

Shirley Cai

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Research Interests

Health Economics, Labor Economics

Education

Emory University

Ph.D. in Economics

M.A. in Economics

Atlanta, GA

Spring 2027 (expected)

Summer 2026

Stanford University

M.S. in Statistics

B.A. in Economics

Stanford, CA

Spring 2022

Spring 2022

Working Papers

1. **Medical School Environments and Physician Treatment Styles** (with Ian McCarthy)
2. **Formation of Physician Referral Networks: Drivers and Potential Consequences** (with Ian McCarthy, Pablo Estrada, and Jillian Wilkins)

Research Experience

Research Assistant to Matt Grennan, Emory University

Spring 2025 – Fall 2025

Linked physician disciplinary action data to drug prescriptions and market exit.

Research Assistant to Ian McCarthy, Emory University

Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Predicted physician race using images through the DeepFace library. Predicted physician race using name and location through the wru package. Evaluated name- and location-based predictions using external test sets.

Research Assistant to Karen Eggleston, Stanford University

Spring 2021 – Summer 2022

Explored relationships between quality of care and staffing outcomes in Japanese nursing homes. Headed analytical work adjusting for survey non-response bias.

Research Assistant to Larry Goulder, Stanford University

Summer 2020

Developed a model for pension fund dynamics fully coded and calibrated in MATLAB.

Teaching Experience

Instructor, Principles of Microeconomics

Spring 2026

Teaching Assistant, Health Care Markets (Professor Ian McCarthy)

Fall 2023 – 2024

Grader, Intermediate Microeconomics (Professor Daniel Fershtman)

Spring 2024

Conference Presentations

Southern Economics Association 96th Annual Meeting, Houston, TX

November 2026

Southern Economics Association 95th Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL

November 2025

- Abstract accepted but did not present due to illness.

Technical Skills

Software: R, Python, Stata, L^AT_EX