

# Lidong Yang

George Washington University  
Department of Economics  
2115 G Street NW, Monroe Hall 340  
Washington, DC 20052, USA

Cell: +1 (857) 294-4554  
Email: [yanglidong@gwu.edu](mailto:yanglidong@gwu.edu)  
Web: <https://lidongyang-econ.weebly.com>

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, George Washington University, expected May 2026  
Dissertation Title: "Essays on International Trade and Economic Development"  
Dissertation Committee: Maggie X. Chen, Yingyan Zhao, Ariel Weinberger  
Distinction Award: Micro- and Macroeconomics Comprehensive Exam

M.Phil., Economics, George Washington University, 2023  
M.A., Economics, Boston University, 2018  
B.S., Economics, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China, 2016

## FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: International Trade, Development Economics  
Secondary: Labor Economics, Applied Microeconomics

## WORKING PAPERS

["Do All Inputs Matter? Export Market Expansion, Capital Goods Adoption, and Upgrading"](#)  
(Job Market Paper)

"Impact of Import Tariffs on Retail Prices: Evidence from the 2018 US-China Trade War",  
(with Angela Yueyi Qin)

"Does FDI Liberalization Promote Gender Wage Equity? Evidence from Urban China"

## WORK IN PROGRESS

"Subway Expansion and Air Quality: A Case Study in the U.S." (with Angela Yueyi Qin)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**George Washington University, Department of Economics** Washington, DC  
Research Assistant for Alessandra Fenizia and Juan Felipe Riaño Sep 2023 - May 2024

- Examined how family connections between firm directors and public procurement officers influence the allocation of public procurement contracts and how these might ultimately determine firm outcomes
- Built a panel of 4.2 million firms using Stata and Google Cloud HPC by merging firm-level financial data (Orbis) with public procurement contracts records across 7,851 Italian municipalities between 2008 and 2016
- Conducted event-study analysis exploiting two sources of exogenous variation in family connections: (i) procurement officers' turnovers in the public sector and (ii) firm directors' turnovers in the private sector

Research Assistant for Yingyan Zhao May 2023 - Aug 2023

- Assisted in cleaning and merging US bills of lading data, firm uncertainty data, and other firm-level information (Compustat) for 13,668 firms between 2005 and 2019

**Boston University, Department of Economics**

Boston, MA

Research Assistant for Will Johnson

Jan 2017 - Jun 2017

- Project: "Economic Growth and the Evolution of Comparative Advantage in an Occupation-Based Network of Industries"
- Examined how the pattern of comparative advantage has evolved over time; explored whether there has been convergence or divergence across countries and industries
- Constructed network maps in Stata and MATLAB to visualize linkages between position and corresponding contribution for an industry on aggregate growth
- Documented that countries with comparative advantages in industries that are more central in the network will grow more in the aggregate

**Citibank Fund International Plaza Sub-branch**

Chengdu, China

Summer Intern

Jun 2015 - Aug 2015

- Designed client-specific investment portfolios by aligning financial tools with individual risk profiles; calculated expected returns through statistical analysis
- Optimized branch expansion strategy by performing cost-benefit analysis for 3 prospective locations in site selection simulation of new branch

**Alibaba Group**

Chengdu, China

Intern, "Online Consultation" project

Sep 2013 - Jan 2014

- Shouldered responsibility of online consultation in the Commodity Department
- Assisted online sellers in Alipay payment issues, product display and product delivery

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Instructor, George Washington University

Math Camp (for incoming economics PhD cohorts)

Summer 2020, Summer 2021

Graduate Teaching Assistant, George Washington University

Microeconomics Theory I (PhD)

Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022

Microeconomics Theory II (PhD)

Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023

Game Theory (undergraduate)

Spring 2019

Principles of Microeconomics (undergraduate)

Fall 2019

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Graduate Research Assistantship, George Washington University

2023-2024

Graduate Fellowship, George Washington University

2019-2023

Teaching Assistantship, George Washington University

Summer 2020, Summer 2021

Outstanding Student Scholarship, Sichuan University

2014-2015

**PRESENTATIONS**14<sup>th</sup> Annual Washington Area International Trade Symposium (poster session)

May 2025

Annual Job Market Symposium, George Washington University

May 2025

Micro Brown-Bag Seminar Series, George Washington University

Sep 2024

**SOFTWARE & LANGUAGES**

Software: Stata, MATLAB, R, LaTeX, Excel, MS Office

Languages: English (fluent), Chinese (native)

**CITIZENSHIP:** China, F-1 Visa

**REFERENCES**

**Maggie X. Chen**

Professor of Economics and International Affairs  
Department of Economics  
George Washington University  
Email: xchen@gwu.edu

**Yingyan Zhao**

Assistant Professor of Economics and  
International Affairs  
Department of Economics  
George Washington University  
Email: yingyan\_zhao@gwu.edu

**Ariel Weinberger**

Assistant Professor of International Business  
Department of International Business  
George Washington University  
Email: aweinberger@gwu.edu

**Sumit Joshi (teaching reference)**

Professor of Economics  
Department of Economics  
George Washington University  
Email: sumjos@gwu.edu

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