

Leon (Leyang) Zhou

EDUCATION

Rotman School of Management & Department of Economics, University of Toronto

Master of Financial Economics

Toronto, Ontario

Expected June 2026

– **Award:** MFE Graduate Entrance Scholarship (\$4,000)

– **Upcoming Relevant Courses:** Corporate Financing II (MBA); Options and Futures Markets (MBA); Financial Economics

Department of Economics, Dalhousie University

Bachelor of Arts (Honours in Economics, Minor in Statistics)

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Fall 2020 – 2023

– **Academics:** cGPA 3.88/4.0

– **Scholarships:** Dalhousie In-Course Scholarship; Prof. W. Russell Maxwell Memorial Scholarship

– **Awards:** First Class Honours; Dean's List (all semesters); Graduated with Distinction; Dr. Jean Elliott Memorial Fund

– **Relevant Courses:** International Finance (A+); Econometrics (A); Accounting (A+); Cost Benefit Analysis (A+); Data Analysis (A+)

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

– Corporate Finance Institute (CFVA, Modelling & Accounting, Financial Excel, Data Science)

2024

– Bloomberg Market Concepts

2023

– Coursera (Introduction to Python Programming)

2023

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Qingdao Hexie Biotechnology Co., Ltd

Accounts Receivable Specialist Intern

Shandong, China

Winter 2024

– Implemented strategic collection initiatives, enhanced cash flow and fortified client relationships

– Initiated a project to overhaul the credit assessment system, improving the accuracy and reliability of client credit evaluations

– Managed and updated accounts receivable data, ensuring accuracy and completeness

Agricultural Bank of China

Customer Manager Assistant Intern

Inner Mongolia, China

Summer 2021

– Transformed lobby customer service operations, implemented new guidance protocols and feedback mechanisms that enhanced customer satisfaction

– Executed a targeted campaign, leveraging incentives, increasing credit card applications by 23%

– Increased bank deposits by 2.5 million yuan through the strategic use of personal networks, contributing to the bank's financial growth

Inner Mongolia Huameng Investment Management Co., Ltd

Equity Research Intern

Inner Mongolia, China

Summer 2020

– Conducted comprehensive equity research on automotive industry companies, developed 3-statement models to inform investment strategies, and created visual content for dashboards

– Conducted in-depth research on companies, evaluated management through industry comparisons, benchmarking

– Delivered presentations on research findings and recommendations

RELEVANT ACADEMIC PROJECTS

The Correlation Between Corporate Tax Rates and Foreign Direct Investment ([Paper](#))

Honors Thesis

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Winter 2023

– Analyzed FDI and corporate tax rates using time-fixed effects across 163 countries, finding higher taxes generally reduce FDI

– Used Stata for regression analyses on over 2,400 World Bank panel data points and cleaned data using Python

– Classified 401 tax haven occurrences, discovering that lax regulations, not lower taxes, attract investments

– Recommended that poorer countries invest more in infrastructure to attract FDI

The Impact of Property Taxes on Housing Prices in America ([Paper](#))

Econometrics Project

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Winter 2022

– Conducted OLS analysis on 506 Boston units, discovered that an average annual property tax increase of \$1,000 per household led to a 1.3% increase in housing prices

– Proposed policy recommendations to incrementally raise property taxes to fund infrastructure and job creation, thereby enhancing property values

– Identified a non-linear relationship between the number of rooms and housing prices, controlling for factors such as crime rates, air quality, student-teacher ratios, and accessibility

PERSONAL

– **Technical Skills:** Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Bloomberg Terminal Services, Stata, Python

– **Languages:** Mandarin, English

– **Interests:** Traditional Chinese Painter, Cat Enthusiast, Brandy Collector, Cantonese Pop Music