

Xu Yekai

Curriculum Vitae

Doctoral Student
Interdisciplinary Information Studies
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EDUCATION

- Sept. 2021 – **University of Tokyo**([UTokyo](#)), Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies,
Aug. 2025 Interdisciplinary Information Studies, PhD.
◦ Supervisors: [Prof. Maeda Yukio](#), [Prof. Kenneth McElwain](#)
◦ Funded by China Scholarship Council
- Aug. 2023 – **Yale University**, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, International and
May 2024 Area Studies, Fox Fellow.
◦ Funded by the Fox International Fellowship at Yale.
- Sept. 2018 – **Tsinghua University**, Tsinghua-Berkeley Shenzhen Institute ([TBSI](#)), Data Science and
Jun. 2021 Information Technology, Master of Science.
◦ GPA for degree courses: 3.75/4.00, GPA for all courses: 3.81/4.00
◦ Topics: *Big Data Analysis*, *Computational Social Sciences*
◦ Supervisors: [Prof. Ni Shiguang](#), [Prof. Somayeh Sojoudi](#)
◦ Visiting Researcher (Sept. 2019 – Jan. 2020): Tsinghua International Relations Data & Computing Lab ([DCL](#))
– Topic: *Social Media (Twitter) Data Analysis for International Relations Study*
– Supervisors: [Dr. He Qingqian](#)
◦ Teaching Assistant Experience: *Big Data: Thinking and Behaviour* (2020 Fall, [Website](#))
- Sept. 2014 – **Tianjin University** ([TJU](#)), School of Electrical and Information Engineering, Automation,
Jul. 2018 Bachelor of Engineering.
◦ Average Score: 91.89/100, GPA: 3.87/4.00; Ranking: 3/157
- Sept. 2017 – **École Centrale de Nantes** ([ECN](#)), Exchange Student, Signal, Control and Robotics,
May 2018 Foundation Master.
◦ Average Score: 17.95/20, A in all nine courses

Honours and Scholarships

- 2023 Yale Fox International Fellowship **USD 1,510/month+Flights/Housing/Research Funding**
- 2021 China Scholarship Council Doctoral Scholarship **JPY 170,000/month**
- 2020 First-Class Scholarship of Tsinghua Shenzhen International Graduate School **CNY 4,000**
- 2018 Tianjin University Outstanding Graduate
- 2017 Meritorious Winner of 2017 Mathematical & Interdisciplinary Contest for Modeling (MCM/ICM)
- 2017 Challenge Cup (Social Sciences): Third Prize of Tianjin University
- 2016 Zhuangbinchang Scholarship **CNY 10,000**

PUBLICATIONS

(*: Advisor; †: Co-first author)

- [1] **Xu, Y.**, & Xie, Z. Youth Diplomacy: Theory and Practice. *Under Review*.

- [2] **Xu, Y.**, Xie, M., & Han, T. Politextpy: A Toolkit for Analyzing Media Political Discourse. *Under Review*.
- [3] **Xu, Y.** (2024). A Study on the Effect of Mainstream Dramas and TV News on an Overseas Video Platform in Constructing Country Image. *Communication Innovation Research*, 7, 171-189. ([Paper in Chinese](#))
- [4] **Xu, Y.**, & Xie, M.† (2022). Chinese IT Companies under U.S.-China Trade War: A Computational Political Communication Perspective. *IADIS International Journal on WWW/Internet*, 20(1), 33-46. ([Paper](#))
- [5] **Xu, Y.**, He, Q.*, & Ni, S.* (2020, November). Understanding Online Public Sentiments: A Machine Learning-Based Analysis of English and Chinese Twitter Discourse during the 2019 Chinese National Day. In *2020 2nd International Multidisciplinary Information Technology and Engineering Conference (IMITEC)* (pp. 1-9). IEEE. ([Project Home Page](#)) ([Slides](#)) ([Paper](#)) ([Code Release](#)) [[Best Presentation Award \(1st Prize\)](#) at the 2020 TKT CAMPUS Asia Research Symposium]
- [6] He, Q., **Xu, Y.**, Yu W., Liu J. (2022, July). Agriculture and International Water Conflict in Asia: An Analysis Based on Remote Sensing Data. In *IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium (IGARSS 2022)* (pp. 7938-7941). IEEE. ([Paper](#))
- [7] Lin, Y., Gu, Y., **Xu, Y.**, Hou, S., Ding, R., & Ni, S.* (2022). Autistic Spectrum Traits Detection and Early Screening: A Machine Learning Based Eye Movement Study. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing*, 35(1), 83-92. ([Paper](#))
- [8] Xiong, Q., Ni, S.*, **Xu, Y.**, Zhang, Q., & Peng, K. (2019, June). Privacy-Friendly Personality Recognition in Social Media: A Case Study of Chinese WeChat Users. In *International Conference on Applications and Techniques in Cyber Security and Intelligence* (pp. 2013-2025). Springer, Cham. ([Paper](#))

Academic Presentations

- Jul. 2024 **Xu, Y.** How Nationalist Narratives Generate, Circulate, and Reinforce in Mass and Social Media: A Study of South Korean Discourse on South Korea-Japan Relations. To be presented at *the Pacific International Politics Conference (PIPC) 2024*. Seoul, South Korea.
- May 2024 **Xu, Y.**, & He, Q. China's Image in East European Countries: A Study Based on Massive YouTube Data. Presented at *the 2024 Tsinghua Forum on Communicating EU-China Relations*. Beijing, China.
- Feb. 2024 **Xu, Y.** Social Media Linking History and Reality: How Online Discourse Shapes Perceptions on South Korea-Japan Relationship. *The 23rd East-West Center International Graduate Student Conference*. Honolulu, The US.
- Jul. 2022 **Xu, Y.**, & Sun, C. An Analysis of Overseas Media's Attitudes towards China from A Framing Theory's Perspective – Taking the Coverages of Two China-related Controversial Events as Examples. Presented at *the 15th Chinese Conference of Communication Studies*. Suzhou, China ([Slides](#)) [[Outstanding Thesis Award](#)]
- Dec. 2020 **Xu, Y.**, Xie M. Country Image and Related Propaganda on the Internet: Evidence from Twitter and BBC. *The 12th Postgraduate Forum of Journalism and Communication Studies of Anhui Province*. Hefei, China. [[Second Prize](#)]
- Jul. 2021 Xie, M., & **Xu, Y.** Framing an Ultimate War via Political Terminology: How Thucydides Trap Gained Its Power. *International Association for Media and Communication Research / Conference 2021*. Nairobi, Kenya.

Project

Sept. 2021 – **The National Social Science Fund of China: Youth Project 2021**, *A big data-based study on the new trends in the development of European right-wing populism during the COVID-19 epidemic and China's response*, Director: [Prof. He Qingqian](#), Project Number: 21CGJ025.

Served as Reviewer

[1] Journal of Computational Social Science.

[2] Communication Innovation Research.

INTERNSHIPS

Dec. 2020 – **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (Beijing)**, *Portfolio Management Analyst Consultant*.
Aug. 2021

– Supervised by Mr. Henry Bell, Senior Secretariat Officer, and Chenhui Li, Portfolio Management Associate

- Utilizing topic models and keyword extraction techniques to provide insights into the knowledge accumulated during previous investment operations.
- Applying text analysis algorithms to help establish an operational database, and realizing automated categorization for key information.
- Forecasting approval dates, investment operations, etc., with models including Decision Trees and Neural Networks.

May 2020 – **The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP, Bangkok->Remote Internship)**, *Economic Affairs Intern* ([Certificate](#)).
Nov. 2020

– Supervised by Ms. Marta Pérez Cusó, Economic Affairs Officer of Technology and Innovation Section

- Completing a policy brief on creating an enabling environment for inclusive businesses in the health sector.
 - Organizing the Webinar on Promoting Grassroots Innovation ([Website](#)).
 - Working with the Myanmar government to create a training program for STI policy formulation.
- Funded by the Graduate Student Global Competence Fund of Tsinghua SIGS (CNY 4,000)

May 2019 – **Guangdong OPPO Mobile Telecommunications Corp., Ltd. (Shenzhen)**, *Mobile Phone Software Development Intern* ([Certificate](#)).
Jun. 2019

– Supervised by Mr. Mo Siting, Engineer of Mobile Phone Software Department

- Testing the new CuttleFish emulator for Android 10, and making preparatory work for the company's adopting of the new Android system in the future.

Jun. 2018 – **Cloopen Group Holding Limited (Beijing)**, *Algorithm Intern* ([Certificate](#)).
Aug. 2018

– Supervised by Mr. Zeng Guoqing, Head of Technical Pre-Research Department

- Developing face detection and gesture recognition algorithms for new products of the company.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Feb. 2022 – G20 Youth Summit 2022 (Y20) | **Chinese Youth Delegate**

Sept. 2022 *Priority area: Digital transformation.* [[Communiqué](#)][[CGTN Interview](#)]

Sept. 2021 – Tsinghua SIGS | **Peer Career Adviser** [[Certificate](#)]

Sharing my experiences one-on-one with students and providing career advice.

Jul. 2021 The 9th World Peace Forum | **Student observer**

Topic: International security cooperation in the post-pandemic era: Upholding and practicing multilateralism.

Aug. 2020 & European Forum Alpbach | **Participant with scholarship (1/22 from Mainland China)** [[Certificate](#)]

Aug. 2022 *Funded by Elsevier, attended seminars on geopolitics, disinformation, and technology.*

Feb. 2019 Academic Visit to the US | **UC Berkeley, NYU, Columbia Univ.**

Exchanging ideas about psychology, social work, and computational methods.

Aug. 2016 ZhiMeng Project | **A volunteer organization helping high school students in poor counties**

Participant of the first teaching program, offering 34 Chinese and English classes, plus 3 seminars.

- 2016 – 2017 New Media Center of the School of Electrical Engineering and Automation | **Chairman**
The founding chairman, operating the school's social media account and making the number of followers of the official WeChat account increase by 70%. [[Certificate](#)]
- 2014 – 2017 Peiyang English Association of Tianjin University | **From Member to Chairman**
Conducting flattening reform to make the association more dynamic. [[Certificate](#)]
- 2014 – 2015 Peiyang Symphony Orchestra | **Member of the Bass Part**
- 2014 – 2015 Entrepreneurship Association of Tianjin University | **Member**

OTHER ASPECTS

- Languages Mandarin Chinese (native speaker); English (TOEFL 112, Jun. 2020); Japanese (N1 Level); French (beginner); and Korean (beginner)
- Programming Python, R, HTML, etc.
- CAD Computer-aided Design: Grade I
- BCF Global Career Development Facilitator ([Certificate](#)), Beisen Career Facilitator ([Certificate](#))
- Coursera Public Policy Challenges of the 21st Century (May 2020, [Certificate](#))
 Political Economy of Institutions and Development (Dec. 2019, [Certificate](#))
 Understanding International Relations Theory (Jun. 2019, [Certificate](#))
- Personal **Foreign Culture and Languages:** *Learning French and Japanese.*
- Interests **Travelling:** *Have traveled to 12 European countries during my exchange in France.*
Musical Instrument: *Keyboard Nonprofessional Grade 9 (top grade of the Central Conservatory of Music Examination System) with Excellence.*