

Mia (Ruijie) Zhong

CONTACT INFORMATION	GR.01, 23 Lyddon Terrace Leeds LS2 9LA	+44 7901977575 m.zhong1@leeds.ac.uk
EDUCATION	University of California, Berkeley , Berkeley, CA Ph.D., Sociology and Demography, 2024 <i>Committee: Jennifer Johnson-Hanks (Chair), Ann Swidler, Marion Fourcade</i> M.A., Sociology, April 2019 M.A., Demography, May 2016 Tsinghua University , Beijing, China B.Laws., Sociology, June 2015	
INTERESTS	Gender, Work, Family, Digital workers, and Social Networks	
WORK EXPERIENCE	Leeds University Business School , Leeds, UK <i>2024 onward</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecturer (Assistant Professor), Department of People, Work, and Employment• Deputy Director, Data Analytics and Human Resource Management MSc City, University of London , London, UK <i>August 2023 to August 2024</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Postdoctoral Researcher Project: Young Women's Working Lives, <i>PI: Rachel Cohen, Kim Allen</i>	
PUBLICATIONS	1. Child, S., Ruppel, E. H., Zhong, M., & Lawton, L. (2021). Direct and Moderating Causal Effects of Network Support on Sleep Quality: Findings From the UC Berkeley Social Network Study. <i>Annals of Behavioral Medicine</i> , 55(5), 446-459.	
UNDER REVIEW	1. Zhong, et al. (2025). Equally bad, unevenly distributed: gender and the 'black box' of student employment. (conditionally accepted) <i>British Journal of Sociology</i>	
WORKING PAPERS	1. Zhong, MR., & Fischer, CS., (2025). Being Single With Many Friends: Comparing Between Non-kin ties and Partnerships in Egocentric Networks <i>Submission to American Sociological Review</i> 2. Zhong, et al. (2025). Earning-while-Learning: Experiences, Trajectories, and Transitions of UK Student Workers from Teenage Years <i>Aim submit to Work, Employment, and Society</i> 3. Zhong, MR., (2025). Becoming Influencers: the Second Shift of Full-time Mothers in China. <i>Aim to submit to New Media Society / Social Media+ Society</i>	

CONFERENCE
PROCEEDINGS

- **The ‘Studentness’ Penalty: Opening up the Black Box of Student Employment (oral presentation, presenter)**
Labour Force and Annual Population Surveys User conference 2024, London *May, 2024*
- **Becoming Influencers: the Second Shift of Full-time Mothers in China (oral presentation, presenter)**
British Society for Population Studies, Keele University *September, 2023*
- **Kinship Networks and Family Relationships among Contemporary Asian Americans (oral presentation, presenter)**
American Sociological Association, roundtable session, section on Asia and Asian America, Philadelphia *August, 2023*
- **Being Single With Many Friends: Exploring the Substitutability Between Non-kin ties and Partnerships in Egocentric Networks (oral presentation, presenter)**
With Claude S. Fischer
Population Association of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans *April, 2023*
- **Being Single With Many Friends: Trade-off Between Close Non-kin and Spousal Ties in Social Support (oral presentation, presenter)**
With Claude S. Fischer
XXXIX Sunbelt 2019 Conference, Montreal *June, 2019*
- **The Unique Romantic Relationships: Roles of Spouses and Partners in Core Networks (poster, presenter)**
With Claude S. Fischer
Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Austin *April, 2019*
- **Trouble Sleeping: Life Events, Social Support. and Sleep Quality (oral presentation)**
With Stephanie Child, Emily Ruppel and Leora Lawton
XXXVII Sunbelt 2018 Conference, Netherlands *June, 2018*
- **The Role of Education in Marriage Formation in Japan (poster, presenter)**
Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Denver *April, 2018*
- **Explaining China’s Spousal Age Gaps: The Role of Education and Income Equalization between Genders (poster, presenter)**
Population Association of America Annual Meeting, DC *April, 2016*

INVITED TALKS

- **Being Single with Many Friends: Comparing Between Non-kin ties and Partnerships in Egocentric Networks**
Center for Social Research and Guanghua School of Management, Peking University
December, 2024
- **The ‘Studentness’ Penalty: Opening up the Black Box of Student Employment**
Centre for Population Change, University of Southampton *June, 2024*

TEACHING AND
MENTORSHIP

- **Data Analytics and Human Resources (module leader)** *Sep 2024 - June 2025*
MSc Data Analytics and Human Resource Management, LUBS
- **MA Dissertation mentorship** *May - August 2024*
MSc Data Analytics and Human Resource Management, LUBS
Tianjun Huang (Distinction)
Zipei Jin
Zituo Lei

Yajie Hu

Dissertation module on research methods: mixed-method approaches *June 2024*

MSc Data Analytics and Human Resource Management, LUBS

Berkeley Formal Demography Workshop *Summer 2022*
Demography Department, UC Berkeley

Demography 180 - Social Networks *Summer 2019*
Independent Instructor, Demography Department, UC Berkeley

Demography 180 - Social Networks *Spring 2019*
Graduate Student Instructor, Demography Department, UC Berkeley with Professor Dennis Feehan

Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program *Fall 2018 - Spring 2019*
Mentor for two undergraduate students with the UCNets project, UC Berkeley with Professor Claude S. Fischer

Economics/Demography 175 - Economic Demography *Spring 2018, 2017*
Graduate Student Instructor, Demography Department, UC Berkeley with Professor Joshua Goldstein

Demography 110 - Introduction to Population Analysis *Fall 2016*
Graduate Student Instructor, Demography Department, UC Berkeley with Professor Robert Chung

MEDIA
APPEARANCES

Bemoaning students' need to work is short-sighted and counterproductive *April 2024*
Times Higher Education

RESEARCH
PROJECTS

Young Women's Working Lives (ESRC) *August 2023 to August 2024*

- Postdoctoral research fellow working with this mixed-method three-year project exploring young women's early experiences of work – including work while studying – and how these experiences may contribute to gendered inequalities in later life.
- Mapping the young people's working experiences by processing and analyzing cross-sectional data from national surveys including LFS, APS, MCS, SIES, and Next Steps over the past 20 years.
- Conducting causal inferencing analysis by tracing young people's individual life course trajectories using longitudinal survey data from the LFS and Next Steps datasets.
- Leading the outputs of analytical results for Work Package 1 including conference proceedings and journal publications.
- Contributions include data analysis, project meeting engagement, guidance provision for WP3, conference application and presentations, and manuscript preparations.

Becoming Influencers: the Second Shift of Chinese Full-time Mothers. *February 2022 to present*

- An online ethnographic look into why and how mothers quit labor work for full-time childcare and establish a career as social media influencers on parenting.
- Data engage over 200 social media accounts for video, photo, and text data scraping and online participant observation since March 2022, and in-depth interviews with about 50 influencers.
- A cultural approach to examine young women's work and sharing labor on social media platforms.
- A theoretical discussion on how the gig economy influences and intensifies inequality in women's career and family choices, life course transitions, and well-being.

	UC Berkeley Social Network Study <i>February 2017 to present</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed and formulated new questions for Wave 3 survey in this longitudinal study. • Conducted coding analysis for open-ended answers from Wave 1 and 2 data. • Collaborated to standardize variables from original data for public use. • Constructed and developed R code protocols for general causal analysis research based on panel data in collaboration with colleagues. • Work in progress with Prof. Claude S. Fischer studying the kinship networks and family relationships of contemporary Asian American respondents, which is unusually overrepresented in the sample. • Supervised two undergraduate research assistants with the Berkeley URAP program. 	
	Human Mortality Database <i>September 2018 to January 2019</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted data cleaning, harmonization, and quality check for mortality data updates (2016 and 2017) for three countries in the Human Mortality Database: Sweden, Japan, and Italy, demonstrating proficiency in data analysis and quality control. • Completed Hong Kong mortality data report for administrative and government reference. 	
HONORS AND AWARDS	Doctoral Completion Fellowship <i>2022-2023</i> UC Berkeley	
	The Catherine and William L. Magistretti Graduate Fellowship <i>2021-2022</i> UC Berkeley	
	Lowenthal Fellowship <i>2020-2021</i> Sociology Department, UC Berkeley	
	Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor <i>2019</i> UC Berkeley	
	Pamela and Kenneth Fong Fellowship <i>2018-2019</i> Center for Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley	
	National Scholarship <i>2014</i> China Ministry of Education	
SKILLS	Programming Language R, Python, Stata Collaboration GitHub, Git Qualitative research software MaxQDA	Data Spark (pySpark), MySQL Language Mandarin (native)
TRAININGS	SPACE workshop and comparative adult mortality workshop <i>February, 2017</i> Formal and genetic demography seminar with Prof. Kenneth W. Wachter <i>Spring, 2016</i> Genes and Complex Human Phenotypes Conference <i>April, 2016</i> Complete Census Count Data and Record Linkage Techniques <i>December, 2015</i>	
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS	Population of America Association <i>2015-2025</i>	
	American Sociological Association <i>2016-2025</i>	