Rex Weiye Deng

Washington University in St. Louis
Department of Political Science
Seigle Hall 278
St. Louis, Missouri 63130

✉ weiye.deng@wustl.edu
🌐 rexweiyedeng.org
in rex-weiye-deng
🐦 @rexhere1

Education

Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri
– *Dissertation: How Entertainment Fosters Political Compliance in China*
    Ph.D., Political Science, expected in 2026
    M.A., Political Science, 2023
    Subfields: Comparative Politics (Major), Political Methodology (Minor)

Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan
    B.A., Economics, 2020

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong SAR, China
    B.Sc. (First-Class Honors), Global China Studies, 2020

Research Interests

Comparative Politics: Authoritarian Politics, Political Communication, State Building, China
International Relations: Public Diplomacy, International Cooperation
Political Methodology: Text Analysis, Computational Models

Working Papers

Deng, Rex W. "Negative Propaganda and Regime Evaluations: Evidence from China." Under review.

Deng, Rex W. "Screened Realities: How Entertainment Fosters Political Compliance in China." (Job Market Paper)
- *Rebecca Morton Poster Award*, 2025 Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science
- *Timothy E. Cook Best Graduate Student Paper Award*, APSA 2024

Deng, Rex W. "Softening the Crisis: How Cultural Diplomacy Fosters Interstate Reconciliation."

Carter, David B. and Rex W. Deng. "How Do State-Led Infrastructure Projects Affect Trust in Historically Hard-to-Reach Places?" Under review.

Deng, Rex W., Taishi Muraoka, and Margit Tavits. "Exploiting Extremism: Strategic Responses of Radical Right Parties to Right-Wing Violence in Europe."

Charaniya, Amaan, Rex Weiye Deng, Dahjin Kim, Gechun Lin, William Nomikos, and İpek Ece Şener. "Can Leaders Shape Public Opinion During a Foreign Policy Crisis? Evidence from U.S. Withdrawal from Afghanistan." Under review.
- *Best Paper for the Foreign Policy Section*, APSA 2023

Work in Progress	**Deng, Rex W. and Haifeng Huang**. "The Blessing and Curse of Cute Propaganda."

Deng, Rex W. and Xiaoxiao Shen. "Turning Crisis into Opportunities: How Authoritarian Regime Appeal to Mass Emotions in Crisis Communication."

Honors & Grants

Research Grant

Juniors Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies ($6,000)	2025
Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies ($6,200)	2024
Graduate Research Dissertation Grant, Washington University ($1,000)	2024
Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy, Washington University ($15,000)	2024
• Co-PI: Margit Tavits and Taishi Muraoka	
Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy, Washington University ($12,000)	2024
• Co-PI: Ted Enamorado	
Legislative Studies Quarterly Research Award, Washington University ($5,000)	2020

Travel Grant

PolMeth Travel Award ($1,000)	2025
ISA Travel Grant ($600)	2025
APSA Political Psychology Section Distinguished Junior Scholar Award ($600)	2024
APSA Travel Grant ($200)	2023
APSA Travel Grant ($200); APSA Foreign Policy Section Travel Grant ($500)	2022

Other Awards

School of Political Science and Economics Award, Waseda University	2019
• Awarded for the first Waseda Data Science Competition	
• Theme: Predict results of Japan's Upper House Election in 2019	
• With Wenhao (Brian) Jiang, Yuji Mizushima, and Siyuan Shang	
Dean's List, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	2016–2018

Scholarships

Asian Future Leadership Scholarship, Bai Xian Asia Institute ($\approx$ $28,680)	2018
• Full tuition and living expenses for study at Waseda	
Ho & Ho Foundation Scholarship, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology ($\approx$ $76,000)	2015
• Full tuition and living expenses for study at HKUST	

Presentations

Annual Meetings of Professional Associations

American Political Science Association (APSA)	2022–2025
International Studies Association (ISA)	2025
The Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth)	2025
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)	2022–2023, 2025

Western Political Science Association (WPSA)	2023, 2025
Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)	2025
Peace Science Society (International)	2024
ISA-Midwest	2022

Workshops and Seminars

Empirical Studies of Conflicts (ESOC) Annual Meeting (National Taiwan University/Emory University)	2025
Frontiers in Political Methodology (WashU)	2025
Virtual Workshops on Authoritarian Regimes (VWAR)	2025
Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science (NYU)	2025
Comparative Politics Annual Confernce (CPAC; WashU)	2023–2025
State Capacity Conference (Yale)	2022
The Politics of State Authority and Insecurity Workshop (Rutgers University)	2022

RA Experience	**Washington University in St. Louis**, Department of Political Science	
	Research assistant (Carly Wayne)	2021–2023
	Research assistant (Margit Tavits, Jacob Montgomery, and Christopher Lucas)	2023
	Research assistant (Michael Olson)	2022
	Research assistant (Lucia Motolinia)	2022
	Columbia University, Department of Political Science	
	Research assistant (Junyan Jiang)	2020

TA Experience	**Washington University in St. Louis**, Department of Political Science	
	Undergraduate Level	
	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Guillermo Rosas)	Spring 2024
	Psychology of War (Carly Wayne)	Fall 2023
	Introduction to International Politics (David Carter)	Fall 2022, 2023
	Quantitative Political Methodology (Ted Enamorado)	Spring 2022
	Data Science for Politics (Jacob Montgomery)	Fall 2021

Additional Training	**Washington University in St. Louis**, St. Louis, Missouri	
	Spatial Statistics (Scott Cook)	Summer 2024
	Text-As-Data (Brandon Stewart)	Summer 2023
	Time Series Analysis (Clayton Webb)	Summer 2022
	Python camp (Benjamin Noble)	Summer 2021
	Math camp (Jacob Montgomery)	Summer 2020
	East China University of Political Science and Law, Shanghai, China	
	Training Camp of Political Methodology and Chinese Political Institution	Summer 2020

Service	Journal Reviewer: *Conflict Management of Peace Science, Journal of Chinese Political Science* Coordinator, Comparative Politics Annual Conference 2025 Manager, WashU Political Data Science Lab, Fall 2022 – Fall 2023
Technical Skills	R, Python, Stata, ArcGIS, Qualtrics, Tableau, LaTeX
Languages	Mandarin Chinese (native), Cantonese (native) English (fluent), Japanese (intermediate)

References

Margit Tavits
Dr. William Taussig Professor
Washington University in St. Louis
Email: tavits@wustl.edu

David B. Carter
Professor
Washington University in St. Louis
davidcarter@wustl.edu

Carly Wayne
Associate Professor
Washington University in St. Louis
Email: carlywayne@wustl.edu

Ted Enamorado
Associate Professor
Washington University in St. Louis
ted@wustl.edu

Haifeng Huang
Associate Professor
The Ohio State University
Email: huang.5457@osu.edu