

Rex Weiye Deng

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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.” Revise and Resubmit.

Carter, David B. and Rex W. Deng. “How Do State-Building Infrastructure Projects Affect Trust in Hard-to-Reach Places?”

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.”
– Best Foreign Policy Paper Award, APSA (2023)

Work in Progress

Deng, Rex W.. “Does Cultural Diplomacy Improve Support for International Cooperation?”

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

2023. Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy (\$15,000)
 – With Margit Tavits and Taishi Muraoka
 2023. Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy (\$12,000)
 – With Ted Enamorado
 2020. Legislative Studies Quarterly Research Award, Washington University in St. Louis (\$5,000)

Travel Grant

2025. ISA Travel Grant
 2024. APSA Political Psychology Section Distinguished Junior Scholar Award
 2023. APSA Travel Grant
 2022. APSA Travel Grant; APSA Foreign Policy Section Travel Grant

Award

2023. Best Foreign Policy Paper Award.
 2019. School of Political Science and Economics Award, Waseda University
 – For the first Waseda Data Science Competition
 – Theme: The seat allocation of Japan's Upper House Election in July 2019
 – With Wenhao (Brian) Jiang, Yuji Mizushima, and Siyuan Shang

Scholarships

2018. Asian Future Leadership Scholarship, Bai Xian Asia Institute (\approx \$28,680)
 2016-2018. Dean's List, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
 2015. Ho & Ho Foundation Scholarship, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (\approx \$76,000)

Presentations

Conferences

2025: ISA, CPAC (WashU)
 2024: Peace Science Conference, APSA, CPAC (WashU)
 2023: APSA, Comparative Politics Annual Conference (CPAC, WashU), MPSA, WPSA
 2022: APSA, State Capacity Conference (Yale), ISA-Midwest

Workshops

2022: The Politics of State Authority and Insecurity Workshop (Rutgers University)

RA Experience

Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Political Science

Research assistant (Carly Wayne), Fall 2021 - August 2023
 Research assistant (Margit Tavits, Jacob Montgomery, and Christopher Lucas), Spring 2023
 Research assistant (Michael Olson), Summer 2022
 Research assistant (Lucia Motolinia), Spring 2022

Columbia University, Department of Political Science

Research assistant (Junyan Jiang), Fall 2020

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Undergraduate researcher (Albert Park), Spring 2018
Case developer, (James. K. Wong), Spring 2018
– Case title: *China: A Global Leader in Mobile Payment*. [Full access here](#).

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: 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, ArcGIS, MATLAB, 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

Carly Wayne

Assistant Professor
Washington University in St. Louis
Email: carlywayne@wustl.edu

Haifeng Huang

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

David B. Carter

Professor
Washington University in St. Louis
davidcarter@wustl.edu

Ted Enamorado

Assistant Professor
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