Si Wu 吴斯

siwu1@bu.edu | Personal website | March 2024

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative politics, authoritarianism, political economy, development, gender, China, mixed-method research design

DISSERTATION & DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

"From Control to Choice: Women, Work, and Power in China's New Birth Planning Regime"
Rachel Brulé, Joseph Fewsmith, Taylor Boas, Susan Greenhalgh (Harvard University)

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

Comparative Politics, Political Methodology (Passed in September 2022)

EDUCATION

- Boston University, PhD in Political Science, Boston, MA. — Sept. 2020 – May 2026
- Northeastern University, MA in Journalism, Boston, MA. — Jan. 2018 – May 2020
- Durham University, Postgraduate Certificate in Education, Durham, U.K. — Sept. 2016 – June 2017
- Imperial College London, BSc in Physics, London, U.K. — Sept. 2013 – June 2016

PUBLICATIONS

Summer in the Field: Women, Work and Politics in China's New Era of Family Planning (October 2023). *BU Global Development Policy Center*.

- Key words: political economy; gender inequality; family planning; one-child policy.

Geometry of Graph Partitions via Optimal Transport (October 2020). *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing*. (With Tara Abrishami, Nestor Guillen, Parker Rule, Zachary Schutzman, Justin Solomon, and Thomas Weighill.) ArXiv: 1910.09618.

- Key words: political districting plans; partitions; optimal transport; network flows.

Democrats 'went low' on Twitter leading up to 2018 (February 2019). *Roll Call*. (With Aleszu Bajak).

- Key words: Twitter data; sentiment analysis; machine learning; Senate candidates.

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS (*denotes funding not included in the standard PhD package)

Boston University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship ($6,000)* — 2023
Boston University Global Development Policy Center, Summer in the Field Fellowship ($6,000)* — 2023
Boston University Hariri Institute for Computing, Graduate Student Fellowship ($7,500)* — 2020
Boston University, Dean's Fellowship — 2020-2021
Northeastern University, Graduate Student Scholarship ($12,897) — 2018-2020

WORKING PAPERS

"State-Driven Divergence: China's Universal Two-Child Policy and Gender Dynamics in State-owned and Private Enterprises"
"Understanding the All-China Women's Federation in China's New Birth Planning Era"

WORK EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow, Boston University — Sept. 2021 – Present
- Served as a Teaching Fellow for the following courses: Introduction to Comparative Politics; Introduction to International Relations; Data Science for Politics; Introduction to Public Policy.

Racial Policy Tracker, Center for Antiracist Research at Boston University — June 2021 – Aug. 2021
- Analyzed COVID mortality data with modelling techniques.
- Collected data on minority representation in U.S. politics.

Research Assistant, Boston University — July 2020 – Aug. 2020
- Researched for Professors Maxwell Palmer and Dino Christenson.
- Collected Twitter data, scraped the web, and analyzed districting plans and financial donations.

Data Visualization Intern, Harvard Data Science Initiative — Sept. 2019 – Dec. 2019
- Developed data visualizations to effectively communicate data science concepts.
- Helped with conference planning and website design for the Harvard Data Science Review Inaugural Symposium.

Data Science Research Fellow, MIT/Tufts University — June 2019 – Aug. 2019
- Researched for the Metric Geometry and Gerrymandering Group (MGGG Redistricting Lab).
- Coauthored "Geometry of Graph Partitions via Optimal Transport" in *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing*.
- Compiled figures with census data and GIS shapefiles by applying math techniques such as Markov Chain Monte Carlo, multi-objective optimization, transport distances and network.
- Developed JavaScript projects for data visualization and outreach.

Researcher, Northeastern's School of Journalism — April 2018 – May 2019
- Collected Twitter and Reddit data with Python and R.
- Applied machine learning techniques on tweets from midterm election candidates to predict positive/negative sentiment.
- Wrote articles on machine learning, data journalism, and augmented reality.

Teaching Assistant, Northeastern University — Sept. 2018 – Nov. 2018
- Taught students how to write leads and nut graphs in news stories.
- Assisted students on Associated Press style of writing and grammar.

CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Harvard-MIT-BU Chinese Politics Research Workshop, Center for Government and International Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA — April 2022; Oct. 2023
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, IL — April 2023
The Empirical Study of Gender Research Network (EGEN), Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA — Sept. 2022
Northeastern University Visualization Consortium (NUVis), Boston, MA — Dec. 2018

SERVICE

Harvard-MIT-BU Chinese Politics Research Workshop — 2022 – Present
- BU Coordinator

Hariri Institute for Computing, Boston University — 2020 – 2022
- "Did you know you could…?" series co-coordinator and host

MEDIA COVERAGE

Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Boston University — July 2023
- "Doctoral students return home for summer research"

Hariri Institute for Computing, Boston University — April 2021
- "Graduate Student Fellow Hopes to Apply Data Journalism Skills to Study Inequalities"

College of Arts, Media and Design, Northeastern University — Nov. 2019
- "Si Wu, Journalism Graduate Student, Uses Data to Help Others Understand Political Redistricting"

News@Northeastern, Northeastern University — March 2019
- "Democrats who won 2018 midterms were more negative than Republicans on Twitter, research finds"

INVITED TALKS

Hariri Institute for Computing, Graduate Student Alumni and Networking Event — Sept. 2023

FIELD RESEARCH

Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Guangzhou, Zhaoqing, Yunfu, Meizhou, Chaozhou in Guangdong, China; Beijing, China — 2023-2024

SKILLS

- Languages: English (fluent), Chinese (native), Korean (beginner).
- Computing Skills: Python, R, GIS, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, and LaTeX.