Elaine C. Yao

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Education

Exp. 2025   PhD Politics, Princeton University

Fields: Political Economy, Comparative Politics, Formal Theory & Quantitative Methods
Committee: Matias Iaryczower (chair), Germán Gieczewski, Carles Boix

2021   MA Politics, Princeton University

2017   AB Economics, University of Chicago *(General and departmental honors)*

Research

Peer-reviewed articles

Mattingly, Daniel, and Elaine Yao. "How Soft Propaganda Persuades." *Comparative Political Studies* 55.9 (2022): 1569-1594.

Wei, Lai, Elaine Yao, Han Zhang. "Authoritarian Responsiveness and Political Attitudes during COVID-19: Evidence from Weibo and a Survey Experiment." *Chinese Sociological Review* (2021): 1-37.

Working Papers

"Brook no compromise: How to negotiate a united front." Revise and resubmit at *American Journal of Political Science*.

Work in Progress

Organizational structure and protest tactics

Conferences, workshops, talks

Conference & Invited Presentations

2024   Conference for Early Career Scholars in Theoretical Political Economy (WUSTL); MPSA; APSA (scheduled)

2023   Kellogg Center Workshop on Formal Models of Politics (Virginia Tech); Comparative Politics and Formal Theory (Rochester); MPSA, SPSA annual meetings

2021   NYU Quantitative China Studies Seminar

2020   Chinese Political Economy Workshop (NYU); Virtual Workshop on Authoritarian Regimes

2024   EITM Summer Institute (Emory University)
2022   Santa Fe Institute Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science

2022–24   Political Economy Research Seminar (joint between Politics & Economics departments)
2022–24   Comparative Politics Graduate Research Seminar (Politics)
2024   American Politics Graduate Research Seminar (Politics)
2023   Microeconomic Theory Student Lunch (Economics)

Teaching

Fall 2023	POL576: Formal Political Analysis II (G)	*TA for Germán Gieczewski*
Fall 2022	POL362: Chinese Politics (U)	*TA for Rory Truex*
Spring 2022	POL346: Applied Quantitative Analysis (U)	*TA for John Londregan*
Fall 2021	POL345: Introduction to Quantitative Social Science (U)	*TA for Marc Ratkovic*
	POL 571: Quantitative Analysis I (G)	*Tutor*

Professional Activities

American Journal of Political Science (2), American Political Science Review (2), Comparative Political Studies (2), British Journal of Political Science, International Studies Quarterly, Political Science Research and Methods, Chinese Journal of Communication, Social Media + Society

Conference paper referee: NYU Quantitative China Studies Seminar

2023–24   Co-coordinator, Political Economy Research Seminar
2022–24   Q-APS consultant (assistance with quantitative research design and methodology)
2023   Graduate climate survey committee member

Other

2023, 2024   Stafford Fund (department conference travel award)
2021–24   Quantitative and Analytical Political Science (Q-APS) Fellowship
2020   Data-Driven Social Science Initiative, Small-Scale Grant (with Lai Wei)

2017–19   Research Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of New York (Research & Statistics Group, Financial Intermediation function)

Skills

Languages: English (native), Mandarin Chinese (fluent), French (basic)
Software and computing: R, Stata, Python, MATLAB; Qualtrics, LaTeX

References

Matias Iaryczower	Germán Gieczewski	Carles Boix
Professor of Politics	Assistant Professor of Politics	Professor of Politics & Public Affairs
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