

Grace Chang

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Education

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) Sep 18 – Sep 22
Quantitative PhD student in Demography/Population Studies in the Social Policy Department
Thesis title : Essays on young people’s time allocation and development
Supervisors : Dr. Berkay Özcan and Prof. Stephen Jenkins
Research interests : Time allocation, youth, non-cognitive skills, wellbeing

University of Warwick, Coventry UK:
September 2013 : Economics, Masters of Science Distinction
July 2012 : Economics, Bachelors of Science First Class Honours
Dissertations : The impact of Immigrant College Graduates on Native College Graduates: A study by majors, in the U.S. (MSc) and The Progress of Women and Their Happiness (BSc)

Teaching Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant (LSE) Sep 19 – May 20

- Conducted tutorials for the SP111 Economics for Social Policy and Politics to first year undergraduates
- In charge of class design, facilitating class discussions, assessing formative work, providing students with personal feedback and answering student queries. Quick implementation and design of classes through online learning during the Covid-19 disruption
- Awarded winner of LSE Class Teacher Award 2019-20

Publications

Chang, G, Favara, M., and Novella, R. (2022). “The origins of cognitive skills and non-cognitive skills: The long-term effect of in-utero rainfall shocks in India”. *Economics and Human Biology*. Volume 44. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ehb.2021.101089>

Chang, G. (2022). “How is adolescents’ time allocation associated with their self-esteem and self-efficacy? Evidence from four developing countries”. *The Journal of Development Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2022.2075735>

Academic work in progress

Thesis article “If university students do paid work during their studies, does it increase their internal locus of control?”. *Under review at Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*.

Thesis article “How the “who, what and when” matter in the associations between adolescents’ screen time and their wellbeing. A time diary study of 14-year-olds in the UK”

Non-academic

Chacaltana, J., Chang, G., Favara, M., & McKay, A. (2022). "Youth labour market resilience during the COVID-19 crisis in three middle-income countries". International Labour Organization (ILO) Report.

https://www.ilo.org/employment/Whatwedo/Publications/WCMS_838505/lang--en/index.htm

Favara, M., Woodhead, M., Castro, J.F., Chang, G., & Espinoza, P. (2017). Cited in World Development Report 2018. "Pre-school Education and Skills Development in Peru, Vietnam, Ethiopia and India: Evidence from Young Lives." World Bank, Washington, DC. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/wdr2018>

Favara, M., Chang, G., & Sanchez, A. (2018). "No Longer Children: What do Young Lives Children do When They Grow Up? Transition to post-secondary education and the labour market." Research Report. Young Lives, University of Oxford, Oxford. <https://www.younglives.org.uk/publications/no-longer-children-what-do-young-lives-children-do-when-they-grow>

Conference Presentations

Population Association of America (PAA) conference: Is more screen time worse for adolescent wellbeing? Flash Session. April 2022.

Applied Demography Conference (ADC). "How "who, what and when" matter in the relationships of screen time and adolescent wellbeing?" February, 2022.

Virtual European Society for Population Economics (ESPE). "If university students do paid work, does it improve their locus of control?". June, 2021.

Virtual 9th European Conference of Education (ECE). "If university students do paid work, does it improve their locus of control?". July, 2021.

Virtual Society of Economics of the Household Conference (SEHO). "How does children's time allocation affect their non-cognitive skills? Evidence from four developing countries". May 2021.

Virtual Population Association of America (PAA) conference, "How does children's time allocation affect their non-cognitive skills? Evidence from four developing countries". Poster session May 2021

Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) conference, Oxford online: [Used a 10-minute video to present my work on twitter because of the pandemic](#), Mar 2020

CSAE conference, Oxford. "The Origins of Cognitive Skills and Personality: The Effect of In-utero Climate Shocks on Children's Future Life Outcomes". Mar 2019.

41st International Academic Conference, Venice. "The Origins of Cognitive Skills and Personality: The Effect of In-utero Climate Shocks on Children's Future Life Outcomes" , Sep 2018.

Awards and Scholarships

- LSE PhD Studentship, GBP18,000/annum, 2018 – 2022
- Winner of LSE Class Teacher Award 2019-20

- **OxTALENT 2018 Runner Up:** Part of the Young Lives Dataviz team who received runner up prize in OxTALENT 2018, held by Oxford Martin School under the category of innovative data visualisations.
- **Undergraduate Research Scholarship Scheme, University of Warwick, Jul – Oct 2012:** Applied and won a bursary to further BSc final year dissertation analysis on “The Progress of Women and Their Happiness”.

Research Skills

- Quantitative analysis using econometric techniques (e.g. instrumental variables, fixed effects, propensity score matching) through Stata
- Report writing and dissemination through LaTeX via OverLeaf, MS Word, MS Excel, MS Powerpoint.
- Data visualisation through Tableau
- Languages spoken: English (native) and Malay (intermediate)

Academic and Professional Experience

Research Fellow, University of Southampton

Oct 22 – present

- Researcher in survey methodology at the Department of Social Statistics & Demography. Working under the direction of Dr Maslovskaya and Prof. Perelli-Harris and Prof. Berrington to analyse methodological experiments within the first wave of Gender and Generations Survey (GGS) in the United Kingdom, under the Centre for Population Change
- Responsible for analysing survey experiments and explore ways to improve online data collection in social surveys
- Responsible for leadership, management, and engagement activities in relation to the GGS, including investigating models and approaches to improve the GGS survey data collection, to disseminate findings in preparing publications for journals, and to present results at conferences

RC28 LSE 2022 Organising Committee

Nov 21 - Apr 22

- Responsible for answering email queries, social media posts, providing administrative reports on registrations, payments, and paper submissions
- Responsible for contacting hotel and dinner venues, and assisting in organizing the conference timetable
- Assist with set-up and facilitation during the conference

Research Assistant, consultant for the ILO

Nov 20 – June 21

- Responsible for assisting the lead researchers to prepare research reports that promote decent work as a core goal of the International Labor Organization (ILO). The project analyses labour market dynamics of young workers in low and middle-income countries since the COVID-19 pandemic, using Young Lives data
- Carried out a search and review of academic and non-academic literature on labour market definitions, characteristics and dynamics relevant to the global crisis
- Carried out data cleaning, descriptive and multivariate regression analysis using Young Lives at Work Covid-19 Phone Surveys and previous Young Lives rounds. Conducted

meetings to share quantitative findings with researchers, and helped to draft the research reports

Research Analyst, Young Lives, University of Oxford

Oct 19 – Sep 20

- Casual contract with Young Lives. Responsible for preparation of questionnaires and introduction of new modules for Round 6 survey, and support request from country teams on country-specific questions to include in the questionnaires, generating analysis needed for research reports
- Helped prepare submission for CUREC Ethical Approval
- Assisted in the development of the Young Lives at Work Covid-19 Phone Survey in 2020, which included questionnaire design, drawing up the fieldworker manual, synthesis and analysis of the data to produce research reports and quick policy headlines. Had a strong role in training new research assistants to clean the phone survey data

Research assistant to Mylene Lagarde in Health Policy, LSE

Dec 18 – Jun 19

- Synthesised quantitative needs for the research analysis through literature reviews, reviewing and cleaning the data, pooling the data, and running preliminary analysis. The study analyses the effects of removing user fees in developing countries on maternal health and child mortality, using a differences-in-differences specification. Merged data from 15 developing countries through the Demographic Health Survey (DHS)

Research Analyst, Young Lives Project, University of Oxford

Jan 16 – Sep 18

- I reported to the Senior Research Officer with a focus research area on children's work and transitions into the labour market in the four study countries; Ethiopia, India, Peru and Vietnam
- Main responsibilities are data cleaning and checks before archiving the survey data, as well as quantitative analysis and research using the final data. In Round 5 of data collection, I was largely involved in data validation, cleaning and correction of the survey data during the fieldwork in the study countries before the data was archived. Worked closely with the study country teams and coordinated with different project teams to align outputs needed to produce the clean and documented final dataset, as well as quantitative analysis that fed into summary reports such as the factsheets and annual reports
- Assisted and co-authored research papers and reports, writing blogs and creating data visualisations. This provided me ample experience in managing a large cross-country longitudinal dataset, as well as producing concise and useful analyses. My priority was to investigate the Young Lives' children's labour outcomes from the data to provide inputs in understanding the definitions and characteristics of child work, and challenges faced in their transition into the labour market as young adults. This work fed into policy recommendations, research reports and papers. Co-authored on several research reports.

Research Assistant II, Khazanah Research Institute, Malaysia

Apr 14 – Dec 15

- Primary responsibility was to conduct research and data analysis to assist the Directors of Research regarding topics on poverty and social development to provide policy recommendations to the government
- I engaged in various roles including constructing surveys, data mining, conducting structured interviews/fieldwork, data analysis, report writing and publications, and

paper presentations. I also had the opportunity to engage and present our findings to relevant policymakers, ministries and academic institutions. The company is government-linked, so much of the work I was involved in was then presented at the Prime Minister's office

- The main project I was involved in was a study on socio-economic mobility in Malaysia, where I had a strong leading role at the development and initiation stages of the research that encompassed about 5,000 respondents. Besides conducting the technical aspects of the project, I was also in charge of liaising with collaborators and external parties for the project, and have presented preliminary findings in local conferences.

Professional Affiliations

- Young Lives Virtual Affiliate

Public Engagement

- **Blog for LSE:** Linked my research on children's time allocation to how we might re-think children's work in developing countries. Link [here](#)
- **LSE Social Policy OXO Tower Wharf Exhibition January 2019.** Presented my work on "Can Child Work Provide Opportunities for Skill Development?"
- **LSE Research Festival Mar 2019.** [Highly commended written pitch prize](#) on "Can Child Work Provide Opportunities for Skill Development?" at the LSE New World (Dis)Orders.
- **Departmental Recognition Scheme, 2018:** received a Reward and Recognition Scheme by the Department of International Development, University of Oxford for contributions to data visualisations of the research work by Young Lives as a team

Academic Service

- **Received positive testimonials from my supervisors and colleagues** in the Department Spotlight Issue about my contribution to the department.
- **Quantitative Reading Group, LSE:** I organise an informal quantitative reading group among PhD students to discuss their work in progress (written drafts or practice presentations), where we can discuss each other's work and offer constructive feedback.
- **Meetings with Masters students, LSE:** In my own time, I organised Zoom meetings to discuss queries Masters students may have about applying for a PhD at LSE
- **Warwick Economics Exchange, University of Warwick, 2012/13:** formed a team of 6 MSc students who initiated the first student-run Dissertation Colloquium in the university. The program was to facilitate intellectual discussion and the exchange of ideas between Economics Masters students, and is now a yearly event at the university

Referees

Berkay Özcan, lecturer

London School of Economics and Political
Science

Department of Social Policy

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Olga Maslovskaya, Associate Professor

University of Southampton

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Stephen Jenkins, Professor

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Marta Favara, Deputy Director

Young Lives, University of Oxford

International Development,

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