

ANGEL M. VILLEGAS-CRUZ (安河)
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214 Pond Lab, Department of Political Science
Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science and Asian Studies

Pennsylvania State University

Expected 2024

University Park, PA

Dissertation: "Verbal Aggression, Information Warfare, and Career Aspirations: Exploring the Use of Social Media in Public Diplomacy"

Committee: Boliang Zhu (Chair), Roseanne McManus, Kevin Munger, and Jonathan Abel

Major Fields: International Relations and Asian Studies

Minor Field: Comparative Politics

M.A. in Political Science

Pennsylvania State University

2019 – 2021

University Park, PA

M.A. in International Relations

Beijing Normal University

2016 – 2019

Beijing, China

B.A. in Sociology and Minor in History | *Magna Cum Laude*

University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus

2009 – 2014

San Juan, PR

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Course in College Teaching

Pennsylvania State University

Spring 2022

University Park, PA

Graduate Student Online Teaching Certificate

Pennsylvania State University

Fall 2020

World Campus

Intensive Chinese (Mandarin) Language Program

Beijing Normal University

2014 – 2016

Beijing, China

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Substantive: Digital Diplomacy | Public Diplomacy | Chinese Foreign Policy | Social Media | Sino-American Relations | International Political Economy

Methodological: Quantitative Political Science | Text as Data | Survey Experiments | Digital Humanities

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. 2014. "El discurso de la Iglesia Protestante en torno a la Segunda Guerra Mundial en la Revista Puerto Rico Evangélico, 1940-1945" [The representation of World War II in the inter-denominational magazine, Puerto Rico Evangelico, 1940-1945]. *Revista [IN]Genios* 1 (1): 1-11.

EDITOR-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. 2022. "Male, U.S. Full History Professor, and China scholar: The recipe to get published in The Journal of Asian Studies, 2000-2020." *criticalasianstudies.org* Commentary Board. November 15.
<https://doi.org/10.52698/KSEJ3511>.

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. 2019. Review of 《中国与拉美国家相互依赖模式研究》楼项飞著 [A Study of Sino-Latin American Interdependency Models by Lou Xiangfei]. *Journal of BNU Public Administration* 7.

WORKING PAPERS

Kevin Munger, **Angel M. Villegas-Cruz**, Jorge Gallego, and Mateo Vásquez-Cortés. 2023. “‘Reenviado Muchas Veces’: How WhatsApp Users in Mexico and Colombia Understand Political Information.” (*R&R Political Communication*)

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. 2023. “Communicating State Repression to the International Community: A Case Study of How Chinese Diplomats Frame their Actions in Xinjiang.” (*R&R Foreign Policy Analysis*)

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. 2023. “The Effect of Economic Ties on Digital Diplomacy: A Sentiment Analysis of the Twitter Accounts of Chinese Diplomatic Missions.” (Under Review)

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. 2023. “Nation Branding and COVID-19: An Empirical Investigation of Self-Reported Medical Donations in Chinese Digital Diplomacy.” (Under Review)

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. 2023. “Online Infrastructure and Bot Followers: A Quantitative Description of African MFAs’ Diplomatic Strategies on Social Media.” (Under Review)

Boliang Zhu, Aubrey Waddick, Yilang Feng, and **Angel M. Villegas-Cruz**. 2023. “Firms Caught in Crossfire: International Stakes and Domestic Politics in Corporate Positioning on De-Globalization.”

Boliang Zhu, **Angel M. Villegas-Cruz**, and Aubrey Waddick. 2023. “Liberalization for Sale: The Politics of Tariff Exclusions.”

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. “Public Diplomacy and Social Media: Testing the Effectiveness of China’s Wolf Warrior Diplomacy.”

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. “An Unusual Application of Chinese Digital Diplomacy: Reflecting Diplomats’ Career Aspirations.”

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. “The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Age of the Internet: Introducing the Chinese Diplomatic Elite Dataset.”

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. “How American Problems Fuel Foreign Propaganda Machines? Exploring the Temporal Variation in Chinese and Russian Outward-Facing Propaganda.”

Angel M. Villegas-Cruz. “Introducing the Cuban Diplomatic Elite Dataset.”

HONORS AND AWARDS

APSA Lee Ann Fujii Travel Grant (\$400) American Political Science Association	Fall 2023
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Program in Comparative Politics Research Award (\$1,300) Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University	Spring 2023
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Research and Graduate Studies Office (RGSO) Dissertation Support Grant (\$2,000) College of the Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University	Spring 2023
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Miller-LaVigne Fellowship (Tuition & Stipend) Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University	2022-2023
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Keith R. Karako Award (\$1,250) Department of Asian Studies, Pennsylvania State University	Summer 2022
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Summer Graduate Research Award (\$4,050) Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University	Summer 2021
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Best Political Science Master’s Essay, 2020-2021 (\$1,000) Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University	Spring 2021
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APSA Minority Fellow (\$2,000) American Political Science Association	Spring 2020
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Bunton-Waller Graduate Award (Tuition & Stipend) College of the Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University	2019 – 2022
中国政府奖学金 [Chinese Government Scholarship] (Tuition & Stipend) China Scholarship Council, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China	2015 – 2019
优秀学生 [Excellent Student Award] (¥300) College of Chinese Language and Culture, Beijing Normal University	Fall 2015
Wrestling Athletic Scholarship (Tuition & Stipend) University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus	2012 – 2014
Judo Athletic Scholarship (Tuition & Stipend) University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus and University of Puerto Rico, Bayamon Campus	2010 – 2014

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Pennsylvania State University

Instructor of Record

PLSC 14: Introduction to International Relations Summer 2023

Teaching Assistant

Professor Jeremy Ladd's PLSC 309: Quantitative Political Analysis Fall 2021

Professor Kevin Munger's PLSC 497: Text as Data Spring 2021

Professor Boliang Zhu's PLSC 497: Analytical Political Economy Spring 2020 – Fall 2020

Professor Matthew Golder's PLSC 003: Introduction to Comparative Politics Fall 2019

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Pennsylvania State University

Research Assistant to Boliang Zhu & Rachel Wellhausen (UT - Austin) Summer 2022

Research Assistant to Professor Jonathan Abel Summer 2022

Research Assistant to Professor Boliang Zhu Spring 2020 – Fall 2020 & Spring 2022

Research Assistant to Professor Kevin Munger Spring 2021 – Fall 2021

University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus

Undergraduate Research Assistant to Professor Yarimar Rosa-Rodríguez 2011 – 2012

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

English & Spanish Language Teacher 2015 – 2019

思睿英语 [Seory English Center] Beijing, China

- Description: Teaching English and Spanish language classes for children and adults whose first language is Chinese

Social Researcher Spring 2014 – Summer 2014

Community Participation Office, San Juan Municipal Government San Juan, PR

- Description: Digitally mapping San Juan's communities with their socio-demographic details and improving quality of public services

SKILLS

Languages: Spanish (Native), English (Advanced), Chinese-Mandarin (Advanced-HSK 5), Italian (Intermediate), Portuguese (Intermediate)

Software: R, L^AT_EX, Qualtrics, Python, QGIS, SPSS

CONFERENCES

“Social Media and Foreign Elites: Testing the Effectiveness of Digital Diplomacy,” ISA Conference, Montreal (March 15 – 18, 2023)

“Communicating State Repression to the International Community: A Case Study of How Chinese Diplomats Frame their Actions in Xinjiang,” ISA Northeast Conference, Baltimore (November 4 – 5, 2022)

“The Effect of Economic Ties on Digital Diplomacy: A Sentiment Analysis of the Twitter Accounts of Chinese Diplomatic Missions,” MPSA Conference, Chicago (April 7 – 10, 2022)

“Nation Branding and COVID-19: An Empirical Investigation of Chinese Digital Diplomacy and Mask Diplomacy,” MPSA Conference, Chicago (April 7 – 10, 2022)

“Nation Branding and COVID-19: An Empirical Investigation of Chinese Digital Diplomacy and Mask Diplomacy,” Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies Conference, Villanova University (October 23 – 24, 2021)

“Firms Caught in Crossfire: International Stakes and Domestic Politics in Corporate Positioning on De-Globalization,” IPES Conference, Ohio State University (November 13 – 14, 2020)

“The ‘Other’ and the Second World War in the big screen: Europe and Nationalism in Golden Age Mexican Cinema, 1942-1943,” Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities, San Juan (May 3 – 4, 2014)

“El discurso de la Iglesia Protestante en torno a la Segunda Guerra Mundial en la revista Puerto Rico Evangélico, 1940-1945” [The representation of World War II in the inter-denominational magazine, Puerto Rico Evangelico, 1940-1945], History Week, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (March 17 – 20, 2014)

TALKS

“The Effect of Economic Ties on Digital Diplomacy: A Sentiment Analysis of the Twitter Accounts of Chinese Diplomatic Missions,” Ewha Woman’s University Public Diplomacy Center, South Korea (June 6, 2022)

SERVICE

Department of Political Science, Penn State

- Graduate Studies Committee (2023 – 24)
- Advisory Committee (2022 – 23)

Department of Asian Studies, Penn State

- Graduate Studies Committee (2022 – 23)

Disciplinary

- Reviewer: *Communication & Society*, *Journal of Public Diplomacy* (2), *Place Branding and Public Diplomacy*, *Political Research Quarterly*
- Panel Organizer: APSA Conference 2023
- Volunteer Staff: ISA Conference 2023

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

International Studies Association (2021 – Present)
Midwest Political Science Association (2021 – 2022)
Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies (2021 – 2022)
American Political Science Association (2019 – Present)

REFERENCES

References available upon request