

Zhuoyu (Rachel) Qiu

Department of Economics, University of California, Riverside
900 University Ave, Riverside, CA 92521, USA

✉ zhuoyu.qiu@email.ucr.edu | [in linkedin.com/in/zhuoyu-qiu](https://www.linkedin.com/in/zhuoyu-qiu)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research focuses on applied microeconomics, particularly labor economics and the economics of education. I study human capital accumulation in educational settings, child and family well-being, and the effects of public policies using large-scale administrative data and causal inference methods.

EDUCATION

- **University of California, Riverside**
Ph.D. in Economics
Riverside, CA, USA
Sep. 2021 – Jun. 2027 (expected)
- **Jinan University**
M.S. in Economics, with Honors
Guangzhou, China
Sep. 2019 – Jun. 2021
- **Zhongnan University of Economics and Law**
B.S. in Economics, with Honors
Wuhan, China
Sep. 2014 – Jun. 2019

JOB MARKET PAPER

• Gender Peer Effects and Women's STEM Attainment: Evidence from a U.S. University

Abstract: This paper examines how peer gender composition affects students' academic progress using administrative records for first-year students entering a top-tier research university between 2016 and 2023. I focus on introductory mathematics courses taken in the first quarter and examine both mathematics course completion and overall first-quarter course completion. The identification strategy exploits idiosyncratic variation in the share of female peers across teaching sections within the same mathematics course. Baseline estimates indicate that a 10-percentage-point increase in the share of female peers raises female students' probability of completing introductory mathematics by 1.6 percentage points and increases the share of first-quarter courses they complete by the same amount. These findings are robust to controlling for peer gender composition in other courses and excluding cohorts that entered during the COVID-19 pandemic. The gains are concentrated among women who declared a STEM major at entry. Further evidence suggests that greater exposure to female classmates also increases women's likelihood of graduating with a STEM degree. Together, these findings highlight the role of classroom gender composition in women's early academic progress and subsequent STEM attainment.

PUBLICATION

- [1] **Qiu, Z.** (2026). **Punching Out, Not Down: The Impact of Paid Sick Leave on Child Maltreatment.** *Labour Economics*, 102958. [doi:10.1016/j.labeco.2026.102958](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.labeco.2026.102958).

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

- **Effects of Faculty Gender Attitudes on College Students' Short- and Long-Term Outcomes**
With Ozkan Eren (University of California, Riverside), Krzysztof Karbownik (Emory University), and Ruinan Zhao (State of California Department of Industrial Relations)
 - We link university administrative records (2013–2024) to faculty responses on the Gender-Science Implicit Association Test to examine student achievement, major choice, STEM persistence, and graduation outcomes.
 - Preliminary findings indicate that female students taught by instructors with stronger implicit gender bias are more likely to leave their declared majors and less likely to graduate on time.
- **The Impact of Marriage Tax Bonus and Penalty on Marital Decisions in the U.S.**
With Zhe Yang (Liaoning University)
 - We examine marriage formation and dissolution using the Survey of Income and Program Participation. We measure marriage tax bonuses and penalties relative to after-tax income and construct an instrument using variation in tax incentives across states and demographic groups.

TECHNICAL AND POLICY REPORTS

- [1] Bates, M., Bruene, S., Calderon, E. E., De La Torre, E., Freire, P., Guo, J., Hutchins, G. B., Jackson, K., Kapoor, M., Nelson, F., **Qiu, Z.**, Reese, E., Rettberg, G., and Tamayose, B. C. (2023). **The State of Work in the Inland Empire Part II: Pandemic, Polarization, Inflation, and Investment.** *Inland Empire Labor and Community Center and Center for Social Innovation, University of California, Riverside.*

TECHNICAL AND POLICY REPORTS (CONTINUED)

- [2] Bainiwal, T. S., Bates, M., Brookes, M., Bruene, S., Calderon, E., Carranza, N., De La Torre, E., Freire, P., Gudis, C., Guo, J., Hutchins, G. B., Jackson, K., Kapoor, M., Nelson, F., **Qiu, Z.**, Reese, E., Rettberg, G., Tamayose, B., and Tan, A. (2024). **The State of Work: Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics in the Inland Empire.** *Inland Empire Labor and Community Center and Center for Social Innovation, University of California, Riverside.*
- [3] Bates, M., Brookes, M., Bruene, S., Burnett, J., Calderon, E., Carbajal, A., De La Torre, E., Guo, J., Hutchins, G. B., Kapoor, M., Mukenge, K., Nelson, F., **Qiu, Z.**, Rana, S., Reese, E., Rettberg, G., Salam, I., and Tamayose, B. (2024). **Thrive Inland SoCal: Labor Market Analysis.** *Inland Empire Labor and Community Center and Center for Social Innovation, University of California, Riverside.*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **University of California, Riverside** Riverside, CA, USA
 - Instructor of Record Aug. 2025
 - Urban Economics (Summer 2025)
 - Teaching Assistant Oct. 2022 – Now
 - Introductory Econometrics (Fall 2022; Winter 2023; Winter & Fall 2024; Winter, Spring, & Fall 2025; Winter 2026)
 - Statistics for Economics (Fall 2023)
 - Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (Spring 2024; Spring 2026)
 - Software Instructor Jul. – Aug. 2023
 - Stata Boot Camp, Master of Public Policy Program
 - Pedagogical Training Jul. 2026
 - Summer Curriculum Design Institute

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Department of Economics, University of California, Riverside** Riverside, CA, USA
 - Graduate Student Researcher Jul. – Sep. 2026
- **Center for Social Innovation, University of California, Riverside** Riverside, CA, USA
 - Graduate Student Researcher Apr. – Jun. 2023
- **Peking University HSBC Business School** Remote
 - Research Assistant Dec. 2020 – Jun. 2021
- **Guangzhou Academy of Social Sciences** Guangdong, China
 - Research Assistant Aug. – Dec. 2020

PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

- Economic Seminar Series, California State University Long Beach (Scheduled) Long Beach, CA, USA, 2026
- Southern Economic Association (SEA) 96th Annual Meeting (Department nominated, Scheduled) Houston, TX, USA, 2026
- International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics, Xiamen University Xiamen, China, 2025
- Southern Economic Association (SEA) 95th Annual Meeting Tampa, FL, USA, 2025
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Annual Fall Conference Seattle, WA, USA, 2025
- 18th All-California Labor Economics Conference, Stanford University Stanford, CA, USA, 2025
- China Economics Society (CES) China Annual Conference, Sun Yat-sen University Guangzhou, China, 2025
- SEMi-Talk Academic Workshop, Tsinghua University Beijing, China, 2024
- 15th All-California Labor Economics Conference, University of California, Riverside Riverside, CA, USA, 2022

REFeree SERVICE

- Journal of Labor Research

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Dean's Distinguished Fellowship, University of California, Riverside 2021 – Present
- Outstanding Graduate Award, Jinan University 2019 – 2021

SKILLS

- **Software:** Stata, Python, MATLAB, R, SQL, L^AT_EX, Qualtrics
- **Additional Skills:** Policy report writing, survey design, data visualization