Zeyuan Chen

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Education

Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden — Sep. 2024 - Jun. 2026 (expected)

Master of Science in **Social Science**, Department of Informatics and Media

- **Grade**: Majority of courses completed with Pass with Distinction (VG).
- **Courses**:Introduction to Machine Learning, Forecasting Methods and Causal Inference for the Social Sciences, Quantitative Methods, Qualitative Methods, Data Structure and Algorithms, etc.

Beijing Normal University (BNU), Beijing, China — Sept. 2020 - Jun. 2024

Bachelor in **Philosophy** (Liyun Honour Class), with a minor in **Sociology**

- **Grade**: Major GPA: **3.81**/4.0 Overall GPA: 3.67/4.0 **3rd** in my class (awarded postgraduate recommendation)
- **Courses**: Advanced Algebra, Social Statistics, Interactive Python Programming, Statistical Software for Social Sciences, Political Sociology, Social Stratification and Social Mobility, Social Policy, etc.

Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands — Jan. 2023 - May. 2023

Exchange Programme Introduction to Gender Theory, History of Modern Philosophy

Research & Publication

Master Thesis at Uppsala University — Sep. 2025 - Ongoing

Individual Research co-supervised by Jacob Habinek and Johan Lindell

Working Title: The Politics of Philosophy: A Computational Study of French Philosophers (1950–1990)

- 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 + BERTopic), institutionalized practices, and academic networks; this module has developed into a standalone side project. [link]
- Thesis main work (ongoing) focuses on developing NLP methods (specific to philosophical text) to examine how scholars from different social and educational backgrounds (especially post-war cohort) strategically compete for symbolic and social capital, providing a mechanism-based explanation for the evolution of "French Theory".

Side Project at University of Toronto — Nov. 2025 – Ongoing

Co-Researcher Supervised by Ethan Fosse and Nicholas Spence

Focus: Knowledge Evolution in Academic Family Trees

- Studied the dominant structures shaping the evolution of research topics and social networks within an academic family tree, distinguishing cohort (year) and generation (graph depth) effects.
- Explored field-specific patterns to understand dynamics of knowledge inheritance and change in scholarly genealogies.

Research Internship at Aalto University — Apr. 2025 - Aug. 2025

Research Assistant supervised by Barbara Esther Keller

Title: Race to the Big Lab: Gender Disparities in Large Team Collaboration and Its Impact on Early Academic Careers

- Paper received **Revise & Resubmit** at **CHI 2026**. [link]
- 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 an ongoing project that examines how unequal access to large teams emerges from global network properties and edge formation mechanisms, using team-level dynamic network simulations.

Self-Motivated Research Projects

Always Ongoing

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]
- Scraped 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 classification), and how and 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]
- Scraped book metadata and auto-generated summaries, and constructed a corpus of 19-20th century science fiction novels from the Gotenburg 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 library 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 Manager

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

- **Research**: NLP; Machine learning; Network/Graph analysis; Quant/Qual methods.
- **Coding**: Python, R, Ruby, HTML/JavaScript, Git, SQL, LaTeX
- **Language**: Chinese, English (*IELTS - 7.5*), French (*Reading Proficiency*), German (*Coursework Completed*)

Honors and Awards

Full Scholarship, Uppsala University	2024-2026
Outstanding Camper, Philosophy Summer Camp of East China Normal University	2023
3rd Prize, Academic Essay Competition at BNU	2023
2nd Prize, Scholarship of Beijing Normal University	2022
3rd Prize, Scholarship of Beijing Normal University	2021
Honourable Mention, Interdisciplinary Contest In Modeling	2021