prize, 2024

Awarded by the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China

The 16th Shanghai Philosophy and Social Science Outstanding Achievement Award (First Prize of Academic Excellence), 2023

SEM Service Excellence Award, 2021

Special-term Professor of Shanghai Oriental Scholar, 2020

IESR Best Paper Award, 2019 (to "Arrival of Young Talent: The Send-down Movement and Rural Education in China.")

IESR Best Teaching Award, 2018

Best Presentation at the Annual Workshop on Population Ageing and the Chinese Economy, 2016

Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA, 2014–2015

University Fellowship Awards, UCLA, 2010–2011

Future Star in Academic Research, Peking University, 2009

Houston Alumni Association Scholarship, Peking University, 2009