Summary

Nguyen Huong Giang (Jan)

Contact Information

Email: huonggiang@u.nus.edu

Academic Program

Program: PhD in Management, Strategy & Policy
School: National University of Singapore (NUS)
Year of Entry: 2025
Expected Year of Completion: 2029

Area of Interest

Entrepreneurship, Industrial Organisation, Innovation

Faculty Recommendation

Professor Ivan Png
Distinguished Professor, School of Business
National University of Singapore

Huong-Giang Nguyen (Jan)

Last update: February 17, 2026

Contact Information

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Research interest

Industrial Organisation, Entrepreneurship, Innovation

Education

National University of Singapore, Singapore — 2025–Present
PhD in Management (*Strategy and Policy*)

Foreign Trade University, Hanoi, Viet Nam — 2019–2023
B.A in International Business Economics (*Summa Cum Laude*)

University of Mannheim, Germany — Feb 2022 – Jun 2022
Exchange program at Business School

Research Experience

Research Assistant to Professor Ivan Png, NUS Business School — Nov 2025–Present

Consultant, World Bank, Viet Nam — Aug 2025–Present

- Produced policy notes on transshipment and rules of origin, global value chain resilience, and free trade agreements.

Asian Development Bank, Research Associate, Viet Nam — 2024–Present

- Monitored two RCT interventions targeting clients and loan officers with bank partners.
- Coordinated **03** survey rounds with **600** bank staff and **1200** clients on the impact of interventions on lending to WSME clients and gender bias.
- Assisted the lead research team with data analysis in STATA and the final analysis write-up of reports and journal articles.

Research Fellow, University of Foggia, Italy — 2024–2025

- Built a END dataset covering environmental non-tariff measures (NTMs) by attributing product codes, detailed to the HS6 level.
- Performed empirical analysis of trade datasets in STATA to quantify the relationship between trade and environmental NTMs.
- Prepared manuscripts for journal submissions and authored 01 book chapter.

Development and Policy Research Centre, Viet Nam — May 2023 – Sep 2023

- Designed surveys using professional software (Qualtrics, Kobotoolbox).
- Facilitated coordination of fieldwork activities to ensure effective data collection.
- Cleaned, analysed, visualised data, and proofread for final reports.

Research Assistant, Foreign Trade University, Viet Nam — 2020–2023

- Collected and analysed statistical trade and investment data in Vietnam for **05** research projects (key member) related to International Investments, Public Policy, Digital Trade, Industrial Policy funded by FTU and Ministries.
- Produced reports, conference proceedings, and policy briefs for seminars and workshops.
- Delivered research methodology trainings for **200+** students at FTU.

Publications

Manuscripts under Submission

1. Doan, Q.H., Dao, N.T., and **Nguyen, H.G.** (2024) 'Upgrading in GVC of SMEs: The moderation effect of dynamic capabilities.' Submitted to *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*. (PDF)

Work in Progress

1. Global value chains and firm decarbonisation: Evidence from developing countries (Drafting)
2. Global value chains and energy efficiency (Data collecting)
3. Labor market dynamics in the green transition: A case study of Vietnam. (Data collected and drafting)

Other Publications

1. Handbook on Trade and Sustainable Development: Chapter 13 of the EU Vietnam Free Trade Agreement. (2023). Ministry of Trade and Industry.
2. Dao, T., **Nguyen, G.**, Tran, K, Nguyen, T., Tran, H., Nguyen, L., Nguyen, O., Dao, T., Hoang, Y., & Nguyen, D. (2024). Future in the making: Integrating youth perspectives in Viet Nam's just energytransition. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Viet Nam.

Honors and Awards

NUS Research Scholarship for PhD Students	2025–Present
EU Youth Empowerment Fund (Top 100/10,000+ projects) – $1,500	2025–Present
Dean list of the Graduation Cohort 2023	2023
FTU University Scholarships for Academic Excellence	2019–2023
FTU Student Research Grant – $1,600	2022–2023
Baden-Wurttemberg Scholarship for exchange students	2022
Amcham Scholarship runner-up (Top 20 students national)	2022
Finalist, Social Business Creation 2022 hosted by HEC Montreal, Canada	2022

Other Experiences

Project Assistant, KTP Investment and FTA Consultant	Oct 2023–Dec 2023
Junior Energy Researcher, Youth4 Climate Policy Working Group, UNDP	May 2023–Sep 2024
General Secretary, Junior Chamber International Vietnam	2021–2022
External Affair, FTU Youth Union	2019–2020

Miscellaneous

Citizenship: Vietnamese

Languages: Vietnamese (native), English (fluent), French (basic)

Software: STATA (proficient), R, LATEX, Python, Qualtrics, ODK (SurveyCTO, Kobotoolbox)

References

Provided upon request

Personal statement

I am Huong-Giang Nguyen (Jan), 1st year PhD student in Strategy & Policy at NUS Business School. I am exploring entrepreneurship research direction with a particular focus on entrepreneurial finance and inclusive growth. I believe that this research bootcamp will provide me valuable training and network for upcoming research.

Prior to my PhD, I worked as a Research Associate at the Asian Development Bank on a randomized controlled trial aimed at expanding financial access for women entrepreneurs. This role was my first sustained exposure to the entrepreneurial finance literature and sparked my interest in how financial frictions shape entrepreneurial entry, growth, and resilience especially for underrepresented founders. One striking finding from this study is that by providing incentives for loan officers at the bank, they are more motivated to lend to female entrepreneurs compared to pre-intervention. This research highlights how reducing barriers from supply-side of finance can improve capital access for women entrepreneurs. Since joining the PhD program, I have deepened this interest through doctoral seminars in Innovation & Entrepreneurship and Corporate Finance at NUS Business School, which helped me engage more systematically with core entrepreneurship research and its intersections with finance and firm dynamics.

Building on this foundation, I am currently finalizing a paper on women entrepreneurs and financial access in the context of field experiment. In this paper, I want to explore the persistent effect of supply-side intervention and how they determined business outcome. Looking forward, I am eager to explore how global integration interacts with entrepreneurship, i.e., how trade exposure and multinational activity influence local entrepreneurial ecosystems, and whether these forces translate into more inclusive forms of entrepreneurship. This redirection is slightly aligned with my prior training and research experience in international trade and global value chains. This line of inquiry speaks to a broader theme that motivates me: whether structural economic change expands the set of viable entrepreneurial paths for underrepresented groups.

The NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp is an ideal setting for me to refine these ideas at an early and formative stage. During the bootcamp, I hope to receive feedback on my future research on multinational enterprises (MNEs) and their local economic impacts, with a specific focus on women's economic outcomes. Beyond the well-documented effects of MNE entry on female labour force participation, I am interested in a less explored question: do MNEs also stimulate female entrepreneurship (e.g., through supplier linkages, skill upgrading, role-model effects, or improved access to finance), or do they crowd it out by reshaping local labour market opportunities? I would value guidance on framing, relevant theoretical mechanisms, and empirical strategies, as well as suggestions for adjacent research questions that could form the basis of my dissertation. Furthermore, the training could provide me with novel datasets and better understand about identification strategies to make compelling research. Finally, I look forward to building a network of peers and mentors and identifying opportunities for collaboration that can strengthen my research over the coming years. The bootcamp is led by esteemed professors who work on the cross-cutting issues of entrepreneurship with finance, innovation on how to leverage key theories and approach the right issues, the key missing part that a PhD student like me sought out to learn after working across several fields.

School of Business

NUS National University of Singapore

18 February 2026

Professors Jorge Guzman and David T. Robinson
Convenors
NBER Entrepreneurship Boot Camp

Dear Professors

Huong-Giang Nguyen (Jan)

Jan came to NUS with an unusually rich background in field research. While studying at the Foreign Trade University in Hanoi Vietnam, she worked as a research assistant. After graduation, she joined the Development and Policy Research Centre and then moved to the Asian Development Bank as a Research Associate where she administered two RCTs for principal investigators Russell Toth (Sydney) and Markus Taussig (Rutgers).

With all that field experience under her belt, Jan enrolled in graduate study to deepen and broaden her theoretical understanding and econometric skills. She is progressing well in coursework, meanwhile working with me as a research assistant.

We are building a dataset of U.S. patent invalidations to investigate the effect of invalidations on the growth of startups. We are in the early stages of a data-intensive project. We aim to replicate and extend the dataset of invalidations constructed by Galasso and Schankerman (QJE 2015) and then merge that with data on startups from the U.S. Census Longitudinal Business Database and Pitchbook.

Presently, Jan is contributing energetically and systematically to constructing the dataset of invalidations. She is working on the challenging task of coding the decisions of individual judges on the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. All this detail to persuade you that she is seriously engaged in research on entrepreneurship.

At this stage of her research career, she would benefit enormously from the Boot Camp (do read her statement!) and I give her my highest recommendation.

Yours truly,



Ivan Png
Distinguished Professor
Departments of Strategy & Policy and Economics

Email: ipng@nus.edu.sg