

# Chuyao (Julian) WANG

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[LSE Departmental Profile \(Link\)](#)

## Education

### London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Ph.D. in Social Research Methods, Department of Methodology

2022-26

Ph.D. Affiliate, LSE Data Science Institute ([DSI](#))

Supervisors: Patrick Sturgis F.B.A. and Daniel De Kadt

### Yale University

Visiting Assistant in Research, Department of Political Science, Advisor: Joshua Kalla

2025

### Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)

M.Phil. in Social Science

2020-22

Committee: Han Zhang (Supervisor), David Hendry (Chair), Haohan Chen

M.Sc. in Global China Studies, with Dean's Award

2019-20

### Shandong University

B.A. in History (Economic History)

2016-20

Exchange Study: UCLA; University of Hong Kong

## Summer Institutes

2nd Oxford Large Language Models Workshop for Social Science ([Oxford LLMs 2024](#)), University of Oxford

2024

4th Summer Institute in Computational Social Science ([SICSS 2021](#)), HKUST

2021

## Research Overview

**Interest:** Computational Social Science; AI for Social Sciences; Political Communication; AI Governance; Survey Experiment

**Publications:** 7 papers, including 5 as sole or first author, and 5 as corresponding author (partially overlapping)

**Status:** All papers are published, under review, or in preparation for submission to SSCI Q1 journals.

**Key Submissions:** First-author manuscripts are currently under review at *PNAS* and in preparation for *Nature Human Behaviour*.

## Publication

[1] Panacea or Pandora's Box: Diverse Governance Strategies to Conspiracy Theories and Their Consequences in China

*Humanities and Social Sciences Communications* (a Nature Portfolio journal), 2025; IF = 3.6, SSCI Q1

Co-first and corresponding author, with Ming Ma and Feng Han

Published on [nature.com](#); highlighted by LSE DSI on [LinkedIn](#) and [X](#)

- Analyzed authoritarian strategies for managing conspiracy theories (CTs) through propagation, tolerance, and partial rebuttal
- Combined social network analysis, topic modeling, and qualitative analysis of 46,387 Weibo posts across three cases
- Found that diverse CT governance strategies mobilize public opinion but risk backlash, loss of control, and adverse effects

## Under Review

[2] AI labeling reduces the perceived accuracy of online content but has limited broader effects

First and corresponding author; submitted to *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*; IF = 9.1, SSCI Q1

Job Market Paper, full text available at [arXiv](#)

- Examined the scope of AI labeling (disclosing AI authorship) effects on public evaluation of policy articles
- Designed a 2 × 2 × 2 survey experiment among a nationally representative, high-quality sample of 3,861 in Great Britain
- Revealed AI labeling reduced information credibility and policy interest, but not policy support or misinformation concern

### [3] **Bureaucrat-Expert Collaboration in Large Language Model Adoption: An Institutional Logic Perspective on China**

**Second author**, under review at *Government Information Quarterly*; IF = 10.0, SSCI Q1

- Conducted a case study of LLM adoption by a Chinese local government to categorize and address citizen complaints
- Identified how conflicting bureaucratic control and technical standards created tensions in LLM development
- Analyzed how cross-sector negotiations shaped model choice, data security, and censorship integration in LLM governance

### Selected Working Papers

#### [4] **Enhancing Public Deliberation with Socially Aligned Prompt Engineering of Human-LLM Conversations**

First author; in preparation for *Nature Human Behaviour*; IF = 15.9, SSCI Q1

- Investigated how effective and trustworthy human-LLM conversations can enhance public deliberation
- Designed a personalized, dynamic, and multi-strategy conversational survey experiment with prompt engineering

#### [5] **Advancing Heterogeneous Treatment Effect Analysis with Tailored Machine Learning and Causal Inference**

Sole author; in progress for *Political Analysis*; IF = 5.4, SSCI Q1

- Combined machine learning and causal inference methods on a probability sample of 3,861 with 235 covariates
- Advanced heterogeneous treatment effects of AI labeling on public opinion beyond the oversimplified subgroup analysis

#### [6] **Governing Online Political Discourse: A Social Simulation of Self-Censorship using Large Language Models**

Second and corresponding author; manuscript for *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*; IF = 13.3, SSCI Q1

- Applied LLM-based annotation on 343,764 tweets and counterfactual simulation (Difference-in-Differences with policy shock)
- Demonstrated how governance dynamics induce online self-censorship through collective adaptation and social learning

#### [7] **Framing Trump in Chinese and US News: A Computational Visual Analysis of Political Bias**

Sole author; manuscript for *International Journal of Press/Politics*; IF = 4.3, SSCI Q1

- Applied machine learning on emotional profiling of 257,056 images to compare bias in the visual framing of Trump
- Found Chinese nationalist media portray Trump as more negative, less masculine, and less trustworthy than Western outlets

### Selected Grants and Awards

Total Amount Received: US\$ 1,050,000, or £ 858,000, or HK\$ 8,210,000

**Research Grants:** 6 grants (4 external and 2 university level), all awarded as the sole Principal Investigator (PI)

**Research and Impact Support Fund (Artificial Intelligence Spotlight Call), £ 4,817, LSE** 2024-25

Top 16 student awardees in the inaugural cohort across all departments, highlighted by LSE: [World-leading AI research](#)

**OpenAI's Researcher Access Program, US\$ 5,000, OpenAI** 2024-25

Tailored ChatGPT API for social sciences, e.g., how biased AI responses mislead individual attitudes to policy

Google Cloud Research Credits, US\$ 1,000, Google 2024-25

ACM WebSci24 Student Grant, € 500, Association for Computing Machinery 2024

Research and Dissertation Grant, HK\$ 90,000, Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) [Declined] 2022-26

**SICSS Research Grant**, Social Science Research Council (SSRC), USA 2021

Top 25 awardees among 21 sites worldwide, highlighted by SSRC: [SICSS Research Grantees](#)

### Selected Academic Awards

Information Technology and Politics Section Travel Grant, \$ 250, APSA 2024

Postgraduate Travel Fund, £ 1,000, LSE 2024

Ph.D. Academy Micro-Internship Award, £ 1,000, LSE 2023

**LSE Ph.D. Studentship, £ 170,000, LSE** (80 Places across All Departments) 2022-26

**Hong Kong Ph.D. Fellowship, HK\$ 1,010,000, Research Grant Council** (Highest All-Discipline Award) [Declined] 2022-25

**Computational Social Science (CSS) Ph.D. Fellowship, HK\$ 210,000, CUHK CSS Lab** [Declined] 2022-26

Vice-Chancellor's Ph.D. Scholarship, HK\$ 80,000, CUHK [Declined] 2022-26

## Teaching

### Teaching Interests

**Methodological:** Computational Social Science; AI for Social Sciences; Survey Experiment; Research Design; Network Modeling

**Substantive:** AI and Society; Political Communication; Public Policy Analysis; Digital Governance; AI Policy and Ethics

### Teaching Experiences

LSE Graduate MY464 - Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Media and Communications

HKUST Undergraduate SOSOC1470 - Political and Economic Development of Modern Japan (Twice)

HKUST Undergraduate SOSOC1190 - China and the World (Twice)

## Peer-Reviewed Conference Acceptances

### Computational Social Science

Oxford Internet Institute Summer Doctoral Program (with UC Berkeley Information School; SDP 2025)

International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2 2024)

Association for Computing Machinery Web Science Conference (ACM WebSci 2024)

### Political Science

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (APSA 2025)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (APSA 2024)

Annual Conference of European Political Science Association (EPSA 2025)

Annual Meeting of Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth 2025)

Annual Meeting of Society for Political Methodology, Europe (PolMeth Europe 2025)

### Communication

Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA 2025)

National Communication Association Annual Convention (NCA 2024)

Chinese Internet Research Conference (CIRC 2022)

### Sociology

Annual Conference of American Sociological Association (ASA 2025)

## Services

**Journal Reviewer:** *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*

**Conference Reviewer:** IC2S2 2025, IC2S2 2024; ICA 2025, ICA 2024; NCA 2024

**Founding Member,** Inaugural Organizing Committee, Ph.D. Affiliate Network, LSE DSI

2025-26

**Presenter,** Ph.D. Affiliate Lightning Talk, LSE DSI

2025

## Research Training, Skills and Languages

**Methodological Training:** Survey Experiment, Applied Machine Learning, Visual Analytics, Econometrics, Network Modeling

**Substantive Training:** AI in Social Sciences, Political Communication, Comparative Politics, Social Protest, Social Stratification

**Programming and Software:** R, Python, Cloud Computing (Google Vision and Google Colab), Stata, Gephi,  $\text{\LaTeX}$

**Languages:** English and Chinese - Advanced proficiency (research and teaching)