

Siqi Yang

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EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

MI, USA

School for Environment and Sustainability

Fall 2023 – Expected Spring 2025

Master of Science

Specialization: Sustainability and Development

GPA: 4.0/4.0

Illinois Wesleyan University

IL, USA

Environmental Studies Department

Fall 2019 – Spring 2023

BA in Environmental Studies

Concentration: International Environmental Sustainability

Minor in Economics

GPA: 3.8/4.0

Research Interest: Environmental Governance, Human-Wildlife Interactions and Conservation, Sustainable Development, Community-based Social Learning and Commoning Frameworks

ONGOING MANUSCRIPTS

1. Yang, S. (in preparation). Using an Online Interactive Tool to Promote Social Learning in Conservation: A Case Study of “Learn Gala” Application on Beavers in Michigan. *Frontiers in Education*.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Evaluating the Transition of Social and Ecological Values of Beavers in Michigan: Implications for Social Learning and Commons Management

MI, USA

Master Thesis, Supervisor: Rebecca Hardin

Jan 2024 – present

- Conducted a comprehensive literature review exploring the social learning and commons management frameworks in addressing conflicts between ecosystem conservation and community well-being.
- Applied both quantitative and qualitative methods, including stakeholder interviews, historical analysis, and policy review, to gather and analyze data from historical records, archives, and conservation professionals about the changing perceptions of beavers, from economic commodities during the fur trade era to keystone species in ecosystem conservation.
- Developed an interactive educational module on the [Learn Gala](#) platform, aimed at fostering community engagement and enhancing public understanding of beaver conservation and the role of social learning in wildlife management, informing strategies for future conservation and sustainable ecosystem management.

Commons, Commoning, Transformation and Sustainability

MI, USA

Research Assistant, Supervisor: Arun Agrawal

Nov 2023 – May 2024

- Assisted the professor to conduct an in-depth literature review of approximately 600 existing papers on the topic about commons and commoning.
- Analyzed the relationships between commons and sustainability, commons and transformation (of society and of the self), the interference and role of power in commoning, and the different characteristics that distinguish successful commoning projects from unsuccessful or unstable commoning attempts.
- Identified key themes and trends in commoning, including collaborative decision-making, resource sharing, and community empowerment.
- Contributed to the writing of research reports and publications summarizing the research findings and recommendations for future planning strategies.

Relationship between Wildlife Products Imports and Economic Development Status

IL, USA

Research Honors Project, Supervisor: Abigail Jahiel

Jan 2023 – May 2023

- Discussed the underlying factors of wildlife consumption, assessed the impacts of bushmeat trade, and investigated the extent to which economic growth status affects the demand for wild meat imports.
- The relationship between biodiversity loss and wildlife trade is revealed by contrasting the trading

trends of recent years with the biodiversity.

- Analyzed data from valuable case studies and the CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) database.

Evaluating Climate Change Preparedness, Proposed Urban Resilience Strategies, and Environmental Justice for West Bloomington, Illinois

IL, USA

Senior Seminar Project, Supervisor: Abigail Jahiel

Sep 2023 – Dec 2023

- Identified vulnerabilities in West Bloomington by examining local demographics, urban layout, and socio-economic factors.
- Conducted research and proposed green infrastructure solutions with quantitative and qualitative support of case study analysis.
- Wrote a 40-page report to synthesize the findings and suggestions to empower community members, build local knowledge, and promote engagement in urban sustainability.

The Economics Value of US Wildlife Product Imports

IL, USA

Research Assistant, Supervisor: Jennifer Rushlow

Jan 2022 – May 2022

- Worked with the Law Enforcement Management Information System dataset on wildlife product imports into the US to identify the economic value of imported species for future comparison to disease risk metric.
- Analyzed data in R studio to isolate observations of repeated live wildlife imports and their prices, as well as cleaning the data and calculating summary statistics.

Economics of Wild Meat in Africa

IL, USA

Research Assistant, Supervisor: Jennifer Rushlow

Apr 2022 – June 2022

- Assisted the professor to compile a literature review on the economics of the wild meat market by summarizing data and findings from previous studies.
- Analyzed interviews with hunters, sellers, and consumers and explored the supply and demand characteristics affecting the trade, including factors like local rituals and ethnic culture, social status, daily health requirements, and wildlife conservation policies.
- Incorporated economic concepts and approaches into policy analysis of wild meat trade management.

Unequal Impacts of Deforestation and Land Policies on Different Ethnic Groups in Myanmar

IL, USA

Academic Project, Supervisor: Abigail Jahiel

Jan 2022 – May 2022

- Conducted extensive research on Myanmar's environmental and social issues, including overpopulation and deforestation, wreak havoc on the entire society.
- Analyzed and presented the relationship between political and social factors, such as ethnic disparities and exacerbated climate change impacts on vulnerable communities.
- Wrote a 3000-word report to raise awareness about the ethnic disparities in developing countries.

INTERNSHIP / PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sustainable Impact in Rice-based Systems Platform, International Rice Research Institute

Los Baños, Philippines

Researcher, Supervisor: Varunseelan Murugaiyan

Jun 2022 – Aug 2022

- Compared arsenic contamination limits recommended by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with each country's national standards; analyzed the challenges of policy implementation by comparing the differences among national standards.
- Discussed potential strategies that can be implemented in specific arsenic-affected regions to reduce and eliminate arsenic contamination (i.e.: polish the rice, improve the water purifying system, and provide alternative water tubes to transmit water from clean wells).
- Applied cost-effective analysis to assess the feasibility of arsenic reduction policies, including their short-term and long-term effects on the national economy, agriculture, and health care system.

Powerchina Urban Planning & Design Institute co., LTD, China

Guangzhou, China

Resource Management Department and Technology Quality Management

Jun 2020 – Aug 2020

- Designed interview questions and evaluation criteria for the Department of Human Resources

- Aided other staff in promoting the shopping project of human resources department.
- Investigated and completed project reports for company's technology management development plan.
- Ensured a current water quality project in Huizhou, China was making progress without quality and pollution issues.

LEADERSHIP FOR CHANGE EXPERIENCE

"Our Gardens" Student Campaign

MI, USA

Campaign Leader

Sep 2024 - Present

- Conducted in-depth research on campus, applying the concepts of social action and commoning, focusing on how collective efforts and reciprocity can drive transformative change in sustainability and justice.
- Co-designed and developed a social action campaign advocating for the installation of rain gardens on campus to raise public awareness, reduce water runoff, and improve biodiversity.
- Cooperated with officials and professionals from the Sustainability Office and the School for Environment and Sustainability to inform the Sustainable Campus Plan for 2025, specifying rain garden implementation as part of the goals.

HONORS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- Research Honors for Spring 2023
- Dean's List - Awarded from 2020-2023
- IWU Study Abroad Scholarship (\$1,000) - Awarded for 2022
- IWU International Merit-Based Scholarship (\$26,000/year) - Awarded from 2019-2023
- Jennings Scholarship from IWU School of Music (\$1,000/year) - Awarded from 2019-2023
- E-sports Scholarship from IWU E-sports Team (\$2,000/year) - Awarded from 2019-2023

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Languages: **English:** Professional Proficiency; **Chinese:** Native Speaker

Software Skills: R, Geographical Information System, Photoshop, Illustrator, Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint.

Hobbies: Piano: Amateur Level 10; Content Creator on Weibo, WeChat, Douyin and Bilibili with over 5,000 followers; Novelist on Lofter: Publications received over 200,000 online views; Playing League of Legends and participated in IWU's e-sports team.