

ACADEMIC POSITION

Northwestern University

Evanston, IL

Assistant Professor (Tenure Track), Department of Communication Studies, School of Communication Sept 2023 –

EDUCATION

Stanford University

Stanford, CA

Ph.D. in Communication; Advisor: Dr. Jennifer Pan

2017–2023

Ph.D. Minor in Political Science

Committee: Jennifer Pan, Jeff Hancock, Angèle Christin, Yiqing Xu

Stanford University

Stanford, CA

M.A. in East Asian Studies

2015–2017

Tsinghua University

Beijing, China

B.A. in Journalism and Communication (graduated with honors)

2011–2015

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Certificate in Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Program

2016

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- [11] Chen, K., **Lu, Y.***, & Wang, Y. (Accepted). Toward an Evidence-Driven Understanding of Digital Trace Research on China. *Chinese Journal of Communication*. [*co-first author]
- [10] Christin, A., & **Lu, Y.** (2023). The Influencer Pay Gap: Platform Labor Meets Racial Capitalism. *New Media & Society*. Online First in April 2023.
- [9] Peng, Y., **Lu, Y.***, & Shen, C. (2023). An Agenda for Studying Credibility Perceptions of Visual Misinformation. *Political Communication*, 40(2), 225-237. [*co-first author]
- [8] **Lu, Y.**, & Shen, C. (2023). Unpacking Multimodal Fact-checking: Features and Engagement of Fact-checking Videos on Chinese TikTok (Douyin). *Social Media + Society*, 9(1).
- [7] Chen, A., **Lu, Y.***, Chen, K., & Ng, A. (2023). Pandemic Nationalism: Use of Government Social Media for Political Information and Belief in COVID-19 Conspiracy Theories in China. *The International Journal of Press/Politics*. Online First in February 2023. [*co-first author]
- [6] **Lu, Y.**, Schaefer, J., Park, K., Joo, J., & Pan, J. (2022). How Information Flows from the World to China. *The International Journal of Press/Politics*. Online First in August 2022.
- [5] **Lu, Y.**, & Pan, J. (2022). The Pervasive Presence of Chinese Government Content on Douyin Trending Videos. *Computational Communication Research*, 4(1), 68-97.
- [4] Muise, D., **Lu, Y.**, Pan, J., & Reeves, B. (2022). Selectively localized: Temporal and visual structure of smartphone screen activity across media environments. *Mobile Media & Communication*, 10(3), 487–509.
- [3] **Lu, Y.**, Pan, J., & Xu, Y. (2021). Public Sentiment on Chinese Social Media during the Emergence of COVID-19. *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*, 1, 1-47.
- [2] **Lu, Y.**, & Pan, J. (2021). Capturing Clicks: How the Chinese Government Uses Clickbait to Compete for Visibility. *Political Communication*, 38(1-2), 23-54.

- [1] Reeves, B., Ram, N., Robinson, T. N., Cummings, J. J., Giles, C. L., Pan, J., [...] **Lu, Y.**, et al. (2021). *Screenomics: A Framework to Capture and Analyze Personal Life Experiences and the Ways that Technology Shapes Them*. *Human-Computer Interaction*, 36(2), 150-201.

BOOK CHAPTER

- [1] Peng, Y., & **Lu, Y.** (2023). Computational Visual Analysis in Political Communication. D. Lilleker & A. Veneti (eds.), *Research Handbook on Visual Politics*. Edward Elgar.

UNDER REVIEW

- [2] **Lu, Y.**, & Peng, Y. (Revise and Resubmit). The Mobilizing Power of Visual Media across Cycles of Social Movements. *Political Communication*.
- [1] Qian, S., **Lu, Y.***, Peng, Y., Shen, C. & Xu, H. (Extended Abstract Accepted, Full Manuscript Under Review). Convergence or divergence? A cross-platform analysis of climate change visual categories, features, and user engagement on Twitter and Instagram. *Public Relations Review*.

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

- [5] **Lu, Y.** Performative Propaganda Engagement: How Online Celebrity Fandom Engages with State Propaganda in China (Book project).
- [4] **Lu, Y.**, Pan, J., Xu, X., & Xu, Y. Propaganda in the Digital Age: A Decentralized Network Model on Douyin (Manuscript in preparation).
- [3] Pan, J., **Lu, Y.***, & Chen, A. Narratives of the Ukraine War on Chinese Social Media. (Manuscript in preparation). [*co-first author]
- [2] Hanley, H., **Lu, Y.***, & Pan, J. Narratives of Foreign Media Ecosystems in Chinese Social Media Discussions of the Russo-Ukrainian War. (Manuscript in preparation). [*co-first author]
- [1] **Lu, Y.**, & Peng, Y., & Shen, C. Fauci Memes Matter: Computational Approaches to Understanding Public Figure Memes and Misinformation. (Manuscript in preparation).

AWARDS & HONORS

- Top Student Paper Award, Political Communication Division, International Communication Association 2023
- Stanford Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI) Graduate Fellowship 2022–2023
- Stanford Institute for Research in the Social Sciences (IRiSS) Dissertation Fellowship 2022–2023
- Stanford Computational Social Science Fellowship 2020–2021
- Stanford Graduate Fellowship in Science & Engineering 2017–2021
- Stanford Asia Pacific Scholar Fellowship 2016
- Stanford Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI) Global Policy Fellowship 2016
- Stanford Silas Palmer Research Fellowship 2015
- Beijing Distinguished Graduate Student Award 2015
- People.cn Best Paper Award (First Prize) 2015
- TECO Green Tech Contest (Bronze Medalist) 2014

- Evergrande Comprehensive Scholarship 2014
- Hang Seng Bank Mainland Scholarship 2013
- Rural Investigation and Studies Award by China Institute for Rural Studies 2013

GRANTS

External

- National Science Foundation (CNS-2150716), \$500,000, *Research Fellow* 2022–2025
Project title: *Collaborative Research: SaTC: CORE: Small: Understanding How Visual Features of Misinformation Influence Credibility Perceptions* (PI: Cuihua (Cindy) Shen, Yilang Peng)
- Princeton Data-Driven Social Science (DDSS) Initiative, \$10,000, *co-PI* 2022–2023
Project title: *Propagating the Repressive Apparatus on Social Media: The Case of TikTok*
- Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science (SICSS) Research Grant, \$2,500, *PI* 2021
Project title: *Invisible Spammers: Detecting Bots on Chinese Social Media*
- Magic Grant from Brown Institute for Media Innovation, \$100,000, *co-PI* 2019–2020
Project title: *Screenomics Interactive Dashboard*
- Google Cloud COVID-19 Credit Grant, \$250, *PI* 2020
Project title: *Echo or Divergence: COVID-19 Discourse on Twitter and Weibo*

Internal

- HAI-Google Cloud Credits Grant Program, \$2,171, *PI* 2023
Project title: *Fandom, Propaganda and State Mobilization on Chinese Social Media*
- Stanford Institute for Research in the Social Sciences (IRiSS) Research Data Grant, \$1,500, *PI* 2022
Project title: *Fauci Memes Matter: Public Figure Memes and COVID-19 Misinformation*
- Stanford Program on Democracy and the Internet (PDI) Research Funding, \$10,000, *PI* 2020–2021
Project title: *Multimodal beyond Text: Investigating Visual Misinformation on Social Media*
- Stanford Global Studies (SGS) Global Perspectives Grant, \$3,500, *PI* 2016
Project title: *Environmental Policy Implementation in China*
- Stanford Center For East Asian Studies Summer Grant, \$3,900 2016
- Tsinghua Undergraduate Overseas Research & Training Grant, \$1,500 2014

Travel Grants

- Michael Haley Travel Grant 2023
- The Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI) Small Research and Conference grant 2022
- National Communication Association (NCA) Student Caucus Travel Grant 2022
- American Political Science Association (APSA) Travel Grant 2022
- Center For East Asian Studies Conference Travel Grant 2022
- Center For East Asian Studies Conference Travel Grant 2016

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant

COMM 1: Introduction to Communication, Stanford University Fall 2019–2020
Instructor: Prof. Jeff Hancock

COMM 106/206: Communication Research Methods, Stanford University Winter 2019–2020
Instructor: Dr. Anna Gibson

Guest Lectures

Social Media Analytics, University of Wisconsin–Madison March 2023
Rethinking User Engagement with Screens

Persuasive Technologies, University of California, Davis November 2022
Competing for Attention: How the Chinese Government Uses Social Media for Propaganda

Introduction to Computational Social Science
2022 Summer School in Applied Social Science Research Methods, NYU-Shanghai July 2022
Video-as-Data in Computational Social Science

Social Media Analytics, University of Wisconsin–Madison March 2022
Rethinking Life on Screens: Measuring Smartphone Activities Through Screenomics

Social Media Analytics, University of Wisconsin–Madison Nov 2020
Capturing Clicks: How the Chinese Government Uses Clickbait to Compete for Visibility

Natural Language Processing, University of San Francisco Nov 2020
Capturing Clicks: How the Chinese Government Uses Clickbait to Compete for Visibility

Comparative Journalism Studies, Tsinghua University Nov 2020
Image as Data: Automated Visual Analysis in Studying Digital Media

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Founder, *COMputation Island*

An online platform for computational communication research (CCR) on WeChat (11,000+ followers) 2021–present

- Organized this platform to share cutting-edge research in computational social sciences, facilitate academic discussions, and promote resource exchanges to students and scholars in Asia and other regions.
- Wrote and edited articles to introduce computational social science studies, methods, and resources to students and scholars in communication, political science, and other disciplines.
- Led and managed the platform maintenance, editor recruitment, editorial work, and platform outreach.

Association-related Service:

International Communication Association (ICA):

- Panel Chair, “Video-as-data in Computational Communication: Toward a Mixed-Method Pathway” (2023)
- Panel Chair, “Video-as-data in Computational Communication” (2022)
- Panel Chair, “Propaganda in the Computational Age: Disinformation and Beyond” (2020)

American Political Science Association (APSA):

- Panel Chair, “Preprocessing, Annotation, and Interpretation in Computational Social Science” (2023)

Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) conference: Panel Chair, “Chinese Politics” (2023)

Reviewers for Peer-reviewed Journals (in alphabetical order):

American Journal of Political Science
American Political Science Review
Asian Studies Review
Chinese Journal of Communication
Comparative Political Studies
Computational Communication Research
Humanities and Social Sciences Communications
Information, Communication & Society
New Media & Society
PLoS ONE
Political Research Quarterly
The Journal of Politics

University and Departmental Service:

Stanford University:

- Department Liaison, Institute for Research in the Social Sciences (2019–2023)
- International Student Chair, Department of Communication (2020–2022)
- Alumni Mentor, Center for East Asian Studies (2022, 2021, 2019)
- Group Coordinator, Professor Jennifer Pan’s Research Group (2018–2020)
- Student Assistant, State of the Field in Chinese Politics Conference (2018)
- Conference Assistant, Digital Humanities Asia 2018 Summit (2017)

INVITED TALKS

• Stanford University, Stanford Center on China’s Economy and Institutions	May 2023
• UCLA, Department of Communication	Jan 2023
• Northwestern University, Department of Communication Studies	Jan 2023
• The Chinese University of Hong Kong, School of Journalism and Communication	Dec 2022
• City University of Hong Kong, Department of Media and Communication	Dec 2022
• Northwestern University, Computer Vision in the Social Sciences Workshop	Dec 2022
• Dartmouth College, Program in Quantitative Social Science	Dec 2022
• UCSD, China Research Workshop	Dec 2022
• University of Maryland, College of Information Studies	Nov 2022
• University of San Francisco, Department of Economics	Nov 2022
• National University of Singapore, Department of Communications and New Media	Oct 2022
• Chinese Politics Research in Progress Workshop (online)	Apr 2022
• Stanford University, Center for Work, Technology, & Organization	Dec 2021
• Shandong University, School of Journalism and Communication (online)	Nov 2021
• Central South University, ICA 2021 Regional Hub Symposium	May 2021
• Stanford University, Data Science Lab (online)	Feb 2020, Feb 2021
• China Computational Social Science Forum (online)	Jan 2021
• Tsinghua University, The Forum for Frontier Theories and Methods in Political Science	Dec 2020
• United Nations University Institute on Computing and Society, Conversation Series	July 2019

CONFERENCES

- International Communication Association (ICA), Annual Conference 2018, 2020, 2022, 2023
- American Political Science Association (APSA), Annual Conference 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
- International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2) 2020, 2021, 2022
- The Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth), Annual Conference 2023
- International Studies Association (ISA), Annual Conference 2023
- Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) conference 2023
- Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Annual Conference 2022
- National Communication Association (NCA), Annual Conference 2016, 2022
- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE), Annual Conference 2022
- Chinese Internet Research Conference (CIRC), Annual Conference 2018, 2021
- Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), Annual Conference 2021
- The International Journal of Press/Politics (IJPP), Annual Conference 2021
- Multidisciplinary International Symposium on Disinformation in Open Online Media (MISDOOM) 2021
- Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast (ASPAC), Annual Conference 2016

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

- | | |
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| Social Media Lab, Stanford University
Student Affiliate | Stanford, CA
2022–2023 |
| Human Screenome Project, Stanford University
Student Affiliate | Stanford, CA
2017–2023 |
| Stanford Data Science Collaboratory, Stanford University
Student Member | Stanford, CA
2019–2021 |
| School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University
Visiting Scholar | Beijing, China
2020–2021 |
| Japan International Cooperation Agency Research Institute (JICA-RI)
Global Policy Intern | Tokyo, Japan
Jun–Sep, 2016 |
| USC Annenberg Center for the Digital Future
Research Intern | Los Angeles, CA
Jun–Aug, 2014 |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| Bloomberg Businessweek China
Journalist Intern | Beijing, China
Sep–Dec, 2014 |
| Bayer China
CSR Intern | Beijing, China
Dec 2014–May 2015 |
| Ruder Finn Asia
Public Relations Intern | Beijing, China
Sep–Dec, 2013 |
| China News Agency
Journalist Intern, Political News Department | Beijing, China
Jun–Aug, 2013 |

SKILLS

- **Statistical Programming/Markup Languages:** R, Python, Stata, SPSS, \LaTeX , SQL
- **Languages:** Mandarin (Native), English (Proficient), Korean (Intermediate), Japanese (Elementary)
- **Applications:** Tableau, Adobe Creative Suite, Premiere Pro, Final Cut Pro
- **Music:** Guzheng (Level 8 Certificate), Band Performing