

ZHONGHENG QIAO

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EDUCATION

Purdue University	West Lafayette, IN
◦ Ph.D. in Economics	2021 - Present
◦ Committee: Tim Cason (co-chair), David Gill (co-chair), Matt Kovach, Colin Sullivan	
Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (SUFU)	Shanghai, China
◦ B.Sc., Economics	2016 - 2020
University of Notre Dame	South Bend, IN
◦ International Exchange Program	2018 - 2019

RESEARCH INTEREST

Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Information Economics, Applied Microeconomics

WORKING PAPER

- [1] [Choosing Complexity: Cognitive Ability, Overconfidence, and Task Choice](#)
(with David Gill)
- [2] [Norms in Conflict: Why AI Advisors Fail to Improve Human Coordination](#)
(with Tim Cason, Alex Tabarrok, and Robertas Zubrickas)
- [3] [Sunk-cost, Responsibility, and Belief](#)
Revise and resubmit at Experimental Economics

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

- [1] Between Stories: Biased Agents and Competing Models
- [2] Bayesian Persuasion and Outside Options (with Andrew Leal)
- [3] Breaking the Cycle: A Craving-Based Model of Habits and Binges (with Colin Sullivan)
- [4] Keeping your story straight: Cognitive constraints and credible bargaining
(with Junya Zhou and Gary Bolton)
- [5] How Significant is the Impact of a Negative Grade Shock? (with Ge Sun and Virna Vidal Menezes)

CONFERENCE AND INVITED TALKS

* indicates a scheduled talk

- 2026 Economic Science Association World Meeting* (Los Angeles); Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (Hong Kong); Behavioral, Experimental and Theoretical Economics Conference (BEAT, Beijing); Ostrom-Smith Conference on Experimental and Behavioral Economics (Purdue); Midwest Economics Association 90th Annual Meetings (Chicago)
- 2025 Southern Economics Association 95th Annual Meetings (Tampa); Economic Science Association North American Meeting (Tucson); Illinois Institute of Technology; Lehigh Meeting on Behavioral and Experimental Economics (BEEMA9); Western Economic Association International 100th Annual Conference

(San Francisco); 4th Caltech Summer Workshop in Theory-Based Experiments; Economic Science Association World Meeting (Beijing); Ostrom-Smith Conference on Experimental and Behavioral Economics (Indiana); Spring 2025 Midwest Theory Conference (Virginia Tech)

2024 Southern Economics Association 94th Annual Meetings (DC); Economic Science Association North American Meeting (Columbus); 2nd Midwest Experimental Economics Meeting for Graduate Students (MEEM-GS, The Ohio State University); Midwest Economics Association 88th Annual Meetings (Chicago)

2023 1st MEEM-GS (The Ohio State University)

GRANTS, HONORS & AWARDS

Economics Research Micro-Grant, Department of Economics, Purdue University	2025
The Humane Studies Fellowship	2025
Daniels School of Business Certificate for Outstanding Teaching	2025
Purdue Graduate Student Government Travel Grant	2024, 2025
Purdue University Graduate School Summer Research Grant	2024
Krannert Doctoral Student Service Award	2023
Krannert Doctoral Student Research Fund (\$4700, \$3400)	2022, 2023
Krannert Ph.D. Research Symposium Best Presentation Award Winners (in session)	2021, 2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

- ECON 210 Principles of Economics (in-person) Fall 2024

Teaching Assistant

- ECON 609 Microeconomics III (Ph.D.) Spring 2023
- ECON 607 Microeconomics II (Ph.D.) Fall 2022
- ECON 451 Game Theory Spring 2023-26, Fall 2021-22
- ECON 380 Money and Banking Spring 2022

SERVICE

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- Session organizer, MEA 90th Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL March 2026
 - President, Krannert Doctoral Student Association 2023 - 2024
 - Referee for *Experimental Economics*, *Social Choice and Welfare*

WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

FAIR NHH and Rady School of Management 10 th Spring School in Behavioral Economics	March 2026
3 rd Caltech Summer Institute in Theory-Based Experiments	June 2024
Vernon L. Smith Seminar in Experimental Economics	May 2024
28 th Visiting Graduate Student Workshop in Experimental Economics	January 2023