

Si Wu 吴斯

siwu1@bu.edu | <https://si-wu.com/> | May 2025

RESEARCH INTERESTS

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

DISSERTATION

From Control to Choice: Women, Work, and Power in China's New Birth Planning Regime

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

Comparative Politics, Political Methodology (Passed in September 2022)

EDUCATION

- Boston University, PhD in Political Science, Boston, MA. Sept. 2020 – Aug. 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, the Center for Innovation in Social Science (CISS), Dissertation Honorable Mention Award (\$1,000)*	2025
Boston University, The Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future, Graduate Summer Fellowship (\$6,500)*	2024
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

WORKING PAPERS

Market Reform and Gender Norms: How the End of China's One-Child Policy Reshaped Women's Employment in Private and State Sectors

- Manuscript in progress

From Reproduction to Protection? Shifting Discourses of the All-China Women's Federation on Birth Planning and Domestic Violence

- Manuscript in progress

Examining the Political Geography of the Gender Gap: The Case of Guangzhou, China

- Data collection stage

The End of China's One-Child Policy and Gendered Labor Dynamics: A Sectoral Comparison Across Education, E-Commerce, Finance, and Logistics (With Roselyn Hsueh)

- Data collection stage

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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

American Political Science Association (APSA), Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	Sept. 2025 (scheduled)
Topics in Politics (TIPS) Workshop, Department of Political Science, Boston University, Boston, MA	April 2025
Association for Asian Studies (AAS), Columbus, OH	March 2025
Harvard-MIT-BU Chinese Politics Research Workshop, Center for Government and International Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA	April 2022; Oct. 2023; Nov. 2024
American Political Science Association (APSA), Philadelphia, PA	Sept. 2024
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

The Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future, Boston University	2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate Summer Fellowship Application Reviewer 	
Topics in Politics (TIPS) Workshop, BU Department of Political Science	2024 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizing Committee Member 	
Harvard-MIT-BU Chinese Politics Research Workshop	2022 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BU Coordinator 	
Hariri Institute for Computing, Boston University	2020 – 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Did you know you could...?” series co-coordinator and host 	

MEDIA COVERAGE

Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Boston University	July 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Doctoral students return home for summer research” 	
Hariri Institute for Computing, Boston University	April 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Graduate Student Fellow Hopes to Apply Data Journalism Skills to Study Inequalities” 	
College of Arts, Media and Design, Northeastern University	Nov. 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Si Wu, Journalism Graduate Student, Uses Data to Help Others Understand Political Redistricting” 	
News@Northeastern, Northeastern University	March 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Democrats who won 2018 midterms were more negative than Republicans on Twitter, research finds” 	

INVITED TALKS

The Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future, Graduate Summer Fellow Lightning Talk Oct. 2024
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 in speaking, reading, writing), Chinese (fluent in speaking, reading, writing, and in both Mandarin and Cantonese), Korean (beginner).
- Computing Skills: Python, R, GIS, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, and LaTeX.

REFERENCES

Taylor C. Boas

Professor of Political Science and Latin American Studies
Department Chair
Department of Political Science
Boston University
tboas@bu.edu

Rachel Brulé

Associate Professor of Global Development Policy
Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies
Boston University
rebrule@bu.edu

Roselyn Hsueh

Professor of Political Science
Department of Political Science
Temple University
rhsueh@temple.edu

Rosella Cappella Zielinski

Associate Professor of Political Science
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Political Science
Boston University
cappella@bu.edu

Joseph Fewsmith

Professor of International Relations and Political Science
Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies
Boston University
fewsmith@bu.edu