

Sangyoon Park

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Fields of Specialization

Development Economics and Economic History

Academic Appointments

2026-present Associate Professor (with tenure), Division of Social Science, HKUST
2023-2026 Associate Professor, Division of Social Science, HKUST
2016-2023 Assistant Professor, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Hong Kong

Education

2016 Ph.D., Economics, Northwestern University
2011 M.A., Economics, Northwestern University
2010 B.A., Economics & Mathematics, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Other Positions and Affiliations

2022-present Advisory Panel, Seoul Stepping Stone Income Project, Seoul, South Korea
2022-2023 Consultant, International Finance Corporation, World Bank
07. 2021 Short-term Visiting Scholar, Sogang University, South Korea
2018-2019 Evaluation Specialist, Dragon Fruit Research Center, Binh Thuan, Vietnam

Honors and Awards

2025 HKUST-YONSEI Global Knowledge Network Award
2024 Korean Economic Research Award, Korean Economic Association
2018 Faculty Outstanding Teaching Award, University of Hong Kong
2015 Dissertation Year Fellowship, Northwestern University
2014 Graduate Student Dissertation Research Award, Buffett Center, Northwestern University
2010 Academic Excellence Award (Top Student of Graduating Cohort), Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Research and Scholarship

1. Published Journal Articles

- [1] Park, Sangyoon. "Coeducation, Academic Performance, and Subject Choice: Evidence from Quasi-Random Classroom Assignments", *Education Economics*, 26(6): 574-92, 2018.
- [2] Park, Sangyoon. "Socializing at Work: Evidence from a Field Experiment with Manufacturing Workers", *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 11(3): 424-55, 2019.
- [3] Kim, Danu, Jeongkyung Won, Eunji Lee, Kyungryul Park, Jihee Kim, Sangyoon Park, Hyunjoo Yang, and Meeyoung Cha. "Disaster Assessment Using Computer Vision and Satellite Imagery: Applications in Detecting Water-Related Building Damages." *Frontiers in Environmental Science*, 10: 969758, 2022.
- [4] Izumi, Yutaro, Sangyoon Park, and Hyunjoo Yang. "The Effects of South Korean Protestantism on Human Capital and Female Empowerment, 1930-2010," *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 51(2): 422-38, 2023.
- [5] Ahn, Donghyun, Jeasurk Yang, Sungwon Han, Sungwon Park, Susang Lee, Hyunjoo Yang, Jihee Kim, Sangyoon Park, and Meeyoung Cha. "A Human-Machine Collaborative Approach Measures Economic Development Using Satellite Imagery." *Nature Communications*, 14: 6811, 2023.
- [6] Kim, Jihee, Kyoochul Kim, Sangyoon Park, and Chang Sun. "The Economic Costs of Trade Sanctions: Evidence from North Korea." *Journal of International Economics*, 145: 103813, 2023.

- Paper awarded Korean Economy Research Award, Korean Economic Association, for Best Paper on Korean Economy
- [7] Park, Sangyoon, Zhaoneng Yuan, and Hongsong Zhang. “Technology Training, Buyer-Supplier Relationship, and Quality Upgrading in an Agricultural Supply Chain.” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 107(3): 711-727, 2025.
- [8] Izumi, Yutaro and Sangyoon Park. “Education and Wartime Mobilization: Evidence from Colonial Korea during WWII.” *Explorations in Economic History*, 98: 101712, 2025.

Note: Author ordering reflects equal contribution (alphabetical by surname) for articles [4], [6], [7], [8] and contribution level (descending order) for articles [3], [5].

2. Conference Proceedings

- [1] Han, Sungwon, Donghyun Ahn, Sungwon Park, Jeasurk Yang, Susang Lee, Hyunjoo Yang, Jihee Kim, Sangyoon Park, and Meeyoung Cha. “Learning to score economic development from satellite imagery.” *Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) SIGKDD 2020 Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD)*, 2970-79, 2020.
- [2] Park, Sungwon, Sungwon Han, Donghyun Ahn, Jaeyeon Kim, Jeasurk Yang, Susang Lee, Seunghoon Hong, Jihee Kim, Hyunjoo Yang, Sangyoon Park, and Meeyoung Cha. “Learning Economic Indicators by Aggregating Multi-level Geospatial Information.” *Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, 36(11): 12053-12061, 2022.
- [3] Ahn, Donghyun, Minhyuk Song, Seungeon Lee, Yubin Choi, Jihee Kim, Hyunjoo Yang, Sangyoon Park, and Meeyoung Cha. “Fine-Grained Socioeconomic Prediction from Satellite Images with Distributional Adjustment.” *Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM)*, 3717-3721, 2023.
- [4] Ahn, Kyeongjin, Sungwon Han, Sungwon Park, Jihee Kim, Sangyoon Park and Meeyoung Cha. “Generalizable Disaster Damage Assessment via Change Detection with Vision Foundation.” *Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, 39(27): 27784-27792, 2025.

3. Working Papers

- [1] Park, Sangyoon and Zihe Wang. “Trading Up the Social Ladder: Evidence from Joseon Korea’s Civil Service Examinations.” Revise and Resubmit.
- [2] Jung, Yeonha, Gedeon Lim, and Sangyoon Park. “Civilian Killings and Long-run Development: Evidence from the Korean War.” *CESifo Working Paper No. 11974*.
- [3] Ahn, Kyeongjin, Sungwon Han, Seungeon Lee, Donghyun Ahn, Hyoshin Kim, Jungwon Kim, Jihee Kim, Sangyoon Park, and Meeyoung Cha. “GeoReg: Weight-Constrained Few-Shot Regression for Socio-Economic Estimation using LLM.” Submitted.
- [4] Kim, Hyuncheol Bryant, Minki Kim, Jungmin Lee, Seung-hun Lee, and Sangyoon Park. “The Impacts of Negative Income Tax on Labor Market and Health Outcomes: Evidence from a Large Scale Field Experiment.”
- [5] Izumi, Yutaro and Sangyoon Park. “Building Bureaucracy Through Education: Evidence from Colonial Korea.”
- [6] Lee, Donggyu, Hyeok Yun, Jungwon Kim, Junsik Min, Sungwon Park, Sangyoon Park, and Jihee Kim. “Ideological Bias in LLM’s Economic Causal Reasoning.” Submitted.
- [7] Lee, Donggyu, Hyeok Yun, Meeyoung Cha, Sungwon Park, Sangyoon Park, and Jihee Kim. “EconCausal: A Context-Aware Causal Reasoning Benchmark for Large Language Models in Social Science.” Submitted.

Research Grants

1. External Peer-Reviewed Competitive Research Grants

- [1] PI: “Technology Upgrading in Agricultural Export Supply Chains: A Field Experiment in Vietnam”, Early Career Scheme (ECS), Hong Kong, 2018-2020.
- [2] PI: “Opening the Black Box of North Korea’s Economy: Deep Learning with Daytime Satellite Imagery”, General Research Fund (GRF), Hong Kong, 2020-2022.
- [3] PI: “Gender, Development, and Protestantism: Evidence from 20th Century Korea”, Academy of Korean Studies Research Grant, 2021-2022.
- [4] PI: “The Long-run Impacts of Meritocratic Education in South Korea: Human Capital, Social Capital, and Local Elites”, General Research Fund (GRF), Hong Kong, 2022-2024.
- [5] PI (originally Co-I; assumed PI role in 2024): “Impact Evaluation of Seoul Safety Income (Negative Income Tax) Project”, General Research Fund (GRF), Hong Kong, 2023-2025.
- [6] PI: “The Economic Legacy of Civilian Killings: Evidence from the Korean War”, General Research Fund (GRF), Hong Kong, 2024-2026.
- [7] PI: “Colonial Networks and Technology Transfer: Unpacking Korea’s Economic Miracle”, The Sumitomo Foundation, Japan, 2026-2027.
- [8] PI: “Elite Migration and Economic Development: Evidence from Divided Korea”, General Research Fund (GRF), Hong Kong, 2026-2028.

2. Internal Research Grants

- [1] PI: HKUST Post-doctoral Fellowship Matching Fund, 2024-2025.
- [2] PI: HKUST Institute for Emerging Market Studies, 2024-2026.

Invited Seminars and Conference Presentations (since 2021; including scheduled)

- 2026 Asian Cliometric Workshop (Japan); Lijiang Forum; Asian Economic Development Conference (HKUST); Hong Kong Labor Symposium (HKU); GLO-Guangzhou Conference
- 2025 Northwest A&F University; Asian Cliometric Workshop (South Korea); Hong Kong Economic History Workshop (HKU); Empirical Studies of Conflict Taipei Conference; CESifo Venice Summer Institute; World Congress of the Econometric Society (South Korea); Korean Economic Review International Conference (SNU); NEUDC (Tufts)
- 2024 University of Queensland; Korean Economic History Society Conference; Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (China); Korean Economic Review International Conference; Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (Vietnam); Asian Historical Economic Conference (HKU); AASLE Conference (Chulalongkorn Univ); NEUDC (Northeastern Univ)
- 2023 Chinese University of Hong Kong; Hong Kong Labor Workshop; University of Tokyo; Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology; Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (NTU); NBER Summer Institute (Boston); Empirical Studies of Conflict Annual Meeting (Washington, DC)
- 2022 Chung-Ang University; Monash University; National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies; HKU Quantitative History Webinar; Sogang University; UCSD-SNU Webinar; Korean Economic History Society Conference; Lingnan University; Hong Kong Baptist University; HKUST (Social Science); AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting; Economic Development Conference (Cornell Univ); Asian Historical Economic Conference (Thailand)
- 2021 HKUST (Economics); BREAD Virtual Conference on Development Economics (NYU); North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society (Virtual); European Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society (Virtual); Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting (Virtual)

Teaching

1. Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

- [1] Economics of Development (MPhil/PhD Level), 2023-present.
- [2] Economic Development (Master Level), 2023-present.
- [3] Economic Development (Undergraduate Level), 2023-present.

2. University of Hong Kong

- [1] Causal Inference (Master Level), 2019-2023.
- [2] Labor Economics (Master Level), 2016-2018.
- [3] Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate Level), 2016-2023. (Faculty of Business and Economics Outstanding Teaching Award 2018)

Formal Advising and Initial Placement

- [1] Post Doc Supervision (HKUST)
Seung-hun Lee (Social Science, Co-supervisor, 2024-2025)
- [2] PhD Thesis Supervision (HKUST)
Yabin Yin (Social Science, Committee Member, 2024-2025)
Initial Placement: Post Doc, University of Hong Kong
- [3] PhD Thesis Supervision (HKU)
Zhaoneng Yuan (Economics, Primary supervisor, 2017-2023)
Initial Placement: Assistant Professor, Nanyang Technological University
Ruoyu Qian (Economics, Committee Member, 2023-2024)
Initial Placement: Assistant Professor, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics

Professional Service

- 1. **Reviewer for Academic Journals (in alphabetical order):** *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Australian Economic History Review, China Economic Review, Economics Letters, Experimental Economics, Explorations in Economic History, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic History, Journal of European Economic Association, Journal of Human Resources, Labour Economics, Management Science, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Southern Journal of Economics*
- 2. **Reviewer for Research Grants:** *Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), U.S. National Science Foundation*
- 3. **Conference Organization:**
 - [1] Scientific Committee, *Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics (AASLE)*, 2019-present.
 - [2] Organizer, Quantitative History Workshop, HKUST, August 2026 (scheduled).
 - [3] Scientific Committee, Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (China), 2026.

University Service

1. Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

- [1] Social Science (SOSC) Postgraduate Program Committee, 2023-2026.
- [2] Applied Economics Workshop Coordinator, 2023-present.
- [3] Public Policy (PPOL) Search and Appointments Committee (Adhoc Member), 2025.
- [4] Social Science (SOSC) Search and Appointments Committee, 2025-present.

- [5] Undergraduate Student Recruitment Trips, 2025-present.
- [6] Social Science (SOSC) Substantiation and Promotion Committee, 2026-present.

2. University of Hong Kong

- [1] ECON Postgraduate program committee, 2016-2023.
- [2] Junior Recruiting Committee in Economics, 2017-2019.
- [3] Organizer, Area of Economics Seminar, 2017-2021.
- [4] ECON Staff-Student Consultative Committee, 2017-2023.
- [5] Faculty Academic Advisers (FAAs) for FBE undergraduate students, 2016-2023.
- [6] Applied Economics Workshop Coordinator, 2021-2023.