

LIN SHI, PH.D.

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, American University

August 2025

Dissertation: *"Three Essays on the Political Economy of Trade Policy Views and Global Value Chains"*

Committee: Dr. Kara Reynolds (chair), Dr. Robert Blecker, Dr. Robert Feinberg

M.A. in Applied Economics, Georgetown University

2017

B.S. in Economics, University of Washington

2015

FIELDS OF RESEARCH

Primary: International Trade (Global Value Chain analysis), Macroeconomic Development

Secondary: International Economics, Energy Transition Minerals, Political Economy of Trade Policy

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Job Market Paper:

"Does Participating in Global Value Chains Lead to Export Quality Upgrading?" (in review)

I examine the impact of global value chain participation on export quality upgrading, explore the heterogeneous impact among countries and sectors, and construct a country-industry upstreamness measure to assess the various effects along the positions of the value chains. I find consistent and robust evidence that increasing GVC participation has a positive and statistically significant effect on export quality, predominantly driven by increasing forward GVC participation. The impact on export quality is positive and significant among both advanced and developing countries, countries which have transitioned to a higher income status, and East Asia and Pacific countries. In terms of sectoral heterogeneities, the impact is predominantly driven by manufacturing sectors. In addition, an increasing share of sectoral differentiated products is a significant predictor of export quality upgrading. Lastly, I find that country-industry pairs in extremely upstream positions can improve export quality by increasing backward GVC participation, while those that are closer to final uses can benefit from strengthening forward GVC participation.

Other Papers:

"Examining the Role of Consumer Preferences on U.S. Individuals' Trade Policy Views" (in review)

"A Cross-Country Analysis of Global Value Chain Positions and the Labor Share"

"Understanding the Linkages Between Trade Integration and Economic Complexity in Sub-Saharan Africa"

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Boston University Global Development Policy Center

August 2025 - Present

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Global Economic Governance Initiative

Boston, MA

Currently conducting quantitative research with the Director of the GDP Center, Dr. Kevin P. Gallagher, on the use of natural resources in Latin America in the Global Value Chains of the energy transition sectors, using evidence-based analyses to inform policy-making. Creating a disaggregated Inter-Country Input-Output table to analyze the relative GVC positions of these natural resources in the energy transition sectors.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) March 2024 - September 2024
Economic Affairs Intern, Africa Section, Policy Analysis and Research Branch Geneva, Switzerland (remote)

- Participated in the data collections, visualization creations, and the drafting of the United Nations flagship report: the Economic Development in Africa Report 2024. Provided research analysis on development issues related to Africa, including micro-financing of the SMEs and global supply chains.

International Monetary Fund

FIP Research Intern, African Department, Regional Studies Division

June 2023 - August 2023

Washington, D.C.

- Conducted quantitative research with IMF economists Ivanova Reyes, Ke Wang, and Qianqian Zhang on the impact of sub-Saharan African trade with global partners on changes in the region's economic complexity. Developed hypotheses, collected data, and performed empirical analyses using the Generalized Method of Moments (GMM) to analyze the heterogeneous impact of trade across product groups and partner country groups. Currently co-authoring a working paper based on the empirical findings.

Cato Institute

Research Intern, Center for Trade Policy Studies

January 2022 - May 2022

Washington, D.C.

- Assisted staff, scholars, and the Director of Cato's Center for Trade Policy Studies by conducting quantitative research and writing literature reviews on various topics, including dairy protectionism, carbon border adjustment mechanism, anti-dumping, trade policy views of current members of the U.S. Congress, and the rising U.S. current account deficit.

Exiger

Due Diligence Research Intern

January 2018 - August 2018

Silver Spring, Maryland

- Utilized artificial intelligence, litigation and regulatory databases, and various research tools to conduct qualitative research and gather risk and compliance intelligence on individuals and companies.
- Developed and assisted in red-flag and IPO reports to help clients assess the subject's legitimacy and reputation, and inform strategic decision-making.

Georgetown University

Graduate Research Assistant

August 2017 - December 2017

Washington, D.C.

- Conducted secondary research with an economist on the correlations between monetary policy surprises on European Central Bank (ECB) meeting dates and the change of key macroeconomic variables forecasts in the Eurozone.
- Developed hypotheses, performed data cleaning, constructed linear models, and identified correlations by running individual and panel regressions in both pre- and post-financial crisis time periods.

World Trade Center Tacoma

Trade and Market Research Intern

January 2016 - June 2016

Tacoma, Washington

- Conducted research on the potential benefits of tariff and non-tariff barriers removal on the Washington State economy, based on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement. Estimated the amount of cost reduction and increases in exports in Washington State's major industries, including agriculture, forestry, fishing, and food manufacturing.

University of Washington

Economics Undergraduate Board

June 2014 - June 2015

Seattle, Washington

- Facilitated interactions between the undergraduate student body and the Department of Economics faculty and staff by designing and leading academic/career seminars and organizing social events.
- Tutored introductory and intermediate level economics courses for undergraduate students.
- Wrote articles analyzing topics of economics for departmental newsletter, *The Economizer*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Boston University** January 2026 - Present
Lecturer, Pardee School of Global Studies Boston, Massachusetts
- IR-292 (Fundamentals of International Economics) Spring 2026
- American University** August 2022 - August 2025
Adjunct Faculty, Department of Economics; School of International Service Washington, D.C.
- SISU-300 (Introduction to International Economics) Summer 2025, Spring 2024
 - ECON-200 (Microeconomics) Spring 2025
 - ECON-150 (Economics for Business) Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024
 - ECON-371 (International Economics: Trade) guest lecture "Offshoring" Spring 2022
- American University** August 2018 - May 2022
Teaching Assistant Washington, D.C.
- Graduate courses: ECON-603 (Introduction to Economic Theory); ECON-601 (Macroeconomic Theory); ECON-633 (Financial Economics); ECON-440/640 (Communicating Economics); ECON-623 (Applied Econometrics I); SIS-616 (International Economics)
 - Undergraduate courses: ECON-100 (Principles of Macroeconomics); ECON-332 (Money and Banking); ECON-200 (Microeconomics); ECON-301 (Intermediate Macroeconomics); ECON-346 (Industrial Organization); ECON-400 (Intermediate Micro); ECON-371 (International Economics: Trade)
- University of Washington** October 2014 - June 2015
Discussion Session Leader Seattle, Washington
- Conducted weekly supplemental discussion and exam review sessions for ECON 201 (Introduction to Macroeconomics), enhancing students' understanding in fundamental economic concepts.
- Green River College** June 2012 - July 2013
Economics Tutor Auburn, Washington
- Worked with students to enhance their theoretical understanding and practical knowledge of economic concepts for ECON-202 (Intro to Macroeconomics) and ECON-201 (Intro to Microeconomics).

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, AND WORKSHOPS

- Georgetown University Conference on Political Economy & Development October 2025
- Eastern Economic Association Conference February 2025
- Southern Economic Association Conference November 2024; November 2023
- Global Trade Analysis Project Conference June 2024
- International Trade and Finance Association Conference May 2024
- Chinese Economics Society Annual Conference March 2024
- Robyn Rafferty Mathias Student Research Conference March 2024; March 2023
- International Monetary Fund Internship Presentation August 2023
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics CE Public Use Microdata Annual Workshop July 2023
- American Council on Consumer Interests Conference May 2022

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- Prize for Teaching Excellence, Department of Economics, American University Spring 2024
- Graduate Financial Aid Award, American University Spring 2023
- Graduate Student Research Award, College of Arts & Sciences, American University Spring 2022
- Full Tuition and Graduate Fellowship, American University August 2018 - August 2022

- Alumna of the Month, Green River College May 2017
- Certificate of Recognition, Department of Economics, University of Washington June 2015
- Ingersoll-Rand Scholarship 2012 & 2014
- Student of the Month, Green River College August 2012

CERTIFICATES AND TRAINING

- Trade Today: Understanding & Identifying Risks in GVCs, American University June 2025
- Greenberg Building Future Faculty Program, American University May 2025
- Time Series Models for Macroeconomic Analysis, Barcelona School of Economics February 2024
- Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP-101) course, Purdue University April 2023
- Macroeconomic Diagnostics, IMFx December 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software	Stata, Mathematica, MATLAB, SAS, SQL, R, GTAP, Python (basic), \LaTeX
Language	Chinese (native), English (full professional), Spanish (limited working proficiency)

REFERENCES

Kara Reynolds, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Economics
American University
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Robert A. Blecker, Ph.D.

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