

Yan Lau

Contact Information:

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Education:

Ph.D. in Economics, Princeton University, 2013
M.A. in Economics, Princeton University, 2010
B.A. in Economics, *summa cum laude*, Cornell University, 2008

Appointments:

Economist, Bureau of Economics, Federal Trade Commission, August 2017 - Present
Assistant Professor, Economics Department, Reed College, August 2013 - August 2017
Course Instructor, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, Summers 2011 & 2012

Fields of Interest:

Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Applied Microeconomics, Public Policy

Publications:

“The Dragon Cohort of Hong Kong: Traditional Beliefs, Demographics, and Education”
Journal of Population Economics, 2019, Vol. 32, Issue 1, pp. 219-246

“Are Universities Becoming More Unequal?” (with Harvey S. Rosen)
The Review of Higher Education, 2016, Vol. 39, No. 4, pp. 479-514

Other Research:

“A Brief Primer on the Economics of Targeted Advertising”

FTC Economic Issues Papers, January 2020

“Twitter-derived Measures of Sentiment Towards Minorities (2015–2016) and Associations with Low Birth Weight and Preterm Birth in the United States” (with Thu T. Nguyen, Hsien-Weng Meng, Sanjeev Sandeep, Matt McCullough, Weijun Yu, Dina Huang & Quynh C. Nguyen)

Computers in Human Behavior, 2018, Vol. 89, pp. 308-315

“Discordance in National Estimates of Hypertension Among Young Adults” (with Quynh C. Nguyen, Joyce W. Tabor, Pamela P. Entzel, Chirayath Suchindran, Jon M. Hussey, Carolyn T. Halpern, Kathleen M. Harris & Eric A. Whitsel)

Epidemiology, 2011, Vol. 22, Issue 4, pp. 532-541

Working Papers:

“Does Racial Diversity Improve Academic Outcomes? A Natural Experiment in Higher Education Classrooms”

Presented at *American Economic Association 2017 Annual Meeting*

“Does Standardized Testing Hurt Student Learning? Causal Evidence from a Natural Experiment”

Presented at *Econometric Society 2017 Asian Meeting*

“Tournament Incentives Structure and Effort, or The Art of Carrot Dangling”

Presented at *Society of Labor Economists Annual Conference 2014*

“Access to Retirement Savings and its Effects on Labor Supply Decisions”

Presented at *IZA / RIETI Workshop: Changing Demographics and the Labor Market*

“The Effectiveness of Cram Schools as Inputs of Education Production”

Presented at *Hong Kong Economic Association 9th Biennial Conference*

“Accounting for International Differences in Education Inequality”

Presented at *Western Economics Association 89th Annual Meeting*

Teaching and Advising:

Econometrics - Reed College

Intermediate Microeconomics - Reed College

Economics of Education - Reed College, Princeton University

Political Economics - Reed College

Junior Seminar in Research Skills - Reed College

Advanced Microeconomics (with Calculus) - Princeton University Woodrow Wilson School

Public Policy Microeconomics - Princeton University Woodrow Wilson School

Introductory Microeconomics - Princeton University

Advisor to 18 Reed College Senior Theses

Honors and Awards:

Miller-Mintz Fellowship, Reed College, 2013 - 2017

Preceptor Teaching Award, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, 2013

Princeton University Graduate Fellowship, 2008 - 2013

Honorable Mention, NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, 2008

Honors Program, Cornell University Department of Economics, 2007 - 2008

Member, Omicron Delta Epsilon (Economics Honors Society), Inducted 2007

Invited Seminars and Conference Presentations:

Econometric Society 2017 Asian Meeting, June 2017

Korea Development Institute, May 2017

Hanyang University, May 2017

American Economic Association 2017 Annual Meeting, January 2017

Hong Kong Economic Association 9th Biennial Conference, December 2016

Western Economics Association 90th Annual Meeting, June 2015

IZA / RIETI Workshop: Changing Demographics and the Labor Market, May 2015

Portland State University Department of Economics Seminar Series, April 2015

Western Economics Association 11th International Conference, January 2015

Western Economics Association 89th Annual Meeting, June 2014

Society of Labor Economists 2014 Annual Conference, May 2014

Princeton Research Symposium, November 2012

Service and Other Experience:

Session Moderator / Organizer, PrivacyCon 2019, Federal Trade Commission, June 2019

Co-Organizer, Consumer Protection Economics Symposium, Federal Trade Commission,
December 2018

Session Moderator / Organizer, PrivacyCon 2018, Federal Trade Commission, February 2018

Member, Institutional Review Board, Reed College, August 2016 - May 2017

Member, Summer Experience Award Review Committee, Reed College, January - May 2016

Speaker, Alumni College, Reed College, June 2015

Member, Administration Committee, Reed College, August 2013 - May 2015

Member, McGill-Lawrence / Davis Prize Committee, Reed College, August 2013 - May 2014

Graduate Fellow, Whitman College, Princeton University, 2012 - 2013

Research Assistant to Professor David Lee, Princeton University, July - September 2009

Research Assistant to Professor Jon Bakija, Cornell University, May - August 2008

Research Associate, Securities Group, NERA Economic Consulting, May - July 2007

Referee for the *Economic Journal*, the *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, the
Review of Higher Education, and the Working Paper Series at the FTC Bureau of Economics