

MEI Yuan

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Singapore Management University (SMU)
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Education

PhD, University of Chicago, United States of America, 2018

Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor of Economics, School of Economics, SMU, Jul 2018 - Present

Awards and Honors

Lee Kong Chian Fellowship, SMU, 2023

Lee Kong Chian Fellowship, Singapore Management University, 2021

First runner up, WTO Essay Competition for Young Economists, World Trade Organization, 2018

RESEARCH

Publications

Journal Articles [Refereed]

(Trade) War and Peace: How to impose international trade sanctions, by DE SOUZA, Gustavo; HU, Naiyuan; LI, Haishi; MEI, Yuan. (2024). *Journal of Monetary Economics*, 146 1-47. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmoneco.2024.103572> (Published)

Regulatory protection and the role of international cooperation, by YUAN, Mei. (2024). *International Economic Review*, 65 (2), 817-850. <https://doi.org/10.1111/iere.12676> (Published)

Mandarins make markets: Leadership rotations and inter-provincial trade in China, by JIANG, Junyan; MEI, Yuan. (2020). *Journal of Development Economics*, 147 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2020.102524> (Published)

Sustainable cooperation in international trade: A quantitative analysis, by MEI, Yuan. (2020). *Journal of International Economics*, 123 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jinteco.2020.103305> (Published)

Aggregate consumption and debt accumulation: an empirical examination of US household behaviour, by KIM, Yun K.; SETTERFIELD, Mark; MEI, Yuan. (2015). *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 39 (1), 93-112. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cje/beu029> (Published)

A theory of aggregate consumption, by KIM, Yun K.; SETTERFIELD, Mark; MEI, Yuan. (2014). *European Journal of Economics and Economic Policies: Intervention*, 11 (1), 31-49. <https://doi.org/10.4337/ejeep.2014.01.03> (Published)

Research Grants

Singapore Management University

Rules of Origin and Multilateral Negotiations, SMU Internal Grant, Ministry of Education (MOE) Tier 1 , PI (Project Level): MEI Yuan , Co-PI (Project Level): YANG Chenying, 2022, S\$39,258

Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, SMU Internal Grant, Ministry of Education (MOE) Tier 1 , PI (Project Level): MEI Yuan, 2019, S\$36,640

Other Institutions

Transportation Infrastructure and Urban Life, the Urban Institute Grant, SMU Co-PI (Project Level): MEI Yuan, 2023, SGD53,000

Work in Progress

MEI Yuan, Liyao Li, Xiaoyu Meng, Walter Steingress, Spatial Spillover of Standard Harmonization and Estimation of Multi-Dimensional Dynamic Spatial Models, 2025

MEI Yuan, MA Lin, Mingzhi (Jimmy) Xu, Qunfeng Wu, Rural-Urban Connectivity, Unified Domestic Market, and Agricultural Transformation, 2023

MEI Yuan, HU, NAIYUAN, NI, TONG, Tariffs as Bargaining Chips: A Quantitative Analysis of US-China Trade War, 2023

MEI Yuan, Mingzhi XU, Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, 2022

MEI Yuan, CHEN, RENJING, SONG SHENXI, National Treatment, Product Likeness, and Trade Restrictiveness of Technical Barriers, 2021

TEACHING

Courses Taught

Singapore Management University

Undergraduate Programmes :

Economics of Globalisation
International Economics

Postgraduate Professional Programmes :

Dissertation

Postgraduate Research Programmes :

Advances in the Singapore and ASEAN Economies

OTHER ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Presentation and Talks

Presentations

Spatial Spillover of Standard Harmonization and Estimation of Multi-Dimensional Dynamic Spatial Models, (21 Jul 2025). *Melbourne Empirical Trade Conference*,

Spatial Spillover of Standard Harmonization and Estimation of Multi-Dimensional Dynamic Spatial Models, (02 Jul 2025). *HKUST-Fudan-SMU Conference on International Economics*,

Spatial Spillover of Standard Harmonization and Estimation of Multi-Dimensional Dynamic Spatial Models, (29 Jun 2025). *Asia Pacific Trade Seminars*,

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and Trade Policy: A Quantitative Analysis, (25 Jun 2025). *SMU – INSEAD Trade Workshop*,

Spatial Spillover of Standard Harmonization and Estimation of Multi-Dimensional Dynamic Spatial Models, (09 Jun 2025). *SMU Mini Trade Workshop* ,

Tariffs as Bargaining Chips: A Quantitative Analysis of US-China Trade War, (29 Aug 2024). *SMU – INSEAD Trade Workshop*,

Tariffs as Bargaining Chips: A Quantitative Analysis of US-China Trade War, (02 Jul 2024). *HKUST-Fudan-SMU Conference on International Economics*,

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, (07 Mar 2024). *EITI 2024 (Jakarta)*, Jakarta. Indonesia

Transportation and Agricultural Production in China, (29 Dec 2023). *SMU-Jinan Conference on Urban and Regional Economics*, Guangzhou. China

Tariffs as Bargaining Chips: A Quantitative Analysis of US-China Trade War, (24 Nov 2023). *CUHK Workshop on International Trade*, Hong Kong. China

Transportation and Agricultural Production in China, (28 Jul 2023). *AMES 2023*, Singapore

(Trade) War and Peace: How to Impose International Trade Sanctions, (10 Jul 2023). *Jinan IESR Summer Conference of International Trade*, Guangzhou. China

(Trade) War and Peace: How to Impose International Trade Sanctions, (01 Jun 2023). *SMU Trade Workshop*, Singapore

Transportation and Agricultural Production in China, (09 Dec 2022). *SMU-Jinan Conference on Urban and Regional Economics*,

Determinants of Standard Harmonizations, (04 Mar 2022). *SMU Trade Workshop*,

National Treatment, Product Likeness, and Trade Restrictiveness of Technical Barriers, (10 Sep 2021). *ETSG 2021*,

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, (03 Jul 2021). *SED 2021*,

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, (17 Mar 2021). *SMU Trade Workshop*,

The Impact of NAFTA on Prices and Competition: Evidence from Mexican Manufacturing Plants, (03 Jan 2021). *ASSA*, United States of America

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, (30 Oct 2020). *Fifth Conference Global Value Chains, Trade and Development “Trade Agreements and Supply Chains”* ,

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, (23 Jul 2020). *SHUFE and IESR Online Trade Workshop*,

Regulatory Protection and the Role of International Cooperation, (19 Jun 2019). *SMU-INSEAD International Economics Workshop*, INSEAD. Singapore

Regulatory Protection and the Role of International Cooperation, (01 Jun 2019). *Zhongnan University Trade Seminar*, Wuhan. China

Regulatory Protection and the Role of International Cooperation, (24 Mar 2019). *Australiasian Trade Workshop*, Melbourne.

Mandarins Make Markets: Leadership Rotation and Inter-Provincial Trade in China, (13 Dec 2018). *SMU Conference on Urban and Regional Economics*,

Regulatory Protection and the Role of International Cooperation, (25 May 2018). *Midwest International Trade Conference*, Philadelphia. United States of America

Invited Seminars, Talks and Lectures

Tariffs as Bargaining Chips: A Quantitative Analysis of US-China Trade War, 14 Jun 2024. Wuhan University Seminar Series

Tariffs as Bargaining Chips: A Quantitative Analysis of US-China Trade War, 09 May 2024. Fudan University Seminar Series

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, 01 Dec 2022. HKUST Economics Department Seminar Series

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, 06 Sep 2022. Hong Kong Online Trade Seminar

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, 23 Oct 2021. University of Hawai'i Academic Seminar Series

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, 12 May 2021. Peking University School of Economics Academic Seminar Series

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, 22 Apr 2021. Fudan FISF Academic Seminar

Horizontal Regulatory Barriers in International Trade: Evidence from Electric Plugs, 22 Jan 2021. Drexel University Economics Department Seminar

Mandarins Make Markets: Leadership Rotation and Inter-Provincial Trade in China, 10 Oct 2018. Brown-Bag Seminar at NTU, Singapore

Media Contributions and Citations

CGTN Evening News, CGTN, 14 Sep 2025

Trump's policies, the crackdown on Immigrants, and its economic impact, CGTN, 02 Aug 2025

Singapore's economy is holding up, but the outlook could sour quickly, The Straits Times, 29 Jul 2025

How can Singapore respond to Trump's tariffs?, Channel News Asia, 21 Apr 2025

As US election comes to a close, 1 thing is certain: more tariffs on China, South China Morning Post, 06 Nov 2024

<https://www.scmp.com/economy/global-economy/article/3285370/after-us-election-two-things-appear-certain-death-and-china-tariffs>

Trade loses, no matter who wins the White House race, Standard, 22 Jul 2024

China's trade landscape a battleground, as data shows tariff duels to escalate with WTO hamstrung, South China Morning Post, 03 Jul 2024
<https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/3268983/chinas-trade-landscape-battleground-data-shows-tariff-duels-escalate-wto-hamstrung>

(Trade) war and peace: How to impose international trade sanctions, VOXEU, 05 Sep 2022
<https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/trade-war-and-peace-how-impose-international-trade-sanctions>

How Singapore can thrive in a world past peak trade, with more regional blocs, CNA Online, 15 Jul 2020
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/commentary/singapore-world-past-peak-trade-globalisation-cptpp-rcep-asean-12929886>

Intra-Asean flows gain ground even as US, China trade blows, The Business Times, 14 Jun 2019

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Singapore Management University

Committee Member, AEA Recruitment Committee, Jul 2022 - Feb 2023

Committee Member, Postgraduate Programmes (PhD/MPhil), Jul 2022 - Present

Committee Member, AEA Recruitment Committee, Aug 2020 - Feb 2021

Committee Member, Seminar Series, Aug 2019 - Present

Committee Member, Research Workshop Committee, Aug 2018 - Aug 2019

EXTERNAL SERVICE – PROFESSIONAL

Reviewer Journal Article, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, 2025 - Present

Reviewer Journal Article, Review of International Economics , 2024

Editor Associate Editor, Review of International Economics , 2024 - Present

Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of Public Economics, 2024

Reviewer Journal Article, Applied Economics, 2024

Reviewer Journal Article, Review of International Economics , 2024

Reviewer Journal Article, Canadian Journal of Economics, 2024

Reviewer Journal Article, Review of International Economics , 2024

Reviewer Journal Article, Economic Modelling, 2023

Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, 2023

Reviewer Journal Article, Review of International Economics, 2022

Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2022

Reviewer Journal Article, International Economic Review, 2022

Reviewer Journal Article, Urban Affairs Review, 2022

Reviewer Journal Article, Review of International Economics, 2022

Reviewer Journal Article, Review of Economics and Statistics, 2021

Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2021
Examiner Certification Exams, National University of Singapore, 2021
Reviewer Journal Article, American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, 2021
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2020
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2020
Reviewer Journal Article, Taiwan Economic Review, 2020
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2020
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2020
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2019
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2019
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of Asian Economics, 2019
Reviewer Journal Article, Review of International Economics, 2019
Reviewer Journal Article, Review of World Economics, 2018
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2018
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2018
Reviewer Journal Article, Journal of International Economics, 2018