

CURRICULUM VITAE

YI CRYSTAL ZHAN

Department of Economics
Darla Moore School of Business
University of South Carolina

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EMPLOYMENT:

Department of Economics, Darla Moore School of Business, University of South Carolina

Moore Fellow, 2025 – Present
Associate Professor, 2021 – Present
Assistant Professor, 2013 – 2021

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. in Economics, University of California, San Diego, 2013

Thesis Title: *Essays on Ethnicity and Economic Choices*
Committee: *Julie Cullen (Chair), Eli Berman, Gordon Dahl, Gordon Hanson, John Skrentny*

B.A. in Finance, Guanghua School of Management, Peking University, 2007

B.S. in Computer Science, Peking University, 2007

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Immigration, Urban Economics, Natural Disasters

PUBLICATIONS:

Journal Articles

Yang, Rui, Xinran Wang, Rongjian Yu, and **Crystal Zhan**, 2025. “Information Flows in a Fragmented World: A Quasi-Experiment on the Impact of Regional Conflicts on Cross-border Google Traffic.” *Journal of International Business Studies*.

Zhan, Crystal, 2023. “Book Matters: The Effect of Cocky’s Reading Express on Student Performance,” *Economics of Education Review*, 94, 102395.

Gordanier, John, Orgul Ozturk, and **Crystal Zhan**, 2023. "Pencils Down? Computerized Testing and Student Achievement," *Education Finance and Policy*, 18(2): 232-252.

Sheldon, Tamara and **Crystal Zhan**, 2022. "The Impact of Natural Disasters on Domestic Migration." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 115, 102726.

Zhan, Crystal, 2022. "Wage distributions in origin societies and occupational choices of immigrant generations in the USA," *Journal of Population Economics*, 35: 89-133.

Amuedo-Dorantes, Catalina and **Crystal Zhan**, 2021. "The Determinants of Immigrant Health Insurance in the United States: Understanding the Role of Health Care in Origin Societies." *Health Economics*, 30(6): 1498-1516.

Gordanier, John, Orgul Ozturk, Breyon Williams, and **Crystal Zhan**, 2020. "Free Lunch for All! The Effect of Community Eligibility Provision Program on Student Outcomes," *Economics of Education Review*, 77, 101999.

Jones, Daniel and **Crystal Zhan**, 2020. "Ethnic Diversity and Citizens' Support for Local Public Good Provision." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 174: 108-130.

Sheldon, Tamara and **Crystal Zhan**, 2019. "The Impact of Natural Disasters on US Home Ownership," *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, 6(6): 1169-1203.

Zhan, Crystal, 2018. "School Choice Programs and Location Choices of Private Schools," *Economic Inquiry*, 56(3): 1622-1645

Zhan, Crystal, 2016. "Institutions, Social Norms, and Educational Attainment," *Education Economics*, 25(1): 22-44.

Zhan, Crystal, 2015. "Money vs. Prestige: Cultural Attitudes and Occupational Choices," *Labour Economics*, 32: 44-56.

Zhan, Crystal, 2015. "Schools and Neighborhoods: Residential Location Choice of Immigrant Parents in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area," *Journal of Population Economics*, 28: 737-783.

Book Chapters

Sheldon, Tamara and **Crystal Zhan**, 2024. "A Better Place to Call Home: Natural Disasters, Climate Risk, and Regional Migration," in Robert Sauer, ed., *World Scientific Encyclopedia of Global Migration. Vol. 2* (Singapore: World Scientific Publishing)

WORKING PAPERS:

Sheldon, Tamara and **Crystal Zhan**, 2025. "Wildfires, Smoke Pollution, and Household Purchasing Behaviors." (Revise and Resubmit)

Harrison, Sayward, Tamara Sheldon, **Crystal Zhan**, David M. Anderson, and Xiaoming Li, 2025. "In the Wake of California Wildfires: Promoting Psychological Resilience for Individuals and Communities." (Revise and Resubmit)

Bilen, Eren, Tamara Sheldon, and **Crystal Zhan**, 2025. "Learning from the Storm: The Impact of Hurricane Experience on Future Disaster Preparedness." (*Under Review*)

Zhan, Crystal and Chen Zhou, 2025. "Marching Left or Marching Right, What If I Want Neither: Polarized Curricular Laws and School Choices." (*Under Review*)

Zhan, Crystal and Sumit Deole, 2025. "Economic Preferences and the Self-selection of Immigrants."

Amuedo-Dorantes, Catalina, Tamara Sheldon, and **Crystal Zhan**, 2025. "Airborne Disruptions: The Effect of Wildfire Smoke on School Absenteeism in California."

Ozturk, Orgul and **Crystal Zhan**, 2019. "Mission Statements, Location Choices, and the Supply of Charter Schools."

PRESENTATIONS:

2026: Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference (Scheduled)

2025: Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Fall Workshop, Zhejiang University, Monash University, Peking University, Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference, ASSA Annual Meeting

2024: East China Normal University, Yonsei University, SITES-GLO Annual Conference, Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference

2023: Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, Carolina Region Empirical Economics Day, UCSD Past Grads Applied Micro Conference, South East Exchange of Development Studies Conference.

2022: Western Economic Association International Annual Conference, Carolina Region Empirical Economics Day, JOPE Spring Workshop.

2021: Carolina Region Empirical Economics Day, Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference

2020: Triangle Economics of Education Workshop, World Congress of the Econometric Society, Southeastern Micro Labor Workshop Series, Association for Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference

2019: Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, UCSD Past Grads Applied Micro Conference, Carolina Region Empirical Economics Day, ASSA Annual Meeting

2018: Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, European Society of Population Economics Conference, South Carolina Applied Micro Day

2017: Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Western Economic Association International Annual Conference, European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association

2016: Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, Western Economic Association International Annual Conference, the Society of Government Economists Annual Conference, South Carolina Applied Micro Day

2015: Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, Chinese Economist Society Annual Conference, South Carolina Applied Micro Day

2014: European Association of Labour Economists Conference, European Society of Population Economics Conference

2013: Norface Migration Conference, Durham University Business School, University of South Carolina, American Institutes for Research

2012: All-California Labor Economics Conference, Oikos Young Scholars Economics Academy, Levy Economics Institute of Bard College, Wisconsin Center for Education Research, University of Wisconsin, University of California, San Diego

2011: All-California Labor Economics Conference, University of California, San Diego

REFEREE:

American Educational Research Journal
Eastern Economic Journal
Economics of Education Review
Economic Development and Cultural Change
Education Economics
Environmental and Resource Economics
European Economic Review
Housing, Theory and Society
International Review of Financial Analysis
Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization
Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy
Journal of Environmental Economics and Management
Journal of Labor Research
Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists
Journal of Urban Affairs
Journal of Urban Economics
Review of Economics of the Household
Singapore Economic Review

TEACHING:

Department of Economics, University of South Carolina

Undergraduate: Principle of Macroeconomics (222), Introduction to Econometrics (436), Labor Economics (506), Econometrics (594)

Master: Applied Econometrics (736)

Ph.D.: Third-Year Seminar (893), Economics of Human Capital (898)

STUDENT ADVISING:

Undergraduate Honors Thesis: *Andy Jackson (2023), *Kelvin Shihemi (2023), Aaron Schickler (2023), Tong Gu (2018), *Jamie Gilberto (2017), *Sheri Cunningham (2017)

Master's Thesis: Marli Fichtner (2024), Jacob Martin (2016), Morgan Holland (2014)

PhD: *Saharnaz Babaei Balderlou (2024, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse), †Yuqi Peng (2021, Salisbury University), *Zhongyu Cao (2019, Hunan University)

* Main adviser † Outside committee member

SERVICE:

Moore School of Business Certificate Electives Approval Committee, 2021 – Present

Department of Economics Ph.D. Director, 2022 – 2024

Master's in Economics Committee, 2021 – 2022

Moore School Data Analytics Task Force, 2017 – 2019

Economics Undergraduate Teaching Committee, 2017 – 2018, 2019 – 2020

Magellan Scholar Program Reviewer, 2016, 2017, 2019

LANGUAGE SKILLS:

Languages English (fluent), Chinese (native)