Anqi Li

ali88[at]ucmerced[dot]edu

FIELDS

Health, Labor, and Immigration Economics

EDUCATION

University of California, Merced, Merced, California — Expected May 2027
Ph.D. in Economics

Dissertation Committee: Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes (Chair), Gaurav Khanna, Ana Tur-Prats

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York — May 2018
M.S. in Applied Economics

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan — May 2017
B.S. in Financial Mathematics and Risk Management
B.S. in Actuarial Mathematics

JOB MARKET PAPER

Safety Concerns and Student Mobility: U.S. Gun Violence and Chinese K–12 Enrollment *with Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes*

International students contribute substantially to the U.S. economy and academic system, yet little is known about whether domestic public safety conditions affect their enrollment decisions. We study Chinese K–12 students, whose schooling choices are largely made and financed by parents abroad. Merging administrative enrollment data with county-level shooting rates, we find that a 10% increase in a county's shooting rate—roughly three additional incidents per 100,000 residents—is associated with a 3.1% reduction in Chinese K–12 enrollment. Event-study estimates show no pre-trends and persistent post-exposure declines, and results are robust to alternative measures of firearm risk, including school-shooting incidents and state firearm-law grades. Chinese-language media coverage of U.S. shootings is negatively associated with K–12 enrollment, while no meaningful effects appear in higher education—consistent with the central role of parental safety concerns in schooling decisions for minors.

WORKING PAPER

Public Insurance Expansion and the Demand for Foreign Medical Labor *with Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes and Delia Furtado*

We study whether healthcare employers relied more on H-1B professionals after the ACA's Medicaid expansion. Using cap-exempt H-1B petitions (2012–2020), we find an average effect near zero, but responses concentrate where local workforce capacity is limited: in areas with a large jump in Medicaid eligibility, total health H-1B petitions rise 15% in the most rural quartile after the expansion.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- **From Temporary to Permanent: Immigration Policy and the Location of Foreign Physicians** *with Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes*

  We study whether the 2016 Matter of Dhanasar decision, which eased the general standard for the National Interest Waiver, drew foreign physicians away from the physician-specific waiver that requires practice in medically underserved areas, using administrative data on physicians' petitions for permanent residence.
- **Family Planning, Pregnancy Timing, and Children's Crime in Adulthood** *Solo Paper*

  I study whether expanding women's access to contraception through federally funded family planning programs, introduced across U.S. counties between 1964 and 1973, affected their children's involvement in crime as adults.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to **Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes**, University of California, Merced 2023–2026
Research Assistant to **Christian Fons-Rosen**, University of California, Merced 2023, 2025
Research Assistant to **Rowena Gray**, University of California, Merced 2022, 2024
Research Assistant to **Briana Ballis**, University of California, Merced 2022–2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Merced, Department of Economics and Business Management

ECON 105 Corporate Finance *(Teaching Fellow – Sole Instructor)* Fall 2025

- Course evaluation (90% response rate): overall course rating 6.5/7
  - "I learned a great deal in this course": 6.6/7, with a school mean of 6.2
- Independently designed and taught this upper-division course for 30 students (syllabus through grading)
- Connected financial models to decisions students face in real life, such as student loans and mortgages; used open-book quizzes to identify gaps
- Integrated career preparation through LinkedIn profiles, one-on-one résumé advising, and job-search guidance

ECON 101 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory *(Teaching Assistant)* Fall 2022–Spring 2024
ECON 010 Statistical Inference *(Teaching Assistant)* Spring 2022
ECON 110 Econometrics *(Teaching Assistant)* Fall 2021

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

2026 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Fall Research Conference *(scheduled)*
Economics Seminar Series, University of California, Merced *(scheduled)*
2025 Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) Annual Meeting
All-California Labor Economics Conference (ACLEC)
APPAM Fall Research Conference
2023 All-California Labor Economics Conference (ACLEC)
APPAM Fall Research Conference

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

SSHA Support Fellowship ($28,000) 2026
Charles Perry Ellis Fellowship ($28,000) 2025
Summer Research Fellowship ($3,750) 2025

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), Shanghai, China 2018–2019
Associate Consultant, Human Resources Consulting Services

- Collaborated with the engagement team and client CEOs on equity-incentive plans for three pre-IPO companies: gathered client feedback, supported implementation, and prepared presentations for executive meetings.

SKILLS AND CREDENTIALS

Software: Stata, R, Python, LaTeX, Microsoft Excel/PowerPoint
Credentials: Society of Actuaries Exams P, FM, FAM, and SRM; all VEE completed; passed Level I of the CFA Program
Languages: English (fluent); Mandarin Chinese (native)