

Si Wu 吴斯

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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

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| • 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

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

“The End of China’s One-child Policy and the Gender Gap in Employment”

“Understanding the All-China Women’s Federation in China’s New Birth Planning Era”

“Understanding Local Political Agents’ Tactics: A Case Study of China’s Birth Planning Policies”

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

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, IL April 2023

The Empirical Study of Gender Research Network (EGEN), Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA Sept. 2022

Harvard-MIT-BU Chinese Politics Research Workshop, Center for Government and International Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA April 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
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SKILLS

- Languages: English (fluent), Chinese (native), Korean (beginner).
- Computing Skills: Python, R, GIS, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, and LaTeX.
- Software: GitHub, Final Cut Pro, WordPress, Tableau.

