George Z. Yang

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iamgyang.github.io

Education

Ph.D. in Economics — 2022–
University of California, Santa Barbara
Committee: Ted Bergstrom, Ted Frech, Antony Millner, Christopher Adams

B.S.E., Wharton School — 2016–2020
University of Pennsylvania

B.S.N., School of Nursing — 2016–2020
University of Pennsylvania

Research interests

Health Economics, Public Economics

Working papers

"International Cooperation on Drug Pricing to Increase Pharmaceutical Innovation," with Olivier Wouters.

"The Cost of Preclinical R&D," with Chris Adams.

"The Impact of the Inflation Reduction Act on Pharmaceutical R&D," with Thomas Fullagar.

Policy papers

Kenny, C., & Yang, G. (2021). Can Africa Help Europe Avoid Its Looming Aging Crisis? *Center for Global Development Working Paper, 584.*

Kenny, C., & Yang, G. (2020). Measuring the Development Impact of the IFC and Development Finance. *Center for Global Development Working Paper, 562.*

Duggan, J., Morris, S., Sandefur, J., & Yang, G. (2020). Is the World Bank's COVID-19 Crisis Lending Big Enough, Fast Enough? New Evidence on Loan Disbursements. *Center for Global Development Working Paper, 554.*

Research and policy employment

Congressional Budget Office — 2025
Associate Analyst

University of California, Santa Barbara — 2024
Research Assistant for Heather Royer

U.S. International Trade Commission — 2024
Intern

Center for Global Development — 2020–2022
Research Assistant for Charles Kenny and Justin Sandefur

Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics — 2018–2020
Research Assistant for Abby Alpert

Teaching

Auction Theory, ECON 177, TA, UCSB	Winter 2026
Intermediate Microeconomic Theory, ECON 10A, TA, UCSB	Winter 2026
Principles of Microeconomics, ECON 1, TA, UCSB	Fall 2025
Econometrics, Ph.D. Level, ECON 241C, TA, UCSB	Spring 2024
Health Economics, ECON 170, TA, UCSB	Winter 2024
Econometrics, ECON 140A, TA, UCSB	Fall 2023

Professional activities

Referee assistance: *Health Affairs, Health Affairs Scholar*
Conference organizer for 9th annual Southern California Graduate Conference in Applied Economics (SOCAE)

Awards & fellowships

UCSB Louis H. Towbes Fellowship	2023
UCSB Chancellor's Fellowship	2022
Johnson and Johnson Nursing & Wharton Impact Scholarship	2020
Y-Prize Engineering Entrepreneurship Competition Finalist	2018
LDI Undergraduate Health Services Research Prize	2017

Skills

Languages: English (native), Spanish (intermediate), Chinese (intermediate)
R, STATA, Python, Excel, Git, TeX, Apache Spark / SQL

Updated November 2026