

ZHOUDAN (ZOEY) XIE

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U.S. Citizen

EDUCATION

Ph.D. candidate, Economics, The George Washington University, Washington DC	Expected May 2025
M.P.P., Public Policy, The George Washington University, Washington DC	August 2016
M.A., Environmental Governance, Keio University, Japan	September 2012
B.A., Japanese & International Trade, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, China	June 2010

RECENT POSITIONS

The George Washington University Regulatory Studies Center	Washington DC
<i>Senior Policy Analyst</i>	October 2017 – Present

- Lead independent and collaborative research examining the impact of U.S. regulations on innovation, firm dynamics, economic growth, and other macroeconomic outcomes, including using theoretical economic models, advanced statistical methods (Python, R, Stata), and natural language processing to analyze large datasets, such as regulatory texts, patent documents, and firm-level and macroeconomic data.
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary faculty and scholars to produce peer-reviewed journal articles and applied policy research, including using empirical econometric analyses to study regulatory impact analysis, bureaucratic behavior, and public participation in regulatory processes.
- Compile, visualize and analyze big data on federal rulemaking activities from government websites, APIs, and bulk data repositories in an automated manner using programming languages including Python and R.
- Optimize and maintain organizational databases on [Github](#), [dashboards](#), [websites](#), and other data products.
- Supervise and mentor student research assistants and junior research staff, helping them build area expertise and hone research skills and supporting their professional and personal developments.

JOB MARKET PAPER

“[Regulation-Driven Innovations: A Textual Analysis of U.S. Patents and Federal Regulations](#),” Job Market Paper.

OTHER WORKING PAPERS

“[The Economic Impact of Uncertainty about U.S. Regulations of the Energy Sector](#),” with Xiaohan Ma, conditionally accepted at *Economic Inquiry*.

“[Sentiment and Uncertainty about Regulation](#),” with Tara M. Sinclair, R&R at *Macroeconomic Dynamics*.

PUBLICATIONS

“[Notice the Comment? Chinese Government Responsiveness to Public Participation in the Policymaking Process](#),” with Steven J. Balla, Andrew Wan, Yat To Yeung and Geng Zhai, *Governance*, Vol 38, Issue 2 (2025).

“[Regulatory Impact Analysis and Litigation Risk](#),” with Christopher Carrigan and Jerry Ellig, *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis*, First View, pp. 1-19 (2024).

“[The Durability of Governance Reform: A Two-Wave Audit of Notice and Comment Policymaking in China](#),” with Steven J. Balla, *Regulation & Governance*, Vol 17, Issue 2, pp. 549-569 (2023).

“[Nudging the Nudger: Toward a Choice Architecture for Regulators](#),” with Susan E. Dudley, *Regulation & Governance*, Vol 16, Issue 1, pp. 261-273 (2022).

“[Online Consultation and the Institutionalization of Transparency and Participation in Chinese Policymaking](#),” with Steven J. Balla, *The China Quarterly*, Vol 246, pp. 473-496 (2021).

[“Consultation as Policymaking Innovation: Comparing Government Transparency and Public Participation in China and the United States,”](#) with Steven J. Balla, *Journal of Chinese Governance*, Vol 5, Issue 4, pp. 525-545 (2020).

[“Designing a Choice Architecture for Regulators,”](#) with Susan E. Dudley, *Public Administration Review*, Vol 80, Issue 1, pp. 151-156 (2019).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025: The Metrics of Regulation Webinar; Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis 2025 Annual Conference.

2024: Southern Economic Association 94th Annual Meeting; GW Macro-International Seminar.

2022: Conference on Real-Time Data Analysis, Methods, and Applications ([recording](#)); Jerry Ellig Memorial Conference.

2021: Southern Economic Association 91st Annual Meeting; Pennsylvania State University Macro Seminar; ESCoE Conference on Economic Measurement ([recording](#)); Federal Forecasters Conference; Forecasting Seminar of GW's H. O. Stekler Research Program on Forecasting.

2020: Southern Economic Association 90th Annual Meeting; 2020 Banca d'Italia and Federal Reserve Board Joint Conference on Nontraditional Data & Statistical Learning with Applications to Macroeconomics ([recording](#)); Law and Society Association 2020 Annual Meeting.

2019: Southern Economic Association 89th Annual Meeting; American Political Science Association 115th Annual Meeting; Law and Society Association 2019 Annual Meeting; Midwest Political Science Association 77th Annual Meeting; Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis 11th Annual Meeting.

2018: Southern Economic Association 88th Annual Meeting; Public Administration Review Symposium on Behavioral Approaches to Bureaucratic Red Tape and Administration Burden; Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis 10th Annual Meeting.

SELECT SHORT WORKS

[“Reviewing the Biden Administration’s Last Year with Reg Stats,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Commentary, February 19, 2025.

[“2024 Regulatory Year In Review,”](#) with Sarah Hay, Henry Hirsch and Finn Dobkin, GW Regulatory Studies Center Regulatory Insight, January 15, 2025.

[“Biden’s Midnight Unified Agenda,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Commentary, December 18, 2024.

[“After Midnight: Prospective Uses of the Congressional Review Act in the Second Trump Administration,”](#) with Steven J. Balla and Sarah Hay, GW Regulatory Studies Center Regulatory Insight, November 20, 2024.

[“A Regulatory Surge in April 2024,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Commentary, May 10, 2024.

[“Comparing the Draft and Final Circular A4,”](#) with Mark Febrizio and Sarah Hay, GW Regulatory Studies Center Regulatory Insight, November 10, 2023.

[“Regulatory Uncertainty Amid the Banking Crisis,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Commentary, April 6, 2023.

[“The Trend and Fluctuations in News Attention to Regulation,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Commentary, September 7, 2022.

[“The Unintended Consequences of Banking Regulations: Shadow Banking,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Regulatory Insight, May 25, 2022.

[“Regulation and Jobs: The Unequal Employment Effects of Regulatory Uncertainty,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Regulatory Insight, April 28, 2021.

[“Regulatory Sentiment and Uncertainty under the Trump Administration,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Commentary, February 10, 2021.

[“Regulation during COVID-19: News Sentiment Improved, While Uncertainty Remains,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Regulatory Insight, July 6, 2020.

[“Regulatory Policy Uncertainty under COVID-19,”](#) GW Regulatory Studies Center Commentary, May 13, 2020.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

<i>Research Assistant</i> , GW Regulatory Studies Center	November 2015 – October 2017
<i>Consultant</i> , The World Bank, Washington DC	November 2016 – June 2017
<i>Policy Coordination Intern</i> , United Nations Environment Programme, New York NY	April – July 2015
<i>Global Programs Intern</i> , Vital Voices Global Partnership, Washington DC	February – April 2015
<i>Research Intern</i> , International Fund for China's Environment, Washington DC	October – December 2014

AWARDS, GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

<i>Lead Researcher</i> , U.S. Department of Agriculture & GW Regulatory Studies Center Cooperative Agreements	2016, 2018, 2019
Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for Research Student	2010 – 2012
Taikichiro Mori Memorial Research Grant, Keio University	2012
China National Scholarship	2007

SERVICE

Referee: Regulation & Governance; The Journal of Politics; Public Performance & Management Review; International Public Management Journal

Student Member, H.O. Stekler Research Program on Forecasting

OTHER TRAININGS

Graduate Certificate in Data Science, The George Washington University	August 2020
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SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Website Design
Programming: Python, R, Stata, LaTeX, JavaScript, HTML, CSS
Chinese (native proficiency) and Japanese (full professional proficiency).

CITIZENSHIP

U.S. Citizen

REFERENCES

Tara Sinclair (Committee Chair)
Professor of Economics and International Affairs
Department of Economics
The George Washington University
tsinc@gwu.edu

Roberto Samaniego (Committee Member)
Professor of Economics and International Affairs
Department of Economics
The George Washington University
roberto@gwu.edu

Leah Brooks (Committee Member)
Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration
Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public
Administration
The George Washington University
lfbrooks@gwu.edu

Susan Dudley (Work Supervisor)
Senior Scholar & Founder
Regulatory Studies Center
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