Qilin Zhang

University of Florida
Department of Economics

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Citizenship: China

Placement Director: Ignacia Mercadal, imercadal@ufl.edu

Education

University of Florida
Ph.D. Economics — Expected May 2027

University of Wisconsin – Madison
M.S. Economics — 2022

Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
Bachelor of Management in Labor and Social Security — 2019

Fields

Primary: Macroeconomics
Secondary: Public Economics, Family Economics, Chinese Economy

Job Market Paper

Gender-biased Dynastic Savings and the Marriage Market: Evidence from China

This paper studies how parents' investments in their children shape the marriage market in China. Using household survey data, I document that the marriage market is assortative, parents invest more in daughters' education than in sons', and they save more in financial assets for sons. In a dynastic model of parental investment and marriage matching, I find that the gender difference in education technology lowers the marriage rate: equalizing the technology across genders raises it by 0.62 percentage points. As parents grow richer with China's growth, the model accounts for about 35 percent of the percentage decline in the crude marriage rate between 2010 and 2024 and predicts a further decline. Subsidies to newlyweds raise marriage, whereas equal-sized transfers to parents lower it.

Additional Research

A Micro Anatomy of the Hidden Local Government Debt in China: 2014–2023

Mass Layoffs and Fertility: Evidence from WARN-Based Shocks – with Yuchen Zhu

Residential Mobility and Household Consumption – with Yanqi Li

Conference Presentations

Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting — 2025
"A Micro Anatomy of the Hidden Local Government Debt in China: 2014–2023"

Research Experience

Research Assistant to Min Fang, University of Florida — Summer 2023
Research Assistant to Germán Bet, University of Florida — Spring – Fall 2023
Research Assistant to Perihan Saygin, University of Florida — Fall 2022

Teaching Experience

University of Florida

Instructor of Record: Managerial Economics (Undergraduate) — Spring 2026 – Present
Student evaluations (Spring 2026, 83.9% response): enthusiasm 4.54/5; clear standards for response and availability 4.65/5

TA: Macroeconomic Theory (Ph.D.; led weekly discussion section) — Fall 2024
TA: Computational Economics (Ph.D.) — Spring 2025
TA: Macroeconomic Analysis (Master's) — Spring 2025
TA: International Macroeconomics (Master's) — Fall 2022
TA: Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergraduate) — Spring 2023, Summer 2024
TA: Managerial Economics, Economic Data Analysis (Undergraduate); Game Theory Applied (MBA) — Spring 2024

University of Wisconsin – Madison

TA: Economics of Poverty & Inequality (Undergraduate) — Spring 2022

Awards and Honors

University Fellowship, University of Florida — 2022 – Present
China National University Student Innovation & Entrepreneurship Dev. Program Grant — 2018
Shanghai Education Bureau Research Grant — 2017

Skills

Programming: MATLAB, Python, R, Stata

References

Min Fang (Co-Chair)
Assistant Professor
CEIBS
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Eugenio Rojas (Co-Chair)
Assistant Professor
University of Florida
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