

# Vinitha Rachel Varghese (She/Her/Hers)

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CONTACT INFORMATION	SAC 247 Department of Economics Alma College 614 W. Superior St. Alma, Michigan, USA - 48801.	<i>Voice:</i> +1 (989) 463 - 7390 <i>E-mail:</i> vinitha.ssc@gmail.com <i>Website:</i> vinitharachelvarghese.com <i>Current visa:</i> H1B <i>Last updated:</i> January 11, 2026
ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS	<b>Alma College</b> Assistant Professor (tenure-track) of Economics	Michigan, USA 2023 -
EDUCATION	<b>University of Illinois Chicago</b> Ph.D. Economics M.A Economics <b>University of Hyderabad</b> M.A Economics <b>St.Stephen's College</b> B.A (Hons.) Economics	Chicago, Illinois, USA 2023 2019 Hyderabad, Telangana, India 2013 Delhi, India 2010
PUBLICATION	<b>“Elementary Education: China’s Lessons to India and Guidelines for NEP Implementation”</b> (with Naveen Kumar) Forthcoming. In <i>Governing the Asian Century—Innovation, Human Capital, and Inclusive Development in China and India</i> , edited by Chirantan Chatterjee and Anil Deolikar. World Scientific Publishing.	
	<b>“The Impact Of An Adult Education Program On Mothers: Evidence From India”</b> (with Ashwini Deshpande, Christopher Ksoll and Annemie Maertens) <i>Economic Development and Cultural Change</i> 71, no. 2 (2023)	
WORKING PAPERS	<b>“The Role of An Adult Literacy Program in Enhancing Life Satisfaction: RCT evidence from India ”</b> : <i>Under review</i>	
	<b>“Impact Of Right To Education On School Enrollment Of Children With Disabilities: Evidence From India”</b> <i>UNU-WIDER Working Paper</i>	
	<b>“Impact Of Vertical School Consolidation On School Choice, Dropouts, Exam Taking And Achievement”</b>	
FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS	Evaluator to NSF Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program: Research Experiences in STEM Settings - grant of \$589202, 2024 Retirement and Disability Research Center Junior Scholar Intensive Training (JSIT) Scholar, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2024 Visiting PhD Fellow, United Nations University - WIDER, Helsinki, Finland, Summer 2022 Mitch Krask Award for excellent performance in coursework and comprehensive exams, Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2019 Graduate Winifred Geldard Memorial Award for excellence in undergraduate teaching, Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2018 National eligibility test for lectureship of the University Grants Commission, India, 2013	

TEACHING	<b>Alma College</b> <i>Instructor</i> Economics of Education Econometrics Principles of Microeconomics Quantitative Methods <b>University of Illinois Chicago</b>	Michigan, USA Summer, 2025 Spring, 2026; Fall, 2025; Spring, 2024 Spring, 2026; Fall, 2025; Fall, 2024; Spring, 2024; Fall, 2023 Spring, 2026; Fall, 2025, Fall, 2024 and Fall, 2023 Chicago, Illinois, USA
	<i>Instructor</i> (Evaluation score: 4.72/5) Econometrics (Undergraduate) Statistics for Economics (Undergraduate) <i>Teaching Assistant</i> Introductory Macroeconomics (Undergraduate) Econometrics (Undergraduate) Econometrics II (Ph.D) and Behavioral Economics (Undergraduate) Econometrics I (Ph.D) and Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate) Statistics for Economics (Undergraduate) Introductory Microeconomics (Undergraduate)	Spring, 2022 Summer, 2019 Spring, 2023; Fall, 2022 Fall, 2021 Spring, 2019 Fall, 2018 Summer, 2018 Spring, 2018; Fall, 2017
LEADERSHIP & SERVICE	Mentor - APPAM job market candidates Mentor - SEA CSWEP women and non-binary PhD scholars Co-organizer of PhD - Economics Virtual Seminar (PhD-EVS) Series Economics department representative at UIC Graduate Student Council Co-organizer of UIC Economics Department Graduate Student Seminars Founder - Primary Education Needs & Community Initiated Learning (PENCIL), India	2023 - 2024 2023 2021 - 2022 2019 - 2021 2019 - 2020 2013 -
OTHER PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS	<b>School of Public Health, University of Illinois Chicago</b> <i>Research Assistant (Part-time)</i> <b>Oxford Policy Management</b> <i>Research Assistant (Consultant)</i> <b>International Food Policy Research Institute</b> <i>Senior Research Assistant</i> <b>Delhi School of Economics</b> <i>Research Assistant</i>	Chicago, Illinois, USA 2019 - 2021 Delhi, India 2017 Delhi, India 2016 Delhi, India 2014 - 2015
CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS	<b>2024:</b> Midwest Economics Association; Western Michigan University <b>2022:</b> AEFP; APPAM; Midwest Economics Association; Helsinki GSE; Canadian Economics Association; Aalto University, Helsinki; UNU-WIDER, Helsinki; Missouri Valley Economic Association Annual Conference; Economic Graduate Students' Conference, Washington University at St.Louis; Illinois Economics Association, Chicago; Global Labor Organization Conference <b>2021:</b> Bavarian Young Economists' Meeting; Illinois Economics Association, Chicago; Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, India <b>2020:</b> H2D2 at University of Michigan; AEFP; Western Illinois University <b>2019:</b> Illinois Economics Association, Chicago <b>2018:</b> Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, India; Economic Graduate Students' Conference, Washington University at St.Louis; Illinois Economics Association, Chicago.	