

# Xiang Zheng

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## EMPLOYMENT

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Assistant Professor of Finance, School of Business, University of Connecticut 2021 – present

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. in Finance, Carroll School of Management, Boston College 2016 – 2021

M.A. in Economics (honors), Central University of Finance and Economics 2012 – 2015

B.Eng. in Mechanical Engineering, Zhejiang University of Technology 2008 – 2012

## RESEARCH FIELDS

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FinTech/Innovation, Corporate Finance, Banking

## PUBLICATION

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- How Can Innovation Screening Be Improved? A Machine Learning Analysis with Economic Consequences for Firm Performance**
  - *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, 2025
  - *The FMA Best Paper Award in FinTech; The Kuldeep Shastri Outstanding Doctoral Student Paper*
- Can Small Businesses Survive Chapter 11?** with Edith Hotchkiss and Ben Iverson
  - *Journal of Finance*, forthcoming
  - *The House Judiciary Subcommittee Hearing: “Bankruptcy Law: Overview and Legislative Reforms”*
- How Does Private Firm Patenting Affect Anti-Takeover Provisions in Corporate Charters? Evidence from Initial Public Offerings**, with Thomas Chemmanur, Manish Gupta, and Karen Simonyan
  - *Journal of Law and Economics*, forthcoming
- How Does Greater Bank Competition Affect Borrower Screening? Evidence from China’s WTO Entry**, with Thomas Chemmanur, Jiaqi Qin, Yan Sun, and Qianqian Yu
  - *Journal of Corporate Finance*, 65 (2020): 101776.

## SELECTED WORKING PAPERS

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- From Competitors to Partners: Banks’ Venture Investments in Fintech**, with Manju Puri and Yiming Qian
  - *Revise & Resubmit, Journal of Financial Economics*
- GSE Restrictions, Credit Supply, and Rental Market Spillovers**, with Natee Amornsiripanitch, Philip Strahan, and Song Zhang
  - *Revise & Resubmit, Management Science*
- How Does VC Engagement Direct Startup Experimentation?** with Xuelin Li, Sijie Wang, and Jiajie Xu
  - *Media coverage: ProMarket*

8. **Do Fintech Shadow Banks Compete with Technological Advantages? Evidence from Mortgage Lending**, with Siyi Shen and Sijie Wang
9. **Woke or Broke? The Impact of Corporate Activism on Product Sales**, with Meng Gao
10. **What is the Role of the Options Market? Evidence from Newly Public Companies**, with Thomas Chemmanur and Chayawat Ornthanalai
11. **The Economic Impact of Insolvency Reforms Around the World**, with James Albertus, Edith Hotchkiss, and Aurelio Gurrea-Martínez
12. **Visual Cues and Valuation: Evidence from the Housing Market**, with Puja Bhattacharya, Sherry Li, Yu Wang, and Cedric Wu
  - *Semi-finalist for the FMA Best Paper Award in Corporate Finance*
  - *AEA RCT Registry: AEARCTR-0016398*

## CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

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### Conference (Including coauthor presentation):

#### *Large conference:*

AREUEA National Conference: 2024  
 Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (AMES): 2022  
 Australasian Finance & Banking Conference (AFBC): 2023  
 American Economic Association Annual Meeting (AEA): 2022, 2023 (Poster)  
 American Finance Association Annual Meeting (AFA): 2020 (Poster), 2025, 2025 (Poster)  
 China International Conference in Finance (CICF): 2024 (×2)  
 Eastern Finance Association Annual Meeting (EasternFA): 2021, 2022 (×2), 2023, 2024  
 European Finance Association Annual Meeting (EFA): 2024 (×2)  
 Financial Intermediation Research Society Annual Meeting (FIRS): 2022, 2024  
 Financial Management Association Annual Meeting (FMA): 2020 (×2), 2021, 2022, 2023 (×2)  
 Midwest Finance Association Annual Meeting (MFA): 2022, 2023 (×2), 2024 (×3), 2026  
 NBER Summer Institute (Entrepreneurship): 2024, 2025  
 Northern Finance Association Annual Meeting (NFA): 2024 (×2)  
 SFS Cavalcade North America: 2025  
 Southern Finance Association Annual Meeting (SFA): 2020, 2025  
 Urban Economics Association North America: 2024

#### *Small conference:*

Bretton Woods Ski Conference: 2025  
 CEAR-CenFIS Conference at FRB Atlanta: 2024 (×2)  
 Chicago-Harvard-Wharton Insolvency & Restructuring Conference: 2025  
 China Financial Research Conference: 2021, 2024  
 FDIC Bank Research Conference: 2024 (×2)  
 Greater Boston Annual Corporate Governance Workshop: 2022  
 GSU-RFS Fintech Conference: 2023  
 Harvard-Wharton Insolvency and Restructuring Conference: 2024  
 Northeastern University Finance Conference: 2023  
 Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) Fintech Symposium: 2022  
 Santiago Finance Workshop: 2024  
 Summer Institute of Finance: 2023  
 TAMU Young Scholars Finance Consortium: 2025  
 Telfer Conference on Corporate Finance and Banking: 2023, 2024  
 The Annual Fixed Income and Financial Institutions Conference: 2022

The Mortgage Market Research Conference at FRBP: 2024  
UMass Isenberg Finance Conference: 2025  
Wharton Financial Regulation Conference: 2024

**Seminar:**

Boston College, California State University–Fullerton, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), City University of Hong Kong, Durham University, Fudan University, Georgetown Global Virtual Seminar on Fintech, Luohan Academy, Nankai University, Oregon State University, Peking University, San Diego State University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, SKEMA Business School, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, University of Connecticut, University of Florida

**INVITED WORKSHOPS**

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2026: The AFA Junior Faculty Mentoring Program (JFMP)  
2021: Mitsui Center Summer School on Structural Estimation in Corporate Finance  
2019: 12th NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp

**TEACHING**

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**Instructor, University of Connecticut, 2021 –**

Financial Management (BA): Fall 2025  
Introductions to Financial Models (MA): Fall 2022 –  
– Last course evaluation: 5.0/5.0  
Investments & Security Analysis (BA): Fall 2021, Spring 2022  
– Last course evaluation: 5.0/5.0  
Financial Modeling (MBA): Fall 2021  
– Last course evaluation: 5.0/5.0

**SERVICE**

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**Referee:**

Review of Financial Studies, Management Science, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Corporate Finance, Journal of Empirical Finance, Journal of Economics and Business, Journal of Financial Services Research, and others

**Conference Program Committee:**

UConn Finance Conference: 2023 –

**Conference Discussion:**

Australasian Finance & Banking Conference: 2023  
China Financial Research Conference: 2021  
Eastern Finance Association Annual Meeting: 2021, 2023  
Financial Management Association Annual Meeting: 2021  
Midwest Finance Association Annual Meeting: 2021, 2023, 2024  
UConn Finance Conference: 2022

**University of Connecticut:**

Fintech UG Program Curriculum Committee: 2022  
Undergraduate Faculty Advisor: 2022 –

**Doctoral Dissertation Committee (w. Initial Placements):**

Heonyeol Jeong  
Cianna Durringer

Ying Xing  
Sijie Wang (External letter writer)

## **GRANTS**

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UConn Center for Private and Entrepreneurial Capital (CPEC) Research Grant (\$9,000) 2023

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

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Semi-finalist for the FMA Best Paper Award in Corporate Finance 2023  
UConn OVPR/AAUP Faculty Travel Award 2023 –  
The FMA Best Paper Award in FinTech 2021  
The EasternFA Kuldeep Shastri Outstanding Doctoral Student Paper 2021  
Semi-finalist for the FMA Best Paper Award in Corporate Finance (×2) 2020  
American Finance Association Annual Meeting Student Travel Grant 2018  
Doctoral Fellowship, Carroll School of Management, Boston College 2016 – 2021  
National Scholarship, Central University of Finance and Economics 2013

## **PERSONAL**

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Married with two daughters: Scarlett and Gretchen

Last updated: December 2025