

# Yunyu Shu

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## Brown University

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## REFERENCES

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Andrew Foster Department of Economics Brown University Providence, RI 02912 andrew_foster@brown.edu	Louis Putterman Department of Economics Brown University Providence, RI 02912 louis_putterman@brown.edu	Neil Thakral Department of Economics Brown University Providence, RI 02912 neil_thakral@brown.edu
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## FIELDS

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Development Economics, Environmental Economics

## EDUCATION

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Brown University	
Ph.D. in Economics	2019–2025 ( <i>Expected</i> )
M.A. in Economics	2019–2020
Renmin University of China	
M.A. in Economics	2016–2019
University of California, San Diego	
Exchange Program in Economics	2017–2018
Zhongnan University of Economics and Law	
B.A. in Economics ( <i>with honor</i> )	2012–2016

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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**“Informed Climate Adaptation: Input and Output Subsidies for Shaded Cocoa”** with Jiayue Zhang [[Link](#)]

Abstract: With growing climate risks, agro-environmental policies seek to protect the environment while reducing poverty by incentivizing climate adaptation. We study how information shapes adaptation under different subsidy schemes for cocoa farmers in Ghana, where forest tree planting for shade is encouraged as an adaptation strategy. Conducting a lab-in-the-field experiment, we compare the impacts of an information intervention under an input subsidy for planting forest trees and an output subsidy for producing cocoa beans from shaded farms. While farmers receiving the information in both subsidy groups plant more forest trees than their subsidy-only counterparts, the increase is higher under the output subsidy than the input subsidy even though the information leads both groups to similarly update their beliefs about the benefits of shade. We rationalize the differential effects of information with a model in which beliefs about rainfall uncertainty and shade benefits affect ex ante input decisions. Counterfactuals show that output subsidy has greater potential to drive adaptation than input when beliefs are reasonably correct. We validate the lab results by distributing tree seedlings, finding consistent treatment effects on the number of seedlings requested and obtained.

## OTHER RESEARCH

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WORKING PAPERS	“Intergenerational Impact of Land Property Rights: Evidence from Land Certification Reform in China” “Local Favoritism and Environmental Regulation: Evidence from China” with Xi-aowei Zhang and Tiemeng Ma
WORK IN PROGRESS	“Credit Constraint and Green Energy Adoption: Evidence from Small Firms in Kenya” with Wycliffe Oluoch and Jiayue Zhang “Information Nudge on Social and Private Benefit, and Impact on Adaptation” with Ming Li, Jia Xiang and Jiayue Zhang “Adaptation Through Trading and Cocoa Production Dynamics” with Ruozi Song and Jiayue Zhang “Local Knowledge or Misallocation: Efficiency Costs of Discretion in Regulatory Enforcement” with Ruozi Song and Bing Zhang "Solar Adoption and Beliefs: Evidence from Farmers in Ghana" with Jiayue Zhang

## AFFILIATION

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2022–present	Graduate Affiliate, Institute at Brown for Environment and Society (IBES) Graduate Program in Development Fellow, Watson Institute, Brown University Predoctoral Trainee, Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University S4 Fellow, Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences, Brown University
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## CONFERENCES AND INVITED TALKS

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2025	CSAE Conference, Oxford ( <i>scheduled</i> )
2024	Duke Kunshan University (DKU); All-IGC Talk; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE) Summer Conference, Washington DC; Environmental Politics and Governance 10th Annual Conference, Québec City; ISSER Seminar, University of Ghana; PAA 2024*, Columbus
2023	Behavioral Breakfast, Brown; Sloan/Berkeley Energy and Environmental Economics Summer Camp, UC Berkeley; International Conference on Development Economics (ICDE), PSE; Theoretical & Applied Economics Seminar, CY Cergy Paris Université; PEDL Young Scholars Matchmaking Workshop, Oxford
2022	Young Economist Symposium 2022, Yale; Applied Micro Lunch, Brown (* <i>for poster</i> )

## GRANTS

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2024–2025	International Growth Centre (IGC) Research Grant (£29,920) ( <i>Green Energy Adoption</i> )
2023–2024	PEDL Exploratory Research Grant (£39,996) ( <i>Green Energy Adoption</i> ) IGC Research Grant (£39,622)( <i>Farmers’ Climate Change Adaptation</i> ) PEDL Seed Research Grant (£5,000) ( <i>Climate Change and the Gender Earnings Gap</i> )
2022–2023	PEDL Exploratory Research Grant (£39,919) ( <i>Farmers’ Climate Change Adaptation</i> )
2022–2024	PDBF Research Fund, Orlando Bravo Center for Economic Research (\$15,160) Brown University Travel Grants (\$5,800)
2023	Research Training and Travel (RTT) Award, IBES, Brown University (\$5,000)
2022–2023	Graduate Program in Development Summer Funding, Watson Institute (\$2,000)

## SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

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2024	Environmental Politics and Governance (EPG) 2024 Best Poster Prize Department Travel Fellowship, Brown University
2023	Global Mobility Research Fellowship, Brown University
2022	Graduate Student Fellowship, Brown University
2020–2021	Summer Fellowship (×2), Brown University
2019	Graduate Student Fellowship, Brown University Outstanding Graduate, Renmin University of China
2017–2019	First-level Scholarship (×3), Renmin University of China
2018	President’s Scholarship (\$33,495, top 3), Renmin University of China
2013–2014	National Scholarship (×2), China’s Education Ministry

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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New York University Abu Dhabi, Social Science Division <i>Research Assistant for Morgan Hardy</i>	2022–2023
Brown University, Department of Economics <i>Research Assistant for Jesse Shapiro</i> <i>Research Assistant for Brian Knight</i>	2021–2022 2020

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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Referee: *Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Asian Economics*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Brown University, Department of Economics <i>Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics II (Ph.D.), Kareen Rozen and Glenn Loury</i>	2021, 2022
NYU Accra <i>Guest Lecturer, Research Design, Fieldwork &amp; Analysis for Development Economics</i>	Winter 2023

## OTHER

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*Skills:* Python, Stata, R, ArcGIS, QGIS, SurveyCTO, and LaTeX  
*Languages:* Chinese (native) and English (fluent)

*Last Updated:* December 6, 2024