

Tony Zirui Yang

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Appointment	Emory University Assistant Professor of Political Science University of Hong Kong Social Science Visiting Professor Nuffield College, University of Oxford Postdoctoral Prize Research Fellow in Politics Associate, University of Oxford China Centre Oxford Authoritarian Politics Network	Atlanta, Georgia 2025 - Hong Kong February 2026 Oxford, England 2024 - 2025
Education	Washington University in St. Louis Ph.D., Political Science Dissertation: “ <i>Essays on Censorship and Public Opinion in Authoritarian Regimes</i> ” (Chair: Margit Tavits) Winner of the 2025 APSA Thomas E. Patterson Best Dissertation Award in Political Communication A.M., Political Science Renmin University of China LL.B. (with Honor), Law Exchange Student, Political Science, UC Davis	St. Louis, Missouri 2024 Beijing, China 2018 2016 - 2017
Research Areas	Authoritarian Politics, Political Communication, Public Opinion, China, Conflicts, LGBTQ Politics, Computational Methods, Experiments, Survey Methods	
Publications	[6] Yang, Tony Zirui , and Scott Williamson. 2026. “Public Opinion in Authoritarian Regimes”, in Anne Wolf, ed., <i>The Oxford Handbook of Authoritarian Politics</i> , Oxford University Press [Paper] [5] Stone, Andrew R, and Tony Zirui Yang . 2026. “Ideological Cues, Partisanship, and Prejudice Against LGBTQ Judges” <i>Public Opinion Quarterly</i> [Paper] [4] Yang, Tony Zirui , and Hongshen Zhu. 2025. “Twisted Tongue: Limits of China’s Propaganda during Crises and Policy Changes” <i>Political Science Research and Methods</i> : 1–9 [Paper] [Appendices]	

[3] **Yang, Tony Zirui**. 2025. “Normalization of Censorship: Evidence from China.” *The Journal of Politics*, 87(4), 1227-1242. [[Paper](#)] [[Author’s Version](#)] [[Appendices](#)]

[2] **Yang, Tony Zirui**. 2024. “Participatory Censorship in Authoritarian Regimes.” *Comparative Political Studies*, 58(12), 2594-2620. [[Paper](#)] [[Author’s Version](#)] [[Appendices](#)]

[1] Aksoy, Deniz, Ted Enamorado, and **Tony Zirui Yang**. 2024. “Russian Invasion of Ukraine and Chinese Public Support for War.” *International Organization* 78(2): 341–60, [[Paper](#)] [[Appendices](#)]

In Progress

“Transnational Propaganda and Ethnic Polarization: Experimental Evidence from Malaysia” (with Jeremy Siow and Minh Trinh) *Under Review* [[APSA PrePrints](#)]

“Echoes of Erosion: Communicating Foreign Democratic Backsliding in Autocratizing Regimes” (with Lisa Fan and Eddy Yeung) *Under Review*

“Listen to the Party! An Audio-as-Data Approach to Vocally Hard Propaganda” (with Haohan Chen and Yiqiang Wang) *Under Review*

“How Chinese Censorship Allows Public Discourse on Democracies but Not Their Institutions”

“Binary Gender Identity Strength and Attitudes toward LGBTQ Individuals” (with Margit Tavits)

Honor & Grants

Awards

Winner of the 2025 American Political Science Association Thomas E. Patterson Best Dissertation Award in Political Communication

External Research Grants

Early Career Scheme, University Grants Committee, Hong Kong (with Haohan Chen & Yiqiang Wang)	HK\$1,006,340
Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship	\$20,000
APSA Centennial Center Research Grant	\$2,500
Institute for Humane Studies	\$23,000
Institute for Humane Studies (with Minh Trinh & Jeremy Siow)	\$5,000

Internal Research Grants

Weidenbaum Center Small Grant (with Deniz Aksoy & Ted Enamorado)	\$15,000
DPIR Research Support Fund, University of Oxford	£2,500
Global Futures Small Grants (with Jeremy Siow)	\$2,000
Weidenbaum Center Small Grant (with Margit Tavits & Jeremy Siow)	\$12,000
Weidenbaum Center Small Grant (with Deniz Aksoy)	\$9,000
Legislative Studies Quarterly Research Fund, Washington University	\$5,000
Graduate Research Seed Grant, Washington University	\$2,000

Presentations

Invited Talks

University of Georgia, Department of International Affairs	Mar. 2026
Singapore Management University, School of Social Sciences	Mar. 2026
CUHK Shenzhen, Division of Global and Area Studies	Mar. 2026
Lingnan University, Department of Government and Int'l Affairs	Feb. 2026
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Social Sci' Seminar	Feb. 2026
The University of Hong Kong, School of Future Media	Feb. 2026
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Department of Communication Science	Nov. 2025
LSE Global Sexual and Gender Identities Policy Lab	May 2025
Bocconi University, The Dondena Politics and Institutions Unit	Apr. 2025
London School of Economics, China and the World Seminar Series	Jan. 2025
Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance in Munich	Dec. 2024
University of Manchester, Manchester China Institute	Dec. 2024
University of Oxford, Nuffield Political Science Seminar Series	Nov. 2024
Emory University, Department of Political Science	Dec. 2023
University of North Texas, Department of Political Science	Dec. 2023
Dartmouth College, Department of Government	Nov. 2023
The University of Hong Kong, Methods Hub Talk Series	Nov. 2022
Indiana University Bloomington, World Politics Speaker Series	Nov. 2022

Seminars & Workshops

The Queer Politics Webinar	2025
Max Planck Institute, The Logic of Sanctions Workshop	2024
UT Austin Elections, Public Policy, and Media Papers Workshop	2024
UCSD Young Scholars Conference	2022, 2024
Authoritarian Political System Group Online Workshop	2023
The Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research	2023
NYU Experimental Political Science Conference	2023
WUSTL Comparative Politics Annual Conference	2022, 2023
NYU Quantitative China Studies Seminar	2021
Harvard Experimental Political Science Conference	2021

Annual Meetings of Professional Associations

American Political Science Association	2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
Midwest Political Science Association	2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
Southern Political Science Association	2026
Western Political Science Association	2023, 2025, 2026
European Political Science Association/Society	2025
The Society for Political Methodology	2022, 2023, 2025
The Asian Political Methodology Meetings	2022, 2024, 2025
Elections, Public Opinion and Parties	2024
Peace Science Society (International)	2023

Teaching

Emory University

POLS 375 Contemporary Chinese Politics Fall 2025
POLS 385 China in the World Fall 2025

Nuffield College, University of Oxford

Tutor, Comparative Government Core Course Michaelmas 2024, Hilary 2025

Guest Lecturer

International Political Economy of China (Hao Zhang, NYU) 2025
Institutions under Authoritarianism (University of Oxford) 2024
Political Power in Contemporary China (Juan Qian, UW-Madison) 2023
Global Information Wars (Haohan Chen, HKU) 2023
Understanding Political Protest & Violence (Sunita Parikh, WUSTL) 2020

Service

Journal Reviewer:

American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Asian Survey, China Quarterly, Chinese Journal of Sociology, Comparative Political Studies, Environmental Politics, European Journal of Politics and Gender, International Journal of Communication, International Journal of Press/Politics, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Current Chinese Affairs, Journal of Politics, Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media, Journalism, Political Behavior, Political Communication, Political Science Quarterly, Political Science Research and Methods, Political Studies Review, Research and Politics, World Politics

Book Reviewer: Routledge

Grant Reviewer:

European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant
APSA Centennial Center Summer Research Grant

Conference Organizer:

Hankin Conference on Media and Information Manipulations, Emory 2026
WPSA Authoritarian Politics Mini-Conference, San Diego, CA 2026
New Frontiers in Authoritarian Politics, Nuffield College, Oxford 2025
Comparative Politics Annual Conference, Washington University 2022

Skills

Fieldwork: China (November 2022 to February 2023)

Programming: R, Python, Qualtrics, \LaTeX

Languages: Mandarin & Cantonese (native), English (fluent), French (basic)