Menglin (Miley) Liu

530-761-6139 | mliliu@ucdavis.edu | https://menglinmileyliu.github.io/index.html

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis — Davis, CA
PhD, Political Science — *Sept. 2019 –*
Exchange Student, Political Science — *Sept. 2017 – June 2018*

Beijing Foreign Studies University — Beijing, China
Bachelor of Arts in English Literature — *Sept. 2015 – June 2019*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- American Politics: state and local politics, urban politics, public policy
- Comparative Politics: housing politics and political opinion
- Methodology: data mining, text analysis, large language models

RESEARCH

Book Chapters

- **Menglin Liu** and Xu Shan. 2021. "China: Diversion, Ingratiation, and Victimization." In *Political Communication and COVID-19: Governance and Rhetoric in Times of Crisis.* Routledge.
- **Menglin Liu** and Xu Shan. Forthcoming. "Unraveling Crisis Communication: Assessing Strategies in China's COVID-19 Pandemic." In *Risk Communication and COVID-19 Governmental Communication and Management of the Pandemic.* Routledge.

Articles

- **Menglin Liu**. "The Varied Impact of Direct Democracy on Local Housing Policies: Unraveling the Role of Socioeconomic Context." *Revision and Resubmit at American Politics Research.*
- **Menglin Liu** and Ang Liu. "Homeownership and Redistribution Support: Unveiling the Unique Effect Among State-Owned Enterprise Employees in China." *Revision and Resubmit at Cities.*
- **Menglin Liu** and Ang Liu. "Does Homeownership Influence Political Participation? Evidence from Survey Data in Contemporary China." *Under Review at Political Behavior.*
- **Menglin Liu** and Ge Shi. "PoliPrompt: A High-Performance Cost-Effective LLM-Based Text Classification Framework for Political Science." *Under Review at Political Analysis*

Working Papers

- **Menglin Liu**. "From Categories to Spectrums: Improved PoliPrompt for Ordinal Classification." (Selected: SPSA (CWC: Generative Language Models in Political Science Research) 2025)
- **Menglin Liu** and Ge Shi. "Visual Language Model for Document Question Answering in Political Science"
- **Menglin Liu**. "The Fiscal Impact of Transitioning to District-Based Elections: Evidence from California."
- **Menglin Liu** and Yuyang Pu. "Blame Attribution in Authoritarian Regimes: A Survey Experiment in China." (Selected: APSA 2022)
- **Menglin Liu** and Ginger Alonso. "District Elections and Substantive Representation in Local Government: A Closer Look at Environmental Justice."

SOFTWARE PACKAGE

- **PoliPrompt** (PyPI — GitHub)

PoliPrompt is a Python package developed to make large language models a reliable tool for text classification in political science. It offers automatic prompt optimization and dynamic exemplar selection, making advanced text analysis accessible to political scientists and social science researchers, especially those without programming expertise. By leveraging a three-stage framework, PoliPrompt minimizes the need for manual intervention, reducing learning costs and increasing research efficiency.
Key features include:

- **Automatic Prompt Optimization**: Automates the generation of optimized prompts, ensuring higher model performance with minimal user input.

- **Dynamic Exemplar Selection**: Selects the most relevant examples in real-time to improve the accuracy of few-shot learning inference.

- **Consensus Mechanism**: Mimics multi-coder evaluations on a dataset to identify potential inconsistencies

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Undergraduate Courses
  - **Instructor**
    - Scientific Study of Politics, University of California, Davis:
      - 2024 Summer Session One
      - 2022 Spring (Section Instructor)
      - 2021 Summer Session One (Section Instructor)
      - 2021 Spring (Section Instructor)
    - Group Politics, University of California, Davis:
      - 2024 Spring
    - Introduction to American Politics, University of California, Davis:
      - 2023 Winter
      - 2023 Summer Session One
      - 2022 Summer Session One
  - **Guest Lecturer**
    - Contemporary U.S. Politics, Siena College, 2023 Spring
  - **Teaching Assistant**
    - American Political Development, University of California, Davis:
      - 2021 Winter (TA for Dr. Joel Landis)
    - Introduction to American Politics, University of California, Davis
      - 2024 Fall (TA for Professor Scott MacKenzie)
    - National Security Policy, University of California, Davis:
      - 2022 Winter (TA for Dr. Sarah Prince)
    - Political Psychology, University of California, Davis:
      - 2024 Winter (TA for Professor Cheryl Boudreau)
      - 2023 Spring (TA for Professor Cheryl Boudreau)
    - Public Sector Politics, University of California, Davis:
      - 2021 Fall (TA for Professor Adrienne Hosek)
      - 2020 Fall (TA for Professor Adrienne Hosek)
- Graduate Courses
  - **Instructor**
    - Summer Session on Nation Governance and Public Policy: Introduction to American Local Politics and Public Policy, Renmin University, China, 2021 Summer

CONFERENCES

- Chinese Community of Political Science and International Studies   July 2020

- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting   April 2021

- THU-PKU-RUC Political Science Research Workshop   December 2021

- American Causal Inference Conference   June 2022

- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting   September 2022

- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting   September 2023

- Annual Meeting of Society for Political Methodology   July 2024

- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting   September 2024

- Annual Meeting of Society for Political Methodology Asia   scheduled January 2025

- Southern Political Science Association Conference (CWC: Generative Language Models in Political Science Research)   Scheduled January 2025

Fellowships

- Provost's Fellowships in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences   2019-2020, $58,302.00
- Living Expense Fellowship, 2024 Summer, $5,000

Professional Experience

- Committee of 100, June 2023 - September 2023, Data & Policy Analyst

Reviewer Service

- *American Journal of Computer Science and Technology*
- *International Communication Association*

Professional Memberships

- American Political Science Association
- Midwest Political Science Association
- Western Political Science Association
- Southern Political Science Association
- The Society for Political Methodology
- International Communication Association

Technical Skills

- **Programming**: R, LaTeX, Stata, Python

- **Languages**: Mandarin (native), English (fluent), German (intermediate)

References

- Scott MacKenzie, Professor, University of California, Davis, samackenzie@ucdavis.edu
- Lauren Peritz, Associate Professor, University of California, Davis, lperitz@ucdavis.edu
- Christopher Hare, Associate Professor, University of California, Davis, cdhare@ucdavis.edu