

DHONGKYU YOON

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, Economics, University of Washington, Seattle	(Expected) June 2026
M.A., Economics, University of Washington, Seattle	Dec 2022
M.A., Economics, Yonsei University, Seoul	Feb 2020
B.A., Economics, Yonsei University, Seoul	Aug 2017

SKILLS

Expertise: Microeconomic theory (Mechanism Design), Applied microeconomics

Technical Skills:

- Statistical Analysis: Stata (Panel data analysis, regression: difference-in-difference, regression discontinuity; bootstrapping, randomization inference) using packages `ssc`, `rd`
- Simulation and nonparametric/ quantile estimation: R using packages `np`, `quantreg`, `kernsmooth`
- Constrained/ Unconstrained optimization: Matlab (Optimization toolbox: Linear/ Nonlinear programming)
- Data Manipulation and Analysis: Python (Pandas, NumPy, Dask)

PUBLICATION

“Does the College Tuition Regulation in Korea Improve Social Welfare?” with K. Lee, Korean Economic Review, Vol. 39, No. 1, January 2023, pp. 5-53.

- This paper examines the welfare effects of tuition regulation using a model of education choices depending on ability and wealth. College is costly but improves productivity and job prospects, whereas high school is free with no benefits. We find that if firms can observe workers’ ability, tuition regulation benefits most people because it makes college more affordable. However, if only workers observe their ability, the welfare gain can be counteracted by reducing wages due to changes in education choices.
- Presented at Spring Annual Meeting of The Korean Association of Public Policy

WORKING PAPERS

Playing Favorites with Inattentive Buyers

- This paper examines how a seller should design mechanisms when buyers can pay to acquire information. With two identical buyers, symmetric allocation weakens incentives to gather information, while playing favorites lets the seller favor one buyer, encouraging inspection. The seller may therefore optimally treat buyers unequally, depending on information costs and its curvature.
- Presented at Midwest Theory Conference, Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory, 2025 Yonsei Emerging Researchers Forum, 2025 World Congress of the Econometric Society

Inattentive Buyers with Interdependent Signals

- This paper studies mechanism design with inattentive buyers whose signals are interdependent. Interdependence lowers seller revenue in sequential mechanisms but raises it in simultaneous mechanisms, due to differing effects on risk-taking and free-riding.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Designing Incentive-Compatible Mechanisms to Promote Flexible Work Arrangements for Women: Evidence from India and Jordan

with Ananya Diwakant

- This study examines how flexible work arrangements (FWAs) can reduce barriers to women's labor force participation in low- and middle-income countries. It develops an incentive-compatible model to address firms' concerns about productivity and moral hazard, proposing tools such as productivity-linked subsidies and effort-based contracts. Using labor force data from India and Jordan, the research tests these predictions and evaluates how FWAs affect both women's employment and firm outcomes, offering policy insights for reducing gender disparities in labor markets.

EXPERIENCE

Course Instructor

Seattle University

Seattle, WA

- Introductory Microeconomics

Teaching Assistant

University of Washington, Economics Department

Seattle, WA

- Introductory Macroeconomics
- Graduate Microeconomics I

Course Instructor

University of Washington, Economics Department

Seattle, WA

- Intermediate Macroeconomics
- Intermediate Microeconomics

Marketing Intern

Urban Creators

Costa Mesa, CA
June 2024 – Oct 2024

- Conducted market research to identify trends and target audience preferences, providing actionable insights to the marketing team
- Assisted in developing and implementing marketing strategies and campaigns across social media, email, and other digital platforms
- Supported the creation of promotional materials, including blog posts, graphics, and presentations, to enhance brand visibility
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to organize events, manage logistics, and ensure successful execution of promotional activities
- Monitored and reported on campaign performance using analytics tools to optimize future initiatives

Yonsei University

Junior Scholar Club (Economics)

Seoul, Korea
Mar 2013 – June 2020

- Served as the President of the club during Mar. 2017- Feb. 2018
- Organized weekly seminars about recent research in economics

Yonsei University

Public Finance Reading Group

Seoul, Korea
Sep 2017 – Feb 2020

- Weekly seminars about recent research in public finance, under the guidance of Kyungwoo Lee

HONORS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduate Student Conference Presentation Award (2025), Seattle, WA

Graduate Teaching Award (2023), Seattle, WA

George and Peark Corkery Scholarship (2020), Seattle, WA

D.K. Korea Scholarship (2013), Seoul, Korea

Kumsaem Foundation Scholarship (2016), Seoul, Korea

BK21 Plus Incentive Scholarship, Yonsei University (2019), Seoul, Korea