

# YINGDAN LU

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Updated: August 2022

## RESEARCH AREAS

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- Substantive: Digital Media, Political Communication, Global Communication, Propaganda, Chinese Politics
- Methods: Computational Methods (Computer Vision, Deep Learning, Automated Text Analysis), Mixed Methods

## EDUCATION

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**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, Andrew G. Walder

**Stanford University** Stanford, CA  
M.A. in East Asian Studies; Advisor: Dr. Larry Diamond 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

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- [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.** (corresponding author), 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

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

## UNDER REVIEW

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- [7] **Lu, Y.**, & Shen, C. (Revise and Resubmit). Unpacking Multimodal Fact-checking: Features and Engagement of Fact-checking Videos on Chinese TikTok (Douyin). *Social Media + Society*.
- [6] Chen, K., **Lu, Y.\***, & Wang, Y. (Revise and Resubmit). Toward an Evidence-Driven Understanding of Digital Trace Research on China. *Information, Communication & Society*. [\*co-first author]
- [5] Chen, A., **Lu, Y.\***, Chen, K., & Ng, A. (Revise and Resubmit). 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*. [\*co-first author]
- [4] Christin, A., & **Lu, Y.** (Revise and Resubmit). The Influencer Pay Gap: Platform Labor Meets Racial Capitalism. *New Media & Society*.
- [3] **Lu, Y.**, & Peng, Y. (Extended abstract accepted, full paper under review). The Mobilizing Power of Visual Media across Cycles of Social Movements. *Political Communication*.
- [2] Peng, Y., **Lu, Y.\***, & Shen, C. (Under Review). An Agenda for Studying Credibility Perceptions of Visual Misinformation. [\*co-first author]
- [1] Pan, J., **Lu, Y.\***, & Chen, A. (Under Review). The Chilling Effect of Decreasing Anonymity on Chinese Social Media. [co-first author]

## SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

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- [3] **Lu, Y.** Fandom, Propaganda and State Mobilization on Chinese Social Media (Dissertation/Book project).
- [2] **Lu, Y.**, Pan, J., Xu, X., & Xu, Y. The Evolution of Propaganda in the Digital Age: Chinese Government Mobilization on Douyin (Manuscript in preparation).
- [1] **Lu, Y.**, Liu, S., & Hancock, J. Computational Approaches to Understanding Credibility in Video-Based Misinformation: An Analysis of Covid-19 Content on TikTok (Manuscript in preparation).

## AWARDS & HONORS

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| • 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

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### External

- National Science Foundation (CNS-2150716), \$500,000, *Student 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 Credit Grant, \$250, *PI* 2020  
Project title: *Echo or Divergence: COVID-19 Discourse on Twitter and Weibo*

### Internal

- 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

- 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

## INVITED TALKS

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- University of California San Diego, 21st Century China Center Dec 2022
- University of San Francisco, Department of Economics Nov 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
- Communication University of China, Chinese Political Communication Forum 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
- Tsinghua University, Political Methodology Workshop Jan 2018

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- [24] Chen, K., **Lu, Y.**, & Wang, Y. (2022, November). *Toward an Evidence-Driven Understanding of Digital Trace Research on China*. Scheduled at National Communication Association (NCA) 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.
- [23] **Lu, Y.**, Pan, J., Xu, X., & Xu, Y. (2022, September). *The Evolution of Propaganda in the Digital Age: Chinese Government Mobilization on Douyin*. Scheduled at American Political Science Association (APSA) 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Exhibition, Montréal, Québec, Canada.
- [22] **Lu, Y.**, Schaefer, J., Park, K., Joo, J., & Pan, J. (2022, September). *How Information Flows from the World to China*. Scheduled at American Political Science Association (APSA) 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Exhibition, Montréal, Québec, Canada.
- [21] **Lu, Y.**, Pan, J., Xu, X., & Xu, Y. (2022, July). *The Evolution of Propaganda in the Digital Age: Chinese Government Mobilization on Douyin*. Presented at 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), Chicago, IL.
- [20] **Lu, Y.**, & Shen, C. (2022, July). *Unpacking Multimodal Fact-Checking: Features and Engagement of Fact-Checking Videos on Chinese TikTok (Douyin)*. Presented at 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), Chicago, IL.
- [19] Christin, A., & **Lu, Y.** (2022, July). *The Influencer Pay Gap: Platform Labor Meets Racial Capitalism*. Presented at Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- [18] **Lu, Y.**, Pan, J., Xu, X., & Xu, Y. (2022, May). *The Evolution of Propaganda in the Digital Age: Chinese Government Mobilization on Douyin*. Presented at 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France.
- [17] **Lu, Y.**, Schaefer, J., Park, K., Joo, J., & Pan, J. (2022, May). *How Information Flows from the World to China*. Presented at 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France.
- [16] **Lu, Y.**, & Shen, C. (2022, May). *Unpacking Multimodal Fact-Checking: Features and Engagement of Fact-Checking Videos on Chinese TikTok (Douyin)*. Presented at 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France.
- [15] **Lu, Y.**, Liu, S., & Hancock, J. (2022, May). *Computational Approaches to Understanding Credibility in Video-Based Misinformation: An Analysis of COVID-19 Content on TikTok*. Presented at 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France.
- [14] Chen, A., **Lu, Y.**, Chen, K., & Ng, A. (2022, May). *Pandemic Nationalism: Use of Government Social Media for Political Information and Belief in COVID-19 Conspiracy Theories in China*. Presented at 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France.
- [13] Chen, K., Zou, S., & **Lu, Y.** (2022, May). *Thanks to My Country's Love!: Examining Nationalist Narratives in COVID Vaccine-Related Videos on Douyin Through Large-Scale Visual and Textual Analysis*. Presented at 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Paris, France.
- [12] **Lu, Y.**, Pan, J., Xu, X., & Xu, Y. (2022, April). *The Evolution of Propaganda in the Digital Age*. Presented at 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Political Science Conference (MPSA), Chicago, IL.
- [11] **Lu, Y.**, & Shen, C. (2021, September). *Unpacking Multimodal Fact-Checking: Features and Engagement of Fact-Checking Videos on Chinese TikTok*. Presented at The 3<sup>rd</sup> Multidisciplinary International Symposium on Disinformation in Open Online Media (MISDOOM), virtual.
- [10] **Lu, Y.**, Pan, J., & Xu, Y. (2021, September). *Public Sentiment on Chinese Social Media During the Emergence of COVID-19*. Presented at the Chinese Politics Mini-Conference at American Political Science Association (APSA) 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Exhibition, virtual.

- [9] **Lu, Y.**, Schaefer, J., Park, K., Joo, J., & Pan, J. (2021, September). *Tale of Two Internets: How Information Flows from the US to Chinese Social Media*. Presented at 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of The International Journal of Press/Politics, virtual.
- [8] Chen, A., **Lu, Y.**, Chen, K., & Ng, A. (2021, September). *Pandemic Nationalism: How Exposure to Government Social Media Affects People's Belief in COVID-19 Conspiracy Theories in China*. Presented at 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of The International Journal of Press/Politics, virtual.
- [7] **Lu, Y.**, & Pan, J. (2021, August). *The Pervasive Presence of Chinese Government Content on Douyin Trending Videos*. Presented at 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), virtual.
- [6] **Lu, Y.**, & Pan, J. (2021, July). *The Pervasive Presence of Chinese Government Content on Douyin Trending Videos*. Presented at 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), virtual.
- [5] **Lu, Y.**, & Pan, J. (2020, September). *Capturing Clicks: How the Chinese Government Uses Clickbait to Compete for Visibility*. Presented at the Chinese Politics Mini-Conference at American Political Science Association (APSA) 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Exhibition, virtual.
- [4] **Lu, Y.**, & Pan, J. (2020, August). *Capturing Clicks: How the Chinese Government Uses Clickbait to Compete for Visibility*. Presented at 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), virtual.
- [3] **Lu, Y.**, & Pan, J. (2020, May). *Capturing Clicks: How the Chinese Government Uses Clickbait to Compete for Visibility*. Presented at 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), virtual.
- [2] **Lu, Y.**, Muise D., Pan, J., & Reeves, B. (2018, May). *Micro-Level Natural Interaction with Information Systems: An International Screenshot Comparison*. Presented at 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Prague, Czech Republic.
- [1] **Lu, Y.**, & Yu, X. (2016, November). *Public Intellectuals Deliberation on Chinese Weibo: Case Study of School-Bus Safety Incident*. Presented at National Communication Association (NCA) 102th Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

## TEACHING

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### Teaching Assistant

**COMM 1: Introduction to Communication**, Stanford University

Fall 2019–2020

Instructor: Prof. Jeff Hancock

- Independently taught weekly tutorial sections on communication theories and social media research
- Managed online quizzes, exams, and grading on Canvas

**COMM 206: Communication Research Methods**, Stanford University

Winter 2019–2020

Instructor: Dr. Anna Gibson

- Independently taught weekly tutorial sections on R programming and quantitative data analysis
- Mentored student class projects and managed grading on Canvas

### Guest Lectures

**Introduction to Computational Social Science**

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

July 2022

**Social Media Analytics**, University of Wisconsin–Madison

*Rethinking Life on Screens: Measuring Smartphone Activities Through Screenomics*

March 2022

**Social Media Analytics**, University of Wisconsin–Madison

*Capturing Clicks: How the Chinese Government Uses Clickbait to Compete for Visibility*

Nov 2020

<b>Natural Language Processing</b> , University of San Francisco <i>Capturing Clicks: How the Chinese Government Uses Clickbait to Compete for Visibility</i>	Nov 2020
<b>Comparative Journalism Studies</b> , Tsinghua University <i>Image as Data: Automated Visual Analysis in Studying Digital Media</i>	Nov 2020

## ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

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### **Founder, COMputation Island**

An online platform for computational communication research (CCR) on WeChat (10,000+ followers) 2021–present

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

### **Co-chaired panel “Video-as-Data in Computational Communication”**

72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA) May 2022

- Proposed this panel with Prof. Kaiping Chen from University of Wisconsin–Madison.
- Invited international scholars from ten institutions to share their frontier works with analysis of large-scale video datasets in political and science communication.

### **Co-chaired panel “Propaganda in the Computational Age: Disinformation and Beyond”**

70<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA) May 2020

- Proposed this panel with Prof. King-wa Fu from the University of Hong Kong.
- Invited international scholars from seven institutions to present their frontier works on computational propaganda and disinformation in political communication.

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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### **Ad-hoc Journal and Conference Reviewer (in alphabetical order)**

*American Journal of Political Science*  
*Asian Studies Review*  
*Chinese Journal of Communication*  
*Computational Communication Research*  
*International Communication Association Annual Conference*  
*International Conference on Social Media & Society*  
*New Media & Society*  
*PLoS ONE*  
*Political Research Quarterly*  
*The Journal of Politics*

**Institute for Research in the Social Sciences, Stanford University** 2019–present  
 Department Liaison

**Department of Communication, Stanford University** 2020–2022  
 International Student Chair

**Center for East Asian Studies, Stanford University** 2021, 2019  
 Alumni Mentor for the Careers in Academia Event

<b>Professor Jennifer Pan's Lab, Stanford University</b> Group Coordinator	2018–2020
<b>State of the Field in Chinese Politics Conference, Stanford University</b> Student Assistant	2018
<b>Digital Humanities Asia 2018 Summit, Stanford University</b> Conference Assistant	2017–2018

## OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

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

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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

## SKILLS

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- **Statistical Programming/Markup Languages:** R, Python, Stata, SPSS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, 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

## REFERENCES

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### **Jennifer Pan (Ph.D. Advisor)**

Associate Professor of Communication  
Department of Communication, Stanford University  
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### **Jeff Hancock**

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### **Cuihua (Cindy) Shen**

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