

Ning Zhang

Department of Economics,
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/ningzhangecon>
Email: niz17@pitt.edu

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Pittsburgh, 2016-present.

M.Phil. in Economics, Chinese Hong Kong University, 2014-2016.

B.A. in Economics, Renmin University of China, 2010-2014.

Fields of Interest

Primary: Labor Economics, Macroeconomics

Secondary: Family Economics, Housing, Applied Microeconomics

Publications

- 1 [“The Opioid Epidemic, Child Maltreatment and Foster Care”](#) (with Rania Gihleb and Osea Giuntella) *Forthcoming in **Journal of Human Resources***
- 2 [“Opioid Crisis, Pregnancy Outcomes, and Drug Monitoring Policy Across US States”](#) (with Rania Gihleb and Osea Giuntella), ***Regional Science and Urban Economics***, Volume 81, March 2020, 103497

Working Papers

- 1 [”Housing Vouchers, Labor Supply and Household Formation: A Structural Approach”](#), ***Job Market Paper***
- 2 [“The Boomerang Kids: Coresidence and Job Mismatch”](#) (with Stefania Albanesi and Rania Gihleb)
- 3 [“Does Sophie’s Choice Weaken Reverse Altruism? The Twins Experiment”](#) (with Junsen Zhang and Hongliang Zhang), *Under Review*

Working in Progress

- 1 “The General Equilibrium Effect of Housing Vouchers”
- 2 “Delayed American Dream? Student debt, Family Formation and Homeownership” (with Stefania Albanesi and Rania Gihleb)
- 3 “The Effect of Migration on Arts” (with K. Pun Winichakul,)
- 4 “Lending a Faithful Hand: Social Support and Refugee Outcomes” (with K. Pun Winichakul and Neil Silveus)
- 5 “The Interaction Between Environment and Endowment: Evidence From A Social Experiment on Twins” (with Ruifei Guo and Junsen Zhang)

Presentations

Conference

2020: EALE SOLE AASLE World Conference (Virtual meeting); Econometric Society World Congress (Virtual meeting)

2019: International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics, (Shenzhen, China); North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society, (Seattle, USA); SOLE-The Society of Labor Economists, (Arlington, USA)

2017: International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics, (Guangzhou, China)

Seminar

Economics Series Seminar, Wuhan University, Dec 2019

Macro-Finance Lunch, Carnegie Mellon University, Nov 2019

Teaching Experience

TA for Intro to Introduction to Microeconomics, University of Pittsburgh, Fall 2020

TA for PhD Advanced Macroeconomics I, University of Pittsburgh, Fall 2018

TA for PhD Advanced Macroeconomics II, University of Pittsburgh, Spring 2019

Temporary Instructor for Labor Economics, University of Pittsburgh, Spring 2019

TA for Introduction to Microeconomics, University of Pittsburgh, Summer 2018

TA for Intermediate Microeconomics, Chinese Hong Kong University, Spring 2016

TA for Introduction to Microeconomics, Chinese Hong Kong University, Spring, 2015

TA for Statistical Methods, Chinese Hong Kong University, Fall 2014

Activities, Honors and Awards

Becker Friedman Institute Price Theory Summer Camp, University of Chicago, 2019

Mellon Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2019-2020

SSRI Migration Initiative Grant, 2019

Summer Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2018

First year Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2016-2017

Best Thesis Award, Chinese Hong Kong University, 2016

HECO Chicago-Beijing Summer School, 2015

Skills

Language: Mandarin (Native), English (Fluent)

Computer: Proficient in Stata, Matlab, Python, Fortran

Reference

Prof. Stefania Albanesi (Chair)	Prof. Rania Gihleb (Co-chair)	Prof. Daniele Coen-Pirani
Department of Economics,	Department of Economics,	Department of Economics,
University of Pittsburgh	University of Pittsburgh	University of Pittsburgh
Email: stefania.albanesi@pitt.edu	Email: gihleb@pitt.edu	Email: coen@pitt.edu

Working paper abstracts

“Housing Vouchers, Labor Supply and Household Formation: A Structural Approach”
Job Market Paper

Housing policy can play a significant role in the ability of households to progress socioeconomically. This paper studies the effect of the U.S. Housing Voucher Program on low-income household labor supply, family formation and homeownership. With a variety of household datasets, I specify and estimate a life-cycle model that characterizes the

effects of housing vouchers, and then examine how a set of policy reforms impact individual behavior and welfare. The results suggest that providing flat housing assistance for all recipients regardless of income increases labor supply but results in higher inequality and lower welfare. Giving a lower subsidy to a larger population reduces total labor supply, homeownership and marriage, but improves overall welfare. Policies that offer the option to use housing vouchers for home buying substantially promote homeownership, marriage and welfare. The results are robust to incorporating the general equilibrium effect of housing vouchers.

“The Boomerang Kids: Coresidence and Job Mismatch” (with Stefania Albanesi and Rania Gihleb)

This paper examines the drivers of increased parental coresidence rates for college graduates over the last twenty five years. Using a structurally estimated model of child-parent decisions we study the role of job mismatch, wages, asset holdings, family background, and preferences in accounting for the differences in outcomes between 1996 and 2008 graduation cohorts based on SIPP data. We show that the coresidence option improves college graduates’ labor market outcomes by improving job match quality. Specifically, we find that parental income, student loan, matched job arrival rate, the variance of wage offer and the cost of rent can explain 69% of the fraction of matched job difference and 38% of coresidence difference between 1996 and 2008 college graduation cohorts.

“Childhood Experience and Children’s Altruism Toward Parents: The Twins Experiment” (with Junsen Zhang and Hongliang Zhang)

In the mass rustication movement of sending urban youths to the countryside during China’s Cultural Revolution, many families with multiple age-eligible children faced a Sophie’s choice of selecting whom to send down. We exploit this fact and employ survey data on urban twins in China to investigate the effect of parental send-down choice on children’s reverse altruism. We find that the send-down children behave less altruistically toward their parents in terms of both financial transfers and companions (e.g., co-residence, visits, phone calls). While children’s altruistic behaviors to parents are jointly determined by their earnings and reverse altruism, both of which can be affected by the send-down experience, we rule out earnings differences or reverse altruism endowment differences as the driving force for the send-down children’s less altruistic behaviors, leaving the adverse effect of the send-down experience on reverse altruism preference as the only explanation.