

JINGWEN ZHENG

(+1) 202-258-2020 | jzheng@gwu.edu

Washington, D.C., USA | [Website](#)

EDUCATION	George Washington University (GWU) <i>Ph.D. in Public Policy</i>	Washington, D.C., USA Expected 2026
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dissertation: Essays on Urban and Real Estate Economics• Committee: Leah Brooks, Remi Jedwab, Paul Carrillo, Tanner Regan	
	University of Hong Kong (HKU) <i>Visiting Scholar at HKU Business School</i>	Hong Kong SAR, China Fall 2022
	Cornell University <i>Master of Public Administration</i>	Ithaca, USA 2015
	China Foreign Affairs University <i>Bachelor of Arts & Bachelor of Laws</i>	Beijing, China 2013

RESEARCH INTERESTS Urban, Real Estate, and Development Economics; Applied Microeconomics; Program and Policy Evaluation; Evidence-Based Policymaking

- PUBLICATIONS
1. Mansi Wadhwa, **Jingwen Zheng**, Thomas D. Cook. [How Consistent Are Meanings of "Evidence-Based"? A Comparative Review of 12 Clearinghouses That Rate the Effectiveness of Educational Programs.](#) *Review of Educational Research*, 2024.
 2. **Jingwen Zheng**, Mansi Wadhwa, Thomas D. Cook. [How Consistently Do 13 Clearinghouses Identify Social and Behavioral Development Programs as "Evidence-Based"?](#). *Prevention Science*, 2022.

WORKING PAPERS

Available upon request

Urban, Real Estate & Development Economics

[How Real Estate Responds to Regulatory Changes Over the Long Run: Evidence from the Closure of Hong Kong's Downtown Airport](#)
Job Market Paper

The Effects of Public Rental Housing Development on Property Values in Nearby Neighborhoods: The Case of Hong Kong
Working Paper, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Slum Eradication and Long-Run Economic Development: Evidence from the City of Darkness in Hong Kong
With [Remi Jedwab](#)

Program and Policy Evaluation

Don't Be Afraid of All Quasi-Experiments as Some Are Functionally Unbiased: A Meta-analysis of 46 Within-Study Comparisons in Education
With [Thomas D. Cook](#) & [Mansi Wadhwa](#)

Approximate Experimental Estimates within Narrow Bounds?: A Meta-analysis of 84 Design Experiments
With [Thomas D. Cook](#) & [Mansi Wadhwa](#)

SELECTED ONGOING PROJECTS	<p>The Long-Term Socioeconomic Impacts of Building Height Restrictions</p> <p>The Tragedy of the Anticommons: Evidence from Urban Redevelopment</p> <p>What Does ‘Evidence-Based’ Mean in Research Practice? <i>With Thomas D. Cook & Mansi Wadhwa</i></p>	
CONFERENCES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS <i>(*Scheduled)</i>	<p>2025: NYU Furman Center for Real Estate & Urban Policy*, American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AREUEA) National Conference (Washington, D.C.), AREUEA International Conference (Barcelona), Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation (UChicago, Virtual), Urban Economics Association (UEA) - European Meeting (Berlin), AsLEA (Hong Kong), DC Urban Economics Day, International Conference on Urban Affairs (Vancouver), KAPSARC School of Public Policy (NYC), Gordon S. Lang School of Business and Economics (Guelph), Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong)</p> <p>2024: SMU-Jinan Conference on Urban and Regional Economics (Singapore), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) - 2 papers (Washington, D.C.), North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International (New Orleans), Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) (Washington, D.C.)</p> <p>2023: UEA - North American Meeting (Toronto), What Works Global Summit - 2 papers (Ottawa), Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Conference - 2 papers (Washington, D.C.), DC Urban Economics Day, World Bank-GWU Sustainable Cities Workshop, Washington Area Development Economics Symposium</p>	
AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS <i>(*Principal Investigator)</i>	<p>Junior Scholar, AREUEA</p> <p>Staats Emerging Scholars Award, NASPAA</p> <p>Second Place Poster Award, APPAM Fall Research Conference</p> <p>Dean’s Dissertation Completion Fellowship, GWU (\$14K)</p> <p>Adam Smith Fellowship, Mercatus Center (\$10K)</p> <p>Research Grant, Institute for Humane Studies × 3 (\$11.5K)*</p> <p>Neilom Foundation Meritorious Award in Technology and Society</p> <p>Cosmos Scholar, Cosmos Club (\$5K)*</p> <p>Pi Alpha Alpha, The International Honor Society for Public Affairs & Administration</p> <p>Research Grant, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (\$10K)*</p> <p>Field Research Grant, Sigur Center for Asian Studies × 2 (\$11K)*</p> <p>Research Grant, The Trachtenberg School at GWU × 3 (\$3.2K)*</p> <p>Research Grant, AREUEA (\$1.5K)*</p> <p>Program Excellence Fellowship, George Washington Institute of Public Policy</p> <p>Youth Innovation Fund, World Bank Group (\$18K)</p> <p>Cornell Fellowship Award (\$14K Annually)</p>	<p>2025-26</p> <p>2024</p> <p>2024</p> <p>2024</p> <p>2023-24</p> <p>2023, 2025</p> <p>2023</p> <p>2023</p> <p>2023</p> <p>2022</p> <p>2022-23</p> <p>2022-25</p> <p>2021</p> <p>2019-24</p> <p>2016</p> <p>2013-15</p>
DATA <i>(Self-Collected/ Digitized)</i>	<p>Hong Kong Street-Block Socioeconomic Characteristics (1981-2021)</p> <p>Real Estate Market Dataset in Hong Kong (1991-2020)</p> <p>Building Footprints (1988-2023) and Approvals (1980-2023) in Hong Kong</p> <p>Employment Data at the Neighborhood Level in Hong Kong (1994-2023)</p>	

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p>TA, Regression Methods for Policy Research (Graduate) Fall 2023 In-Person Professor: Dylan Conger, The Trachtenberg School, GWU <i>Average Student Rating: 4.9/5</i></p> <p>Session Instructor, Emerging Markets (Undergraduate & Graduate) Fall 2014 In-Person Professor: Ralph Dean Christy, School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell <i>Co-led research fieldwork in Malaysia during Winter 2014</i></p> <p>Instructor, Model Foundation (Young Professional) 2014-17 In-Person & Online Organizers: Purpose in Motion, in partnership with the University of Hong Kong (2014-15)/ Yale Center Beijing (2016-17)</p>								
POLICY/ INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE	<p>World Bank Group Washington, D.C., USA <i>Economist Consultant, Office of the Chief Economist</i> Aug. 2025 - <i>Evaluation Consultant, Independent Evaluation Group</i> June 2015 - Aug. 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-authored the China country case study for <i>Doing Business and Country Reforms Evaluation</i> (with Anjali Kumar) • Contributed to the design, methodology, portfolio, and data analysis for thematic evaluation reports, including: 1) <i>Building Urban Resilience</i>, 2) <i>Reducing Disaster Risk from Natural Hazards</i>, 3) <i>World Bank Engagement in Situations of Conflicts</i>, 4) <i>Growing the Rural Non-Farm Economy to Alleviate Poverty</i> <p><i>Project Co-leader, Youth Innovation Fund</i> Dec. 2015 - Dec. 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led an 8-member team to design and execute onsite an award-winning development project focused on expanding income-generating opportunities for minority households in northern Thailand <p>Gates Foundation Beijing, China <i>Policy and Strategy Consultant</i> Feb. 2017 - June 2019 Project Co-leader, “Post-2020 China Poverty Alleviation Strategy” Project Analyst, “Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WSH) Program” Project Analyst, “China-Africa Agricultural Cooperation Program”</p> <p>Purpose In Motion Hong Kong SAR, China <i>Founding Member & Board Director</i> Apr. 2013 -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led a cross-functional team to establish Asia’s pioneering social impact education program, benefiting 200+ organizations, raising \$850,000 in funding, and engaging 13,000+ youth leaders from 110+ countries to date 								
SKILLS	<p>Languages: Chinese (native), English (fluent), French (basic)</p> <p>Programming: Stata, R, Python, ArcGIS, QGIS, L^AT_EX</p> <p>Trainings Received:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>BREAD-IGC Virtual PhD Course on Urban Economics</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2024</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UEA Summer School</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wheeler Institute GIS Methods for Quantitative Spatial Data Analysis workshop</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Managing Successful Impact Evaluation Surveys, UKAID and World Bank</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2021</td> </tr> </table>	BREAD-IGC Virtual PhD Course on Urban Economics	2024	UEA Summer School	2023	Wheeler Institute GIS Methods for Quantitative Spatial Data Analysis workshop	2023	Managing Successful Impact Evaluation Surveys, UKAID and World Bank	2021
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ACADEMIC SERVICES	<p>Reviewer: <i>Regional Science and Urban Economics, Real Estate Economics</i></p> <p>Discussant: AREUEA National Conference (2022, 2023, 2025), AREUEA International Conference (2025), Economic History Association Annual Meeting (2025)</p>								

REFERENCES

Prof. Leah Brooks (Co-Advisor), GWU, Email: lfbrooks@gwu.edu

Prof. Remi Jedwab (Co-Advisor), GWU, Email: jedwab@gwu.edu

Prof. Burt Barnow (Field Advisor in Evaluation), GWU, Email: barnow@gwu.edu

Prof. Paul Carrillo (Committee Member), GWU, Email: pcarrill@gwu.edu

Prof. Tanner Regan (Committee Member), GWU, Email: tanner_regan@gwu.edu