

Isabella Maria Weber

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Economics
219 Gordon Hall, 418 North Pleasant Street
University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA 01002

Phone: +1 206-483-4771
Email: imweber@umass.edu

Academic Appointments

- 9/2019 - Assistant Professor of Economics,
Present Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Research Leader China Studies, Political Economy Research Institute (PERI)
- 2017-2019 Lecturer in Economics (tenured)
Goldsmiths, University of London

Education

- 2019 Ph.D. in Economics, The New School for Social Research
Thesis title: Essays on Theories of Money and International Trade
- 2018 Ph.D. in Development Studies, University of Cambridge, Peterhouse
Thesis title: China's Escape from the 'Big-Bang': The 1980s Price Reform Debate in Historical Perspective
- 2015 M.A. in Economics, The New School for Social Research
- 2012 B.A. in Political Science (with Economics minor), Free University Berlin
Language training, Peking University, Centre for Chinese Language, 2010-2011

Areas of Interest/Specialisation

Political Economy of China, International Trade, History of Economic Thought, Price and Monetary Theory

Honors and Awards

- 2019 International Convention of Asia Scholars' Ground-breaking Subject Matter Accolade for Ph.D. Thesis (Cambridge)
- 2018 Warren Samuels Prize for Interdisciplinary Research in the History of Economic Thought and Methodology
- 2018 Goldsmiths International Engagement Fund Award
- 2018 Goldsmiths Research and Enterprise Committee Award
- 2015 Vice Chancellor's Award, Cambridge Trust
- 2010-2012 Social Science Research Training Award, German National Academic Foundation

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles

I.M. Weber (2021): "Markets and Socialism in China: von Mises in China's Market Reform Debate," accepted at *Journal of the History of Ideas*.

Shaikh, A. and I.M. Weber (2020): "The U.S.-China Trade Imbalance and the Theory of Free Trade: Debunking the Currency Manipulation Argument," *International Review of Applied Economics*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/02692171.2020.1814221>.

Chinese translation: 《中美贸易失衡与自由贸易理论: 对汇率操纵论的批判》中国社会科学内部文稿 2020 年第 5 期。

Weber, I.M. (2020): “Origins of China’s Contested Relation with Neoliberalism: Economics, the World Bank, and Milton Friedman at the Dawn of Reform.” *Global Perspectives* 1(1), 12271. <https://doi.org/10.1525/gp.2020.12271>.

Weber, I.M. (2020): “Das westdeutsche und das chinesische »Wirtschaftswunder«: Der Wettstreit um die Interpretation von Ludwig Erhards Wirtschaftspolitik in Chinas Preisreformdebatte der 1980er-Jahre,” *Jahrbücher Historische Kommunismusforschung*, 2020, 55-69.

Semieniuk, G. and I.M. Weber (2020): “Inequality in Energy Consumption: Statistical Equilibrium or a Question of Accounting Conventions?,” *The European Physical Journal Special Topics*, 229, 1705-1714, <https://doi.org/10.1140/epjst/e2020-900125-5>

Weber, I.M. (2019): “On the necessity of money in an exchange-constituted economy: the cases of Smith and Marx,” *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 42(6), 1459-1483, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cje/bez038>

Weber, I.M. and G. Semieniuk (2019): “China and American Radical Political Economists: From Great Hopes to Disillusionment,” *Research in the History of Economic Thought and Methodology*, 37A, 31-63, <https://doi.org/10.1108/S0743-41542019000037A005> (Winner of the Warren Samuels Prize for Interdisciplinary Research in the History of Economic Thought and Methodology)

Velupillai, K.V. and I.M. Weber (2016): “Reflections on B P Adarkar’s ‘Years of High Theory’ (1934-1941)”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 51(14), April 2.

Monograph

Weber, I.M. (2021): *How China Escaped Shock Therapy: The Market Reform Debate*. London, New York: Routledge (forthcoming).

Book chapters

Weber, I.M.: “China’s Bureaucratic Tradition of Price Regulation through Market Participation: Guanzi and the Contrast with Ancient Greek Economic Thought,” Schefold, B., and I. Amelung (Eds.), *Chinese and European Economic Thought*, London and Oxon: Routledge (forthcoming).

Weber, I.M.: “Ordoliberal Roots of Shock Therapy: The German ‘Economic Miracle’ in China’s 1980s Reform Debate,” Slobodian, Q. and D. Plehwe (Eds.), *Market Prophets from the Margins: Neoliberals East and South*, New York: Zone Books.

Weber, I.M. (2018): “China and Neoliberalism: Moving Beyond the China Is/Is Not Neoliberal Dichotomy,” Cooper, M., D. Cahill, and M. Konings (Eds.), *SAGE Handbook of Neoliberalism*, London: Sage Publications, pp. 219-233.

Book review

Weber, I.M. (2019): Book Review of *Unlikely Partners: Western Economists, Chinese Reformers and the Making of Global China* by J. Gewirtz, *The China Quarterly*, 237, March 2019, pp. 257–285.

Selected work in progress

Weber, I.M. and T. Westland: “Export Specialization and the Late Divergence: Testing the Lewis Hypothesis.”

Weber, I.M., T. Westland and G. Semieniuk: “What You Exported Matters: Export Diversification Across the Two Eras of Globalization.”

Weber, I.M.: “The Neutrality of Money and the Theory of International Trade: Thornton and Ricardo.”

Weber, I.M.: “Remaking China’s Economic Model: The 1980s Reform Debate.”

Galanis, G., C. Koutney and I. M. Weber: “Long Cycles of Hegemony and the Concept of Chaos: An Arrighian Model.”

Other writing and public engagement

“Could the US and Chinese Economies Really Decouple?,” The Guardian, September 11, 2020.

“China is not the enemy, neoliberalism is,” Jacobin (with Qi Hao and Li Zhongjin) May 30, 2020.

Escaping Shock Therapy: On the Development of the Chinese Economic Model, IPPR 26(1), 99-106, 2019. Italian translation: Pandora Rivista, June 2019. German translation: Zeitschrift Luxemburg, December 2019.

BBC World TV News, Expert Interview, outlook for Chinese economy, March 2019

BBC Business Live, Expert Interview, China-US trade relations, November 2018

Grants and Fellowships

- 2019-20 ESRC Rebuilding Macroeconomics Research Grant, “What Drives Specialisation? A Century of Global Export Patterns”, (Principal Investigator), \$80,780 (GBP60,452)
- 2017-2021 China National Social Science Foundation Major Research Grant, (named researcher), PI: Prof. Cheng Lin, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
- 2016 Fudan University, Research Institute for China’s Economy, visiting research grant
- 2016-2017 Suzy Paine Fund, Department of Economics, University of Cambridge, fieldwork grant
- 2016-2017 The Universities’ China Committee London, fieldwork grant
- 2016 Young Scholars Initiative Conference Award by the Institute for New Economic Thinking and the European Society for the History of Economic Thought
- 2016-2017 Visiting Scholarship, Tsinghua University, School for Public Policy and Management
- 2016 Peterhouse, University of Cambridge, Greta Burkill Grant
- 2016 Cambridge Political Economy Society, fieldwork grant
- 2015 The New School for Social Research, conference travel grant
- 2013-2019 The Dean’s Merit Scholarship, The New School for Social Research
- 2013-2015 European Recovery Program (ERP) Fellowship, German Federal Ministry of Economy and German National Academic Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes)
- 2010-2011 German National China Scholarship Program, German National Academic Foundation
- 2007-2015 German National Academic Foundation Prize Scholarship
- 2007-2015 Villigst National Prize Scholarship

Selected Invited Talks

2020: UC Irvine, Long China Institute; University of Florence, Department of Economics; Mont Pelerin Society General Meeting 2020 Oslo (cancelled); University of Cologne, Department of Asia Studies; Deutsche Bank Endowment Lecture, University of Frankfurt (cancelled); Critical China Scholars Inaugural Workshop; Workshop in Chinese History of Economic Thought, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (cancelled); National Institute of Economic and Social Research, UK; Department of Economics, George Mason University (cancelled); Economic and Social History Research Seminar, University of Edinburgh

2019: Leibniz Center for Contemporary History Potsdam (ZZF); Fairbank Centre, Harvard University; University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Department of Economics, Asian Political Economy Conference; School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin; Institute of Advanced Studies Bad Homburg; China Centre, Jesus College, Cambridge

2018: Institute of Advanced Studies, Bad Homburg; Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany, Berlin; Economic History Workshop, Shanghai University of Finance

and Economics; Fudan University, Department of Philosophy, Shanghai; University of Cambridge, Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH); Vienna Institute of International Economics; Institute for Human Science, Vienna; Post-Keynesian Economics Society Annual Workshop; Economics and Anthropology Workshop, Independent Social Research Foundation (ISRF)

2017: King's College London, Lau China Institute

2016 School of Management, Wuhan Textile University; Berlin Social Science Centre

2015 University of Cambridge, Department of Philosophy; Historical and Philosophical Perspectives on Economics (HPPE) seminar, Economic History Department, London School of Economics

Conference Presentations

2020: Society for the Advancement of Social Economics, online; European Congress on World and Global intellectual History, Turku (cancelled); History of Economics Annual Conference, online; Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference, Boston (cancelled); Eastern Economic Association Annual Conference, Boston

2019: Development Studies Association Annual Conference

2018: British Association of China Studies Annual Conference, London; International Initiative for Promoting Political Economy Annual Conference, Pula; The History of Economic Thought Society 50th Anniversary Conference, Oxford

2016: 40th Anniversary Conference of the Cambridge Journal of Economics, Cambridge; Annual Conference of the European Society for the History of Economic Thought, Paris; Ricardo Conference, Royal Economic Society, Ricardo Society of Japan, School of Oriental and African Studies, London

2015: The Nation-State and the World Economy between Two Eras of Globalization, 1913 – 1975, Institute for New Economic Thinking Young Scholars Initiative, Pisa; Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Taipei

2014 Eastern Economics Association, Boston

Teaching

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Department of Economics

Econ 204 Intermediate Macroeconomics

Spring & Fall 2020

Econ 306 History of Economic Thought (undergraduate)

Fall 2019, 2020

Harvard University, History Department

Ph.D. field exam adviser, Chinese economic thought

Fall 2019-Fall 2020

Goldsmiths, University of London, Institute of Management Studies

Economic History (undergraduate)

Fall 2017, 2018

History of Economic Ideas (undergraduate)

Spring 2018

Oxbridge-style supervisions for Introductory Economics

2017-2018, 2018-2019

University of Zurich, Department of History

Chinese History of Economics Thought (executive masters)

Spring 2018

University of Cambridge, Department of Economics

Tutor, History and Philosophy of Economics (undergraduate)

Lent 2017

Advising

Raven Hetzler, Pre-Dissertation Advisor
Cosku Mihci, Pre-Dissertation Advisor
Evan Wasner, Pre-Dissertation Advisor
Jesús Lara Jáuregui, Pre-Dissertation Advisor

Service

University

Organizer, Political Economy Workshop, 2020-2021
Working Paper Series Coordinator, 2020-2021
Member of Executive Committee, Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2019-2020
Head of Outreach, Institute of Management Studies, Goldsmiths, 2018-2019
Member of Management Team, Institute of Management Studies, Goldsmiths, 2018-2019
President, Cambridge Society for Social and Economic Development, 2016-2017

Review Service

Cambridge Journal of Economics, China Economic History Review (中国经济史研究), Competition and Change, History of Political Economy, International Review of Applied Economics, New Political Economy, Review of International Political Economy, Review of Radical Political Economics, SAGE, Structural Change and Economic Dynamics

Profession

Co-organizer, The History of Economic Thought Annual Conference, Goldsmiths, 2019
Organizer, Workshop “Ordoliberalism and the German Economic Model,” Goldsmiths, Political Economy Research Centre, 2019
Panel Co-Convener, “30 years after 1989: Re-assessing models of market transition,” Development Studies Association Annual Conference, Open University, London, 2019
Co-Organizer, Post-Keynesian Economics Society Annual Workshop, Goldsmiths, 2018
Panel Convener, “Great industrialization debates at critical historical and contemporary junctures,” Development Studies Association Annual Conference, Oxford, 2016
Co-Convener, China Political Economy Seminar, Cambridge, 2016-2017
Panel Convener, Marxian Economics, Re-Thinking Economics Conference, New York, 2014
Co-Organizer, Colloquium on the History of Worldly Philosophy at The New School for Social Research, 22 February 2014

Organisational Membership

Society for the Advancement of Social Economics; History of Economics Society; Association of Asian Studies; Eastern Economic Association; Union for Radical Political Economics; The British Association for China Studies; Development Studies Association

Languages

German (native), English (fluent), Chinese (fluent), French (advanced), Thai (basic)