

# ZEYUAN CHEN

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## 🎓 EDUCATION

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| <b>Uppsala University</b> , Uppsala, Sweden  | Sep. 2024 - Jun. 2026 (expected) |
| <i>Master of Science in Social Science</i> , Department of Informatics and Media   |                                  |
| • <b>Grade:</b> Majority of courses completed with Pass with Distinction (VG).   |                                  |
| • <b>Courses:</b> Introduction to Machine Learning, Forecasting Methods and Causal Inference for the Social Sciences, Quantitative Methods, Qualitative Methods, Data Structure and Algorithms, etc.                 |                                  |
| <b>Beijing Normal University (BNU)</b> , Beijing, China  | Sept. 2020 - Jun. 2024           |
| <i>Bachelor in Philosophy</i> (Liyun Honour Class), with a minor in <b>Sociology</b>   |                                  |
| • <b>Grade:</b> Major GPA: 3.81/4.0 Overall GPA: 3.67/4.0 <b>3rd</b> in my class (awarded postgraduate recommendation)   |                                  |
| • <b>Courses:</b> Advanced Algebra, Social Statistics, Interactive Python Programming, Statistical Software for Social Sciences, Political Sociology, Social Stratification and Social Mobility, Social Policy, etc. |                                  |
| <b>Radboud University</b> , Nijmegen, Netherlands  | Jan. 2023 - May. 2023            |
| <i>Exchange Programme</i> Introduction to Gender Theory, History of Modern Philosophy  |                                  |

## \_MOUSE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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| <b>Master Thesis at Uppsala University</b>   | Sep. 2025 - Ongoing |
| <i>Individual Research</i> co-supervised by Jacob Habinek and Johan Lindell  |                     |
| <b>Working Title:</b> The Capital of Metaphysics: A Computational Study of Postwar French Philosophers   |                     |
| • Developed a data pipeline to build a comprehensive dataset of French philosophers by combining automated web scraping with manual data collection and annotation, and compiled a corpus of scholarly writings from 1960 to 1989.   |                     |
| • Conducted geometric data analysis to link scholars' social positions to their intellectual stance (FastText + K-Means), institutionalized practices, and academic networks; this module has developed into a standalone side project. <a href="#">[link]</a>                   |                     |
| • Thesis main work (ongoing) focuses on examining how scholars from different social and educational backgrounds (especially post-war cohort) strategically compete for symbolic and social capital, incorporating geometric data analysis, network analysis and NLP techniques. |                     |
| <b>Side Project at University of Toronto</b>   | Nov. 2025 – Ongoing |
| <i>Co-Researcher</i> Supervised by Ethan Fosse and Nicholas Spence   |                     |
| <b>Title:</b> Cumulative Culture in the Academy: Transmission Fidelity across Scholarly Generations and Disciplines  |                     |
| • Investigated the ratcheting effect in scientific evolution by analyzing publication-level embeddings (Specter) across disciplines, identifying distinct patterns of temporal drift in CS versus thematic stasis in Sociology.  |                     |
| • Operationalized transmission fidelity through Directional Persistence within academic lineage triples, quantifying the extent to which scholarly "phenotypic traits" are preserved across generations in different disciplines.  |                     |
| • Validated macro-evolutionary hypotheses by regressing research similarity on genealogical distance, finding that inheritance fidelity significantly predicts the directional accumulation of knowledge in high-consensus fields.   |                     |

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|---|-----------------------|
| <b>Research Internship at Aalto University</b>  | Apr. 2025 - Aug. 2025 |
| <i>Research Assistant</i> supervised by Barbara Esther Keller   |                       |
| <b>Title:</b> Race to the Big Lab: Gender Disparities in Large Team Collaboration and Its Impact on Early Academic Careers  |                       |
| • Full paper accepted by <b>CHI 2026</b> . <a href="#">[link]</a>   |                       |
| • Built collaboration networks from the SciSciNet dataset, operationalized the accumulation of capital and the career development of scholars using a modified version of neighborhood centrality.                                  |                       |
| • Identified the causal effect of large-team collaboration on early-career academic development using Synthetic DID, and explored whether and how such mechanism reproduces gender inequality in the academia.                      |                       |
| • We are now developing a project that examines how unequal access to large teams (and induced gender disparities) emerges from global network properties and edge formation mechanisms, using team-level dynamic network analysis. |                       |

## Self-Motivated Research Projects

**Project 1:** The Invisible in Philosophy: Mapping the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy Entries Network

- Extended abstract accepted by **IC2S2** (parallel session) and **ICSSI** (poster). [\[link\]](#)
- Scrapped all entries from the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy using Python's Selenium, and modeled it as a networked system of collective knowledge production and evaluation.
- Analyzed how structural positions translate into differential visibility outcomes across groups (machine-learning-based classifiers), and how editorial linking practices induce implicit ranking and aggregation mechanisms, thus reproducing inequalities of representation within the hyperlink structure.

**Project 2:** Science and Technology in Science Fiction: A Pre- and Post-WWII Comparison through Word Embedding and Mixed-Method Topic Modeling

- Extended abstract accepted by **IC2S2** (poster). [\[link\]](#)
- Scrapped book metadata and auto-generated summaries, and constructed a corpus of 19-20th century science fiction novels from the Gutenburg database using Python.
- Applied mixed-method topic modeling (CorEx) and word embeddings (word2vec) to trace shifts in cultural representation of science and technology; Quantified semantic change before and after WWII to investigate how large-scale social-political shocks reshape collective cultural production.

## Research Internship at Renmin University of China

Dec. 2023 - Present

*Research Assistant* supervised by Ye Zhang

**Focus:** Health Inequality and Social Determinants

- Developed mapping algorithms from disease-specific instruments onto generic-based Quality of Life instruments, employing k-fold cross validation and bootstrapping estimation. (accepted by *Value in Health*) [\[link\]](#)
- Used quantile regression based on data from a national survey to identify socio-demographic factors affecting elderly patients with nephropathy in different health states. (accepted by *Health and Quality of Life Outcomes*) [\[link\]](#)

## Beijing Undergraduate Research Training Program

Jun. 2021 - May. 2022

*Team Research* Leader

**Title:** Internet Public Opinion Incidents on Gender Issues and their Social Impact.

- Received municipal-level research grant.
- Collected and analyzed online public opinion data on gender issues (trending topics on Weibo) using Python, employing web scraping, descriptive statistics, and correlational analysis.
- Conducted critical discourse analysis and case studies to examine how different discursive practices on social media construct and reinforce gender ideologies and gender identities.

## </> CODING & SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

### Python Package for Synthetic DID [\[link\]](#)

Ongoing (under active development)

- Developed an OOP-based Python package for Synthetic Difference-in-Differences, enhancing estimation robustness by fixing existing implementation bugs and introducing new features like time-varying covariates and event studies.

### Web Scraping Application [\[link\]](#)

Mar. 2024 - Jun. 2024

- Built an end-to-end data pipeline for keyword-based metadata extraction from mainstream media websites in China, using Selenium and Tkinter (building GUI).

## WORKING EXPERIENCE

### Intern DiDi Global - Map Product Data Analyst

Aug. 2023 - Oct. 2023

*Python, SQL, Excel*

- Worked closely with the data engineering team and the operation department to design and implement data tracking points, optimizing data collection for location-based services.
- Analyzed driving behavior data from the Google Maps API and user feedback, identifying patterns to enhance routing algorithms and user experience.

**Intern** Meituan - UX Operation

May. 2023 - Aug. 2023

*SQL, Excel, User Research*

- Conducted data-driven analysis on user engagement and service efficiency, leveraging SQL and Excel to extract actionable insights for UX improvements.
- Designed and facilitated user interviews to gather qualitative feedback, informing product optimization strategies based on customer needs and pain points.

## ⚙️ SKILLS

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- **Research:** NLP; Machine learning; Network/Graph analysis; Agent-based Model; Quant/Qual methods.
- **Coding:** Python, R, Ruby, NetLogo, HTML/JavaScript, Git, SQLite, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X
- **Language:** Chinese (Native), English (Fluent, IELTS - 7.5), French (Reading Proficiency), German (Coursework Completed)

## ♡ HONORS AND AWARDS

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| <i>Full Scholarship</i> , Uppsala University                           | 2024-2026 |
| <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</i> , Academic Essay Competition at BNU        | 2023      |
| <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</i> , Scholarship of Beijing Normal University | 2022      |
| <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</i> , Scholarship of Beijing Normal University | 2021      |