

QUANFENG ZHOU

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Education

University of California, Riverside <i>Ph.D. in Economics</i>	Sep. 2016 – Jun. 2022 (expected) <i>Riverside, CA</i>
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor <i>M.A. in Applied Economics</i>	Sep. 2014 – Dec. 2015 <i>Ann Arbor, MI</i>
Nanyang Technological University <i>B.A. in Economics</i>	Sep. 2010 – Jun. 2014 <i>Singapore</i>

Teaching Interests

- Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Applied Econometrics, Labor Economics

Teaching Experience

Department of Economics, University of California Riverside *Instructor* **Aug 2020**
• Summer 2020 - ECON 102 - Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (Upper Division)

Department of Economics, University of California Riverside *Teaching Assistant* **Sep 2017 – Dec 2020**
• ECON200A - Microeconomic Theory (Core Ph.D. Course) - Fall 2019
• ECON002 - Introduction to Macroeconomics (Lower Division) - Spring/Fall 2018
• ECON003 - Introduction to Microeconomics (Lower Division) - Fall 2017, Winter 2018, Fall 2020
• ECON102 - Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (Upper Division) - Summer 2019
• ECON104A - Intermediate Microeconomic Theory I (Upper Division) - Winter 2019
• ECON104B - Intermediate Microeconomic Theory II (Upper Division) - Winter 2020
• ECON105B - Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory (Upper Division) - Summer 2018
• ECON108 - Introductory Econometrics (Upper Division) - Spring 2019

Research Interests

- Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Applied Econometrics, Applied Microeconomics

Job Market Paper

“Does Higher Instructional Spending in Colleges Promote Student Earnings?”

- Abstract: Are large increases in college spending worthwhile? This paper focuses on the relationship between instructional spending in colleges and student earnings after entering the labor market. By exploiting an institution-level panel data set, I use two-way fixed effects regressions to estimate the elasticities between instructional spending and student earnings. The estimated elasticities are 0.5, 1.7, and 1.9 percent for average earnings six, eight, and ten years after first attendance. They are also higher on lower percentiles in the earning distribution. Compared to the estimates in the existing literature, my estimates are much smaller. I further interact instructional spending with the type of institution. I find that the results are driven mainly through private institutions and four-year institutions. Public institutions that are more established are also found to have a positive, but smaller effect. Cost-benefit analysis reveals that instructional spending is cost-effective only under an extremely forward-looking perspective.

Work in Progress

- “Allocation Mechanism and External Validity in the Regression Discontinuity Design”
- “Bounding for External Validity”, with Michael Bates
- “Competition for Better Students and College Budget Decisions”, with Zhuozhen Zhao

Non-Peer-Reviewed Publication

- “*Good Jobs in the Inland Empire*”, with Michael Bates, Karthick Ramakrishnan, Gary Rettberg, and Beth Tamayose

Other Experience

Center for Social Innovation, UC Riverside *Graduate Student Researcher* **Apr 2020 – Present**
Director: Karthick Ramakrishnan

Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Research Assistant* **Aug 2015 – Apr 2016**
Research Associate Professor: Martha Bailey

Income Dynamics Lab, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor *Research Assistant* **Sep 2015 – Apr 2016**
Director: Raj Arunachalam

Presentations

Applied Economics Seminar, University of California, Riverside **Oct 2021**

Applied Economics Seminar, University of California, Riverside **May 2020**

Awards and Honors

Dean’s Distinguished Fellowship, University of California, Riverside **2016 – 2021**

Jen Family Scholarship, Nanyang Technological University **2009 – 2014**

Skills

Software: R, Stata, Python, Matlab, Microsoft Office, L^AT_EX
Language: Mandarin (native), English (fluent)

References

Michael Bates (Chair)
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