# Yifan Zhu

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## **EDUCATION**

| EDUCATION   |   |
|---|---|
| University of Delaware PhD in Economics   | Newark, DE<br>Expected February 2021      |
| The Ohio State University   Magna Cum Laude Bachelor of Science with honors in Economics, French, and Mathematics   | Columbus, Ohio<br>Sep. 2010 – May 2014    |
| Université Savoie Mont Blanc<br>Exchange student  | Chambéry, France<br>Sep. 2012 – Jan. 2013 |
| Experience  |   |
| University of Delaware  Graduate Instructor  • Taught Principles of Microeconomics to undergraduate students • Explored interactive learning tools and technology in a classroom setting      | Newark, DE<br>Aug. 2017 – May 2019        |
| <ul> <li>Teaching Assistant</li> <li>Created solutions to assignments and term project using R</li> <li>Led recitations and review sessions for Fundamentals of Business Analytics</li> </ul> | Aug. 2015 - May 2017                      |
| The Ohio State University  Undergraduate Tutor  • Assisted students with questions from their Economics classes   | Columbus, Ohio Sep. 2012 – May 2014       |
| Projects  |   |
| Effect of Medicaid Dental Benefit on Dental Care Utilization • Doctoral thesis  | Feb. 2018 – Present                       |
| Downshifting, a Change In the Work Culture from Universal Basic Income (UBI)  • Explored the change in work culture from the UBI experiments  | May. 2018 – Present                       |
| Estimating the Impact of EB-5 on Local Job Creation  • Estimated the direct and indirect job creation from a local EB-5 project   | Feb. 2017 – Apr. 2018                     |
| Market Strategy of Chinese Educational Agencies  • Examined the price discrimination in the study abroad agencies market in China   | Feb. $2013 - Mar. 2014$                   |
| Presentations   |   |
| New Directions in Basic Income Workshop  Attendee  • Brainstormed with peer researchers on the potential research projects on Basic Income  | Ann Arbor, MI<br>May 18th – 20th 2018     |
| National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)  Presenter  • Presented undergraduate honor thesis: Market Strategy of Chinese Educational Agencies                                      | Lexington, KY Apr. 3rd - 5th 2014         |
| Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting  Presenter  • Presented undergraduate honor thesis: Market Strategy of Chinese Educational Agencies  | Columbus, OH  Mar. 23rd – 24th 2013       |
| Research fields   |   |
|   |   |

Applied Microeconomics, Health Economics

#### TECHNICAL SKILLS

Data analytics tools: STATA, SAS Open source software: R, Python

### LANGUAGE SKILLS

## English, Chinese, French

#### STIPEND AND FELLOWSHIPS

- University of Delaware Teaching Assistant stipend
- University of Delaware 2020 Summer Doctoral Fellowship
- The Ohio State University 2012 Summer research funding

#### Honors and Awards

- The Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
- The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi
- The National Society of Leadership and Success
- Golden Key National Honor Society
- The Ohio State University Honors Program

#### Job Market Paper

## Effect of Medicaid dental benefits on dental care utilization among low-income adults

#### Abstract

Dental health disparities have long been an issue in the United States. Despite the importance of maintaining good oral health, many low-income adults remained uninsured for dental care. Medicaid serves as the primary source for many low-income adults who cannot obtain private dental insurance. Since states have the flexibility to determine what dental benefits to provide to the Medicaid enrollee, there is a wide variation among states in dental plans' coverage. As Medicaid dental benefits for adults have four different tiers according to the generosity level, the treatment takes multiple values. Applying both a difference-in-differences and a synthetic control approach, we examine Medicaid's multivalued treatment effects on low-income adults' dental utilization over multiple treatment periods. Using Medical Expenditure Panel Survey data (MEPS) and other supplementary datasets, my results showed that an increase in the state Medicaid dental coverage's comprehensiveness leads to an increase in the probability that a low-income non-elderly adult visited a dentist in the previous year. The more generous the coverage, the stronger the effect. The result may shed light on how we can alleviate the gap between low-income and other income groups regarding dental care access.

Keywords: Medicaid, dental care, health inequalities, panel data, causal inference, difference-in-differences, synthetic control

#### References

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