

SRINIVASAN VASUDEVAN

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Current Position

2019-present Assistant Instructional Professor of Economics and in the College, The University of Chicago

Affiliations

2025-present Invited Researcher, J-PAL South Asia

Past Positions

2018-2019 Consultant, Development Research Group, The World Bank

2017-2018 Economic Researcher, American Institutes for Research

Education

2012-2017 Ph.D., University of Wisconsin–Madison, Agricultural & Applied Economics

2008-2010 M.R.P, Cornell University, City and Regional Planning

2003-2007 B.Tech., Vellore Institute of Technology, Mechanical Engineering

Publications

“Radio and Technology Adoption During India’s Green Revolution: Evidence from a Natural Experiment,” 2023. *World Development*, 161.

“Persuading Voters to Punish Corrupt Vote-Buying Candidates: Experimental Evidence from a Large-Scale Radio Campaign in India,” (with L. Schechter) 2023. *Journal of Development Economics*, 160.

Working Papers

“Value of Social Connection: Evidence from Randomized Introduction of Peer Interaction,” (with L. Schechter.)

“Cable TV and Women’s Social Empowerment: Quasi-Experimental Evidence from Rural India”

Selected Works in Progress

“The Labor Market and Innovation Impact of Elite Technical Education,” (with M. Dinerstein.)

“Supporting Grassroots Reporters: Impacts on Journalistic Content,” (with P. Mittal and L. Schechter.)

“Mass Media and Nation Building: Evidence from India,” (with S. Liu and P. Mittal.)

Research Grants

2024	UChicago Kiphart Center Grant	\$49,650
2022	UChicago Provost’s Global Faculty Award	\$26,671
2017	Vilas Conference Travel Grant	\$1,000
2016	Raymond J. Penn Scholarship	\$2,500
	J-PAL Governance Initiative (with S. Galiani)	\$24,354
2015	J-PAL Governance Initiative (with D. Green)	\$13,000
2014	J-PAL Governance Initiative (with D. Green and L. Schechter)	\$50,000

Awards and Scholarships

- 2015 Barbara L. Forrest Graduate Student Best Research Paper Award
- 2014 Distinction in Ph.D. Major Field Exam in Development Economics
- 2007 German Federal Institute of Material Research and Testing (BAM) Fellowship
- 2006 German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Fellowship

Teaching

University of Chicago

ECON 15500: Introduction to Development Economics

Autumn 2022, Spring 2023, Autumn 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Winter 2026

ECON 11020: Introduction to Econometrics

Spring 2020, Spring 2022, Autumn 2022, Autumn 2023, Spring 2024, Autumn 2024

ECON 20100: Elements of Economic Analysis II

Winter 2020, Winter 2021, Winter 2022, Winter 2023, Winter 2024, Autumn 2024, Winter 2025

ECON 20000: Elements of Economic Analysis I

Autumn 2019, Autumn 2020, Spring 2021, Autumn 2021

Advising (Initial Placement)

Master's

2025	Sijia Shen	Pre-Doc, UCLA Econ
	Sherry Tang	Pre-Doc, HKS
	Xinyu Zhang	Pre-Doc, Northwestern Econ
2024	Sifei Liu	Econ PhD, UW-Madison
	Yiming Ma	Pre-Doc, UPenn Wharton
	Arthur Ji	Investment Banking, Citibank
	Leonardo Wang	Pre-Doc, UPenn Wharton
	Ziyi Zeng	Pre-Doc, MIT Sloan
2023	Xiaoyang Zhang	Pre-Doc, UChicago Economics
	Yujing Huang	Econ PhD, UCLA Anderson
	Lyujia Liu	Econ PhD, University College London
2022	Yunjia Gan	Market Risk Analyst, Credit Suisse
	Artur Bayramyan	Econ PhD, UC San Diego
	Yier Ling	Econ PhD, UChicago
	John Ruf	Pre-Doc, UChicago Booth
2021	Runhua Li	Economist, China Development Bank
	Yulin Wang	Econ PhD, Hong Kong University
	Minghao Yang	Real Estate PhD, UC Berkeley Haas
	Zhiyao Ma	ARE PhD, UC Davis
2020	Shirui Chen	Econ PhD, UChicago
	Paul LaFond	Senior Analyst, EverQuote
	Xinyu Liu	Finance PhD, INSEAD

Bachelor's

2025	Utkarsh Dandanayak	Pre-Doc, UChicago Econ [Best UG thesis award]
2022	Dmitriy Leksanov	Pre-Doc, UCLA

Invited Talks

2025	North-American Economic Science Association Conference, Tucson; Chicago School of Thought Webinar Series, UChicago Delhi Center; Advances with Field Experiments, UChicago; Substantive Economics and Societies Conference, UChicago
2024	Development Day, Northwestern University
2023	Advances with Field Experiments, UChicago
2019	Indian Institute of Technology–Kanpur; Ashoka University; University of Florida–Gainesville University of Chicago
2018	Midwest International Economic Development Conference, UW–Madison
2017	American Institutes for Research; Azim Premji University; Analysis Group
2016	North East Universities Development Consortium Conference, MIT; Development Economics Seminar, UW–Madison
2015	Development Economics Seminar, UW–Madison; PODER, Paris School of Economics Midwest International Economic Development Conference, UW–Madison

Refereeing

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Review, Economics of Education Review, India Review, Journal of Development Economics (x2), Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, PLOS One, Review of Economics and Statistics

Service

2026	Scientific Committee, Midwest International Economic Development Conference, UW–Madison
2025	Member, MA Working Group on AI Policy, SSD, UChicago; Discussant, Aims of Education Address, UChicago; Scientific Committee, Midwest International Economic Development Conference, UIUC; Scientific Committee, Association for Mentoring and Inclusion in Economics (AMIE) Conference;
2024	Scientific Committee, Midwest International Economic Development Conference, UChicago
2022-present	Coordinator, College Core Tutor Program-Economics
2022	Undergraduate Recruiting
2019-present	Judge, Inter-University Econometrics Game (Oeconomica)
2021-present	Organizer, Masters' Thesis Workshop
2020	Mentor, Jeff Metcalf Internship Program
2019-2022	Faculty Advisor, RSO Oeconomica (economics UG student research organization)
2019-present	Master's Admissions Committee

Other Experience

2010-2012	Research Associate, J-PAL South Asia
2007-2008	Lab Research Assistant, German Federal Institute of Material Research and Testing (BAM)

Languages

Hindi, Marathi, Tamil (conversational), German (conversational), Spanish (conversational), French (basic)

January 31, 2026