

Vinitha Rachel Varghese (She/Her/Hers)

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> varghesevr@alma.edu <i>Website:</i> vinitharachelvarghese.com <i>Country of Citizenship:</i> India <i>Last updated:</i> October 10, 2025
ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS	Alma College Assistant Professor (tenure-track) of Economics	Michigan, USA 2023 -
EDUCATION	University of Illinois Chicago Ph.D. Economics M.A Economics	Chicago, Illinois, USA 2023 2019
	University of Hyderabad M.A Economics	Hyderabad, Telangana, India 2013
	St.Stephen's College B.A (Hons.) Economics	Delhi, India 2010
PUBLICATION	“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	“Elementary Education In India Versus China: Guidelines For NEP Implementation” (with Naveen Kumar) : <i>Under review</i>	
	“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	

TEACHING	Alma College Michigan, USA <i>Instructor</i> Economics of Education Summer, 2025 Econometrics Fall, 2025 and Spring, 2024 Principles of Microeconomics Fall, 2025, Fall, 2024, Spring, 2024 and Fall, 2023 Quantitative Methods 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 <i>Teaching Assistant</i> Introductory Macroeconomics (Undergraduate) Spring, 2023 and 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 and Fall, 2017
LEADERSHIP & SERVICE	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 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 -
OTHER PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS	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 <i>Research Assistant</i> 2014 - 2015
CONFERENCE/ SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS	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