



Western

Centre for Research on
Migration and Ethnic Relations

**Fall Colloquium
Series 2021**

Phuong Vu



Phuong Vu has a master's degree in International Economics and Finance from the University Queensland, Australia. She is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in Economics at the Department of Economics at Western University. Phuong Vu's research interests includes Labour Economics and Applied Economics with the focus on Immigration. Her thesis work focuses on three main areas: (i) the impacts of social networks on labour market outcomes of newly arrived Canadian immigrants, (ii) employment mobility and long-run earnings inequality among Canadian immigrants, and (iii) the effects of economic conditions and immigration policy changes on human capital investment and retention of international students in Canada. Although her research uses Canadian data for the analysis, these research topics reflect the issues that immigrants would face in many other countries as well.

“Transition from Landing to Work: The Impacts of Social Networks on Labour Market Outcomes of Newly Arrived Canadian Immigrants.”

Using the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada, Phuong examines the effects of social networks on labour market outcomes of newly arrived Canadian immigrants. The study finds that the presence of initial networks at landing significantly increases the probability of getting a network job by 8.3 percentage points and reduces the probability of getting a formal job by 7.6 percentage points within six months after landing. The impacts of social networks are even larger four years after landing. Across immigration categories, network effects vary, with the largest effect among the Refugee Class, followed by the Family Class, and then the Economic Class immigrants. In each class, low-educated immigrants rely more on networks to find a job than high-educated ones. By separating close ties into kinship and friendship, the study finds that family has stronger effects on employment outcomes. Further, the development of the network is important over time. Economic Class immigrants gain from more diverse networks, while Refugees improve their employment outcomes by frequently contacting their networks. Finally, social networks play a limited role in determining the quality of immigrant first jobs.

Thursday, December 9th, 2021

4:00 pm, Virtual Zoom Event

All Welcome!

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/94548605821>