

Kaythari (Kay) Maw

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Economics Syracuse University Eggers Hall 446A Syracuse, NY 13244	<i>Phone:</i> (917) 582-9071 <i>Email:</i> kmaw01@syr.edu
RESEARCH FIELDS	Economics of Education, Labor Economics, Economics of Immigration	
EDUCATION	Syracuse University Ph.D. Candidate in Economics	Expected 2028
	Cornell University M.S. in Regional Science	2023
	Barnard College, Columbia University B.A. in Economics	2021
JOB MARKET PAPER	“Peer Effects of Refugee Students in Texas Public Schools” I study how exposure to refugee classmates affects the academic achievement and longer-run outcomes of their peers in U.S. public schools. Using restricted-access administrative panel data linking Texas students’ education and workforce records, I exploit within-school, across-cohort variation in refugee peer exposure driven by resettlement patterns to identify causal effects on classmates’ test scores, attainment, and early labor market outcomes. Committee: Maria Zhu (Chair), Gary Engelhardt, Thomas Pearson Presented at: AEA Summer Mentoring Pipeline Conference (2026); APPAM Annual Research Conference (forthcoming, November 2026)	
FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS	Roscoe Martin Fund Dissertation Grant, Syracuse University (\$1500)	2026
	Economics Department Dissertation Grant, Syracuse University (\$500)	2026
	Research Excellence Dissertation Grant, Syracuse University (\$3000)	2025
	Maxwell School Centennial Scholarship, Syracuse University (\$5000)	2024
	Graduate Fellowship, Syracuse University	2023
	First-Year PhD Fellowship, Research in Color Foundation (\$2500)	2023
	Southeast Asia Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, Cornell University	2021-2023
	Undergraduate Full Scholarship, Barnard College	2017-2021
WORKING PAPERS	“Peer Effects of Burmese Refugee Students in Texas Public Schools” 2025 Labor Field Paper, Advisor: Maria Zhu, Syracuse University Analyzes the educational experiences and peer effects of Burmese refugee students in Texas public schools using restricted-access student-level longitudinal data to estimate how classroom composition impacts academic achievement. “Dynamic Global Migration Responses to U.S. Refugee Policy” 2026 Term Paper, Advisor: Shafaat Khan, Syracuse University Studies how expected and realized changes in the U.S. refugee admissions ceiling affect global asylum flows using a 2000–2025 bilateral panel from the UNHCR, documenting cross-country spillovers and forward-looking migration behavior around anticipated policy changes. “Measuring the Urban Wage Premium of Asian American Subgroups” 2023 Master’s Thesis, Advisors: Nancy Brooks and John Carruthers, Cornell University Evaluates the wage differentials of Burmese diasporic communities and other Asian American populations using American Community Survey data to estimate each group’s urban wage premium.	

OTHER RESEARCH	“Disaggregating Asian American Wage Data”	2022
	Research Paper, Advisor: Abhinav Alakshendra, Research in Color Foundation	
	Explores heterogeneity in socioeconomic outcomes within the Asian American labor force by analyzing the impact of residential proximity to the urban center on wages.	
	“Jointly Modeling White and Asian Labor Participation and Unemployment”	2022
	Research Paper, Advisors: Neil Ericsson and Justin Pierce, AEA Summer Training Program	
	Develops a cointegrated vector autoregression model to jointly estimate and forecast long-run relationships between labor force participation and unemployment rates by race and ethnicity.	
	“Evaluating COVID-19 Case Rates and Income on NYC Subway Entries”	2021
	Bachelor’s Thesis, Advisor: Elizabeth Ananat, Barnard College	
	Investigates the impact of socioeconomic factors on NYC MTA subway ridership throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to estimate communities’ perceived risk of COVID-19.	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Instructor, Intermediate Microeconomics, Syracuse University	Summer 2026
	Teaching Assistant, Economics of the Digital Economy, Syracuse University	Spring 2026
	Teaching Assistant, Intro to Stats and Econometrics, Syracuse University	Fall 2025
	Teaching Assistant, Economic Statistics, Syracuse University	Fall 2025
	Teaching Assistant, Economics of the Digital Economy, Syracuse University	Spring 2025
	Teaching Assistant, Cities in Developing Countries, Syracuse University	Fall 2024
	Teaching Assistant, Urban Economics, Syracuse University	Fall 2024
CONFERENCES	NBER Summer Institute, Economics of Education	2026
	AEA Summer Mentoring Pipeline Conference, American University	2026
	AEA Summer Mentoring Pipeline Conference, Howard University	2025, 2024, 2022
	Finger Lakes Labor Day Conference	2025
	Institute for Research on Poverty Dissertation Workshop, Howard University	2025
	Forecasting Seminar, George Washington University	2022
	Research in Color Conference, Virtual	2021
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	AEA Mentoring Program	2025-Present
	Institute for Research on Poverty Dissertation Workshop	2025
	AEA Summer Training Program, Howard University	2022
	Research in Color Foundation Mentoring Program	2021-2022
AFFILIATIONS	Graduate Research Associate, Syracuse University Center for Policy Research	
	Mentee, AEA Committee on the Status of Minority Groups in the Economics Profession Program	
SERVICE	Regional Science Student Association, President, Cornell University	2023
	Myanmar Student Association, President, Cornell University	2021-2023
	Myanmar Student Association, President, Columbia University	2019-2021
LANGUAGES	English (native), Burmese (fluent)	
CITIZENSHIP	USA	

Last updated: September 2026