

Vinitha Rachel Varghese (She/Her/Hers)

CONTACT INFORMATION	SAC 247 Department of Economics Alma College 614 W. Superior St. Alma, Michigan, USA - 48801.	Voice: +1 (989) 463 - 7390 E-mail: vinitha.ssc@gmail.com Website: vinitharachelvarghese.com Current visa: H1B Last updated: January 11, 2026
ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS	Alma College Assistant Professor (tenure-track) of Economics	Michigan, USA 2023 -
EDUCATION	University of Illinois Chicago Ph.D. Economics M.A Economics University of Hyderabad M.A Economics St.Stephen's College B.A (Hons.) Economics	Chicago, Illinois, USA 2023 2019 Hyderabad, Telangana, India 2013 Delhi, India 2010
PUBLICATION	“Elementary Education: China’s Lessons to India and Guidelines for NEP Implementation” (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. “The Impact Of An Adult Education Program On Mothers: Evidence From India” (with Ashwini Deshpande, Christopher Ksoll and Annemie Maertens) <i>Economic Development and Cultural Change</i> 71, no. 2 (2023)	
WORKING PAPERS	“The Role of An Adult Literacy Program in Enhancing Life Satisfaction: RCT evidence from India ” : <i>Under review</i> “Impact Of Right To Education On School Enrollment Of Children With Disabilities: Evidence From India” <i>UNU-WIDER Working Paper</i> “Impact Of Vertical School Consolidation On School Choice, Dropouts, Exam Taking And Achievement”	
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	Alma College	Michigan, USA
	<i>Instructor</i>	
	Economics of Education	Summer, 2025
	Econometrics	Spring, 2026; Fall, 2025; Spring, 2024
	Principles of Microeconomics	Spring, 2026; Fall, 2025; Fall, 2024; Spring, 2024; Fall, 2023
	Quantitative Methods	Spring, 2026; Fall, 2025, Fall, 2024 and Fall, 2023
	University of Illinois Chicago	Chicago, Illinois, USA
	<i>Instructor</i> (Evaluation score: 4.72/5)	
	Econometrics (Undergraduate)	Spring, 2022
	Statistics for Economics (Undergraduate)	Summer, 2019
LEADERSHIP & SERVICE	<i>Teaching Assistant</i>	
	Introductory Macroeconomics (Undergraduate)	Spring, 2023; Fall, 2022
	Econometrics (Undergraduate)	Fall, 2021
	Econometrics II (Ph.D) and Behavioral Economics (Undergraduate)	Spring, 2019
	Econometrics I (Ph.D) and Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate)	Fall, 2018
	Statistics for Economics (Undergraduate)	Summer, 2018
	Introductory Microeconomics (Undergraduate)	Spring, 2018; Fall, 2017
	Mentor - APPAM job market candidates	2023 - 2024
	Mentor - SEA CSWEP women and non-binary PhD scholars	2023
	Co-organizer of PhD - Economics Virtual Seminar (PhD-EVS) Series	2021 - 2022
OTHER PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS	Economics department representative at UIC Graduate Student Council	2019 - 2021
	Co-organizer of UIC Economics Department Graduate Student Seminars	2019 - 2020
	Founder - Primary Education Needs & Community Initiated Learning (PENCIL), India	2013 -
	School of Public Health, University of Illinois Chicago	Chicago, Illinois, USA
	<i>Research Assistant (Part-time)</i>	2019 - 2021
	Oxford Policy Management	Delhi, India
	<i>Research Assistant (Consultant)</i>	2017
	International Food Policy Research Institute	Delhi, India
	<i>Senior Research Assistant</i>	2016
	Delhi School of Economics	Delhi, India
CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS	<i>Research Assistant</i>	2014 - 2015
	2024: Midwest Economics Association; Western Michigan University	
	2022: AEFPP; 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	
	2021: Bavarian Young Economists' Meeting; Illinois Economics Association, Chicago; Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, India	
	2020: H2D2 at University of Michigan; AEFPP; Western Illinois University	
	2019: Illinois Economics Association, Chicago	
	2018: Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, India; Economic Graduate Students' Conference, Washington University at St.Louis; Illinois Economics Association, Chicago.	
REFeree SERVICES	Review of Development Economics, Journal of Happiness Studies	