Melanie Meng XUE

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Economic History, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), October 2021 – Assistant Professor of Economics, New York University - Abu Dhabi, September 2019 - August 2022

(Year Zero, 2019 – 2020; On leave, 2021 – 2022)

Postdoctoral Fellow, Northwestern University, Department of Economics and Center for Economic History, September 2017 – August 2019 (Supervisor: Joel Mokyr)

VISITING POSITIONS

Visiting Fellow, Toulouse School of Economics, Institute for Advanced Study, March 2018 – April 2018 Visiting Scholar, Brown University, Department of Economics, January 2017 – August 2017

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Research Affiliate, Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR), 2024 – Research Affiliate, Centre for Economics, Policy and History (CEPH), 2023 –

Education

Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), September 2015 – December 2017 Concentration: Economic History and Economic Development

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Mentor: Paola Giuliano

PhD in Economics, George Mason University, 2015

MA in Finance, Claremont McKennna College, 2010

BA in Economics (minor: Legal Studies), Fudan University, 2009

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Economic History, Political Economy, Cultural Economics, Development Economics

JOURNAL ARTICLES

"Folklore" (with Stelios Michalopoulos), *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, November 2021, 136 (4), 1993–2046. Editor's Choice

"Friends from Afar: The Taiping Rebellion, Cultural Proximity and Primary Schooling in the Lower Yangzi, 1850-1949" (with Yu Hao), *Explorations in Economic History*, 63 (2017): 44-69.

WORKING PAPERS

"High-Value Work and the Rise of Women: The Cotton Revolution and Gender Equality in China," 2024.

"Autocratic Rule and Social Capital: Evidence from Imperial China," 2021.

"The Short- and Long-Run Effects of Affirmative Action: Evidence from Imperial China," 2023, with Boxiao Zhang.

"Violence and Missing Women in China," 2024, with Tuan-Hwee Sng and Songfa Zhong.

"Values of China," 2024.

BOOK REVIEWS & BOOK CHAPTERS

Book Review for "D. Ma and R. Von Glahn, The Cambridge Economic History of China. Volume II", *Economic History Review*, 76 (2023): 989-990.

"Folklore" in: Kurtz, L.R (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace, and Conflict*, vol. 4. Academic Press, 2022.

Book Review for "M. Tanimoto and R. B. Wong, Public Goods Provision in the Early Modern Economy: Comparative Perspectives from Japan, China, and Europe", *Economic History Review*, 73, 1 (2020): 335-336.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Refereeing

American Economic Review, Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review: Insights, Cambridge Journal of Economics, China Economic Review, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Economica, European Economic Review, International Economic Review, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Institutional Economics, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economics and Statistics; Economic History Review, Journal of Economic History, Explorations in Economic History, Business History, Social Science History, Australian Economic History; PNAS, Science, Economics and Politics, Journal of Peace Research; Cambridge University Press, Palgrave Macmillan, Princeton University Press, Israel Science Foundation, Swiss National Science Foundation.

Invited Seminars

- 2025 (scheduled) University of Bristol, Queen's University Belfast, University of York, Utrecht University, University of Bergamo, THEMA ESSEC, Science Po.
- 2024 University of Glasgow, LSE, University of Auckland, Helsinki GSE, University of Sussex, PKU INSE; (scheduled) Paris School of Economics, Stockholm School of Economics.
- 2023 LSE Public Policy, Universidad Carlos III, Notre Dame, St Andrews, Cardiff University, University of Manchester, Duke Kunshan, Trinity College Dublin, Reichman University, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Penn, Fudan University, Aix-Marseille School of Economics.
- 2022 LSE Asia Economic History Seminar, University of Warwick, King's College London, Queen Mary, Chicago Booth, Oxford, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, University of Western Australia, Boston University, ISER Macro/Trade Workshop, International Macro History Online Seminar.
- 2021 London School of Economics, Swansea, Yale, University College London (SSEES), Peking University, Korea University, C-BID, JEES, POLECONUK Webinar.
- 2020 Bonn, University of Hong Kong, LEAP Webinar.
- 2019 Stockholm University, University of Nottingham, George Mason University, Amherst.

Job Market Seminars: Chicago Harris, NYU Abu Dhabi, CKGSB.

- 2018 Toulouse IAST, Higher School of Economics, New Economic School, University of Copenhagen, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Université Catholique de Louvain, Trinity College, Northwestern, UC San Diego.
- 2017 Brown, Williams College, Northwestern, UC Irvine, NYU Stern.

2016 UC Davis, UCLA Economic History Proseminar, UCLA Anderson Brown Bag, Bologna, NUS Business School, HKUST, Monash, UNSW Sydney, University of Arizona, Chapman University, Toulouse IAST, Bonn.

Conference & Workshop Presentations

- 2024 Venice Workshop: Frontiers in Economic History, ASSA (presenter; discussant), EHS, Oxford Workshop on the Chinese Economic History from the Comparative Perspectives, KCL Workshop in Comparative Politics and Political Economy, HKU Annual Conference on Asia and the Global Economy, QMUL/Warwick Workshop "Culture, Institutions and Political Economy."
- 2023 NBER Economics of Culture and Institutions, Stanford SITE Gender, EHA (discussant), Northwestern New Economic History of China Conference, CAGE Economic History Workshop, PSE India-China Workshop, Harvard Workshop on Historical Kinship, Psychology, and Economic Prosperity.
- 2022 BSE Summer Forum, ASSA (presenter; discussant), EHA, EHS, STEG Workshop: Political Economy and Public Investment, PKU Workshop on Political Economy and Political Selection.
- 2021 Oxford-Warwick-LSE Workshop in Economic History, "Sex Ratios and Missing Girls in History" Online Series (invited), SEA Economic Growth Mini Conference, EHS, SSHA(2).
- 2020 BREAD/CEPR/STICERD/TCD Conference on Development Economics.
- 2019 NBER Organizational Economics Meeting, NYU QCSS-3, IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting for Labor Economists, WPSA Mini-Conference on Autocratic Politics, ASREC.
- 2018 Barcelona GSE Summer Forum: V Calvó-Armengol International Prize Workshop, Barcelona GSE Summer Forum: Towards Sustained Economic Growth, Northwestern "Narrow Corridor" Book Conference, Deep-Rooted Factors in Comparative Development Conference, Northwestern Economic History of Religion Conference (discussant), Life & Legacy of Douglass North Conference, EHA (presenter; discussant), WEHC Boston (2), Cliometric Society, Asian Historical Economics Conference, North American Meeting of the Econometric Society.
- 2017 NBER Political Economy Meeting, NBER Summer Institute Income Distribution and Macroeconomics, ASSA(3), NEUDC, All-UC Economic History Conference, WEAI-Clio, ASREC.
- 2016 NBER Summer Institute Development of the American Economy, PacDev, EHA, All-UC Economic History Conference, IOEA (Corsica), HEDG Mini-Conference, ASREC.
- 2015 NBER Chinese Economy Meeting (discussant), NEUDC, All-UC Economic History, IRES Graduate Student Workshop, Social Science History Association, World Economic History Congress, ASREC.
- 2014 "Deep Causes of Economic Development" Conference (Utrecht), EHA, Washington Area Development Economics Symposium, Economic History Society, International Society for New Institutional Economics, Southern Economic Association, Hong Kong Economic Association.

Invited Lectures

"The Rise of Women in Historical Perspective," University of Exeter Economists Society, February 2023

"Culture, Institutions, and the Long-Term Development of China," "The Chinese Economy in the Long Run" Conference, University of Manchester, October 2022

Recent Discussions

"Revisiting Skinner: Counting Counties in Song China," ASSA, January 2024

"Is Propaganda Front-Page News," ASSA, January 2024

"Campaigning for Extinction: Eradication of Sparrows and the Great Famine in China," ASSA, January 2024

"Conflict and Gender Norms: Evidence from India," EHA, September 2023

Book Discussion, "The Ideological Foundations of Qing Taxation," March 2023

"Riding the Monsoon: Geography and Iron Age Trade in the Indian Ocean," ASSA, January 2022

"Herding, Warfare, and a Culture of Honor: Global Evidence," ASSA, January 2022

Workshops & Sessions Organized

| 2025 | 5 Co-organizer, Session "Values, Ideology and Sent | timent in Economic History," WEHC Lund. |
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| 2025 | 5 Co-organizer, Session "Gender in a Historical Pe | rspective," WEHC Lund. |
| 2024 | 4 Co-organizer, Workshop on Institutions and Poli | tical Economy in Historical Perspective, LSE. |
| 2024 | 4 Organizer, Session "Culture and Narratives," EF | IS. |
| 2023 | 3 Co-organizer, LSE Chinese Economic and Social | History Workshop, LSE. |
| 2022 | 2 Co-organizer, Session "The Infrastructure of Pow | ver in East Asian Empires," WEHC Paris. |
| 2022 | 2 Organizer, Workshop "History, Culture and Pop | ular Beliefs," LSE. |
| 2021 | 1 Organizer, Session "Gender Norms in a Historica | al Perspective," EHS. |

Other Activities

| 2023 - | Committee Member, LSE Economic History Research Committee |
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| 2023 - 2024 | Committee Member, LSE Economic History Seminar Committee |
| 2022 - | Program Committee, Economic History Society Annual Conference |
| 2021 - 2022 | Committee Member, LSE Economic History PhD Admission Committee |
| 2020 - 2021 | Co-organizer, NYUAD Social Science History Seminar |
| 2020 - 2021 | Committee Member, NYUAD Social Science Postdoctoral Program Recruitment Committee |
| 2020 | Committee Member, CEPR-NYUAD Workshop on Economic History Scientific Committee |
| 2017 - 2019 | Organizer, Northwestern Economic History Lunch |

Fellowships and Grants

| 2024 | LSE Global Research Fund (with Neil Cummins) |
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| 2021 | Institute for Humane Studies, Hayek Fund for Scholars, "Women and Asylums" |
| 2017 - 2019 | Northwestern's Center for Economic History Postdoctoral Fellowship |
| 2018 | Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse Visiting Fellowship |
| 2015 - 2017 | Dan Searle Fellowship in Economics |

COURSES TAUGHT

London School of Economics:

Chinese Economic History: Culture, Institutions and Economic Growth. 2021, 2022, 2023

Quantitative Analysis in Economic History II. 2023

Economic Growth, Development, and Capitalism in Historical Perspective. 2023

NYU Abu Dhabi:

Global Economic, Political and Social Development Since 1500. Spring 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2021 Northwestern University:

Topics in Economic History: Economic History of China. Fall 2017, Fall 2018