Yuehong Cassandra Tai

Department of Political Science 313 Schaeffer Hall Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1409

✉ yuehong-tai@uiowa.edu   ⬡ Tyhcass   🌐 cassyuehtai.netlify.app

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Program in Political Science, University of Iowa, U.S.A.   2017-Current

Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Methodology, American Politics

Dissertation Title: Public Trust and Governance Challenges

Committee: Frederick Solt (Chair), William Reisinger, Caroline Tolbert, Julie Pacheco, and Elizabeth Suhay (American University)

Dissertation Abstract:

In my dissertation, I propose taking comparative trust and policy attributes to understand that different types of trust have reinforcing or counterbalancing effects on public compliance with policy, and these effects vary across policy attributes. Drawing from 250 different survey datasets, I employ a sophisticated Bayesian IRT model, to measure four types of trust (trust in representative institution, trust in implementing institution, generalized trust, and particularized trust) and create a comprehensive trust data set covering 151 countries over 47 years, from 1973 to 2020. To identify the causal effects, I use causal graphs and run a dynamic fixed-effects model with system generalized method of moments estimator. I find that trust in implementing institutions has the most considerable effect on public compliance with vaccination. I contend the importance of political trust is at least matched by that of social trust on public compliance with taxation. My dissertation concludes that to break the vicious circle of public distrust and deadlock of policy reform, policymakers and policy implementors should rebuild public trust in preparing for governance challenges like future pandemics, infodemics, and climate change.

MSc in *International Political Economy*, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore   2008

LL.B. in *Diplomacy*, Renmin University of China, China   2007

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative Politics

Comparative Public Opinion, Trust, Governance, Chinese Politics, Political Communication.

Political Methodology

Bayesian Statistics, Latent Variable Measurement, Machine Learning, Duration and Spatial Analysis.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Revised & Resubmitted

"Democracy, Public Support, and Measurement Uncertainty" (with Yue Hu and Frederick Solt) at *American Political Science Review*

Under Review

"Judge's Gender and Oral Language Skills: An Empirical Analysis of Chinese Courtroom Audio" (with Dong Erico Yu)

Working Paper

Policymaking and Policy Diffusion

"When does Crisis Severity Speed Response? Policy Burden and COVID-19 Policy Adoption in China" (with Jielu Yao and Elise Pizzi)

"Policy Orientation and Diffusion in Responsive Governance: Responses to the Chinese 2018 Vaccine Scandal"

"Gubernatorial Executive Orders vs Legislation: Determinants of States' Action Choice during COVID19 Pandemic"

Political Communication and Social Media

"Who is Leading Public Opinion on Social Media in China"

"Has President Trump Changed the Way Americans Talk about Immigration on Twitter?" (with Bryce J. Dietrich, Nick Beauchamp, Caglar Koylu, and Jielu Yao)

"Maintaining authoritarian resilience during the public health crisis: An analysis of Chinese state media's social media posts during the COVID-19 outbreak" (with Ge Zhu, Rachel Young, Li Chen)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer, University of Iowa

Advanced Method (Graduate Level) — Fall 2021

    Machine Learning

Analyzing Political Data (Undergraduate Level) — Spring 2021

    P-Value

    Multiple Regression

National Security Policy (Undergraduate Level) — March 2020

    Cyber Security

Teaching Assistant

ICPSR Summer Program, University of Michigan

Bayesian Modeling for the Social Sciences II:Advanced Topics — Summer 2021

    Graded students' assignments with detailed comments and offered one-on-one consultations on students' personal project.

University of Iowa

Intro to Political Behavior — Fall 2019

    Conducted weekly discussion sections and offered guidelines and suggestions for each of group projects.

| Intro to Comparative Politics | Fall 2018, Spring 2019 |

Prepared supporting materials for sections, delivered brief lectures in section, and crafted weekly worksheets.

| The Presidency | Fall 2017 |

Graded papers.

| (Online Course) Intro to Comparative Politics | Summer 2018,2019 |

Provided students with detailed feedback on their assignments and graded papers.

Invited Talks

East China Normal University, Shanghai

| Intro to Python: Web Scraping, Social Media Data Wrangling and Analysis | Dec 2020 |

RESEARCH POSITIONS

| Statistical Consultant, Project Haystack, GoDaddy.com | Spring 2020 - Summer 2021 |

Collaboration with Professor Caroline Tolbert (University of Iowa) and GoDaddy.com to measure the density of domain name websites (at the CBSA, county, and zip code level) using a dataset of 26 million GoDaddy customers in the US.

| Project Member, Iowa Hawkeye Poll, University of Iowa | Fall 2019 |

Aided in the creation and analysis of a survey designed to measure Iowan's political preferences in U.S 2020 presidential election.

| Tweets on Immigration Project, University of Iowa | Summer 2019 |

Work with Professor Bryce Dietrich on analyzing how Trump's tweets changed the way Americans talk about immigration on Twitter.

| Standardized World Income Inequality Database Project,University of Iowa, | Summer 2019 |

Assist Professor Frederick Solt with inequality data collection.

| Comparative Political Trust Project, University of Iowa | Spring 2018 |

Work with Professor Wenfang Tang to combine global survey datasets and conducted empirical analysis.

AWARDS & HONORS

Graduate Post-Comp Research Fellowship ($10,500), University of Iowa	Fall 2021
Graduate College Summer Fellowship ($5,000), University of Iowa	Summer 2021
Department Research Grant ($1,000), University of Iowa	Spring 2020
GSS Travel Funds ($1,000), University of Iowa	Spring 2020
Department Research Grant ($300), University of Iowa	Spring 2019
Center for Asian and Pacific Studies Graduate Travel Grant ($500), University of Iowa	Fall 2019
Department Summer Training Grant ($2400), University of Iowa	Summer 2018

DISCIPLINE AND CAMPUS SERVICE

iPeer Mentor: *iPeer Mentorship Program.* International Student and Scholar Services, University of Iowa   2021

Discussant: *Government Transparency in China.* Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting   Apr 2021

Session Chair and Discussant for *Time and Space.* Political Science Methodology Conference for Asia and Australasia   Jan 2021

Co-Host: *2020 Iowa Caucus Conference.* Department of Political Science, University of Iowa Conference Details: https://clas.uiowa.edu/polisci/Shambaugh-2020Caucus   Feb 2020

Session Chair for *Understanding Polarization*, *Covid & Computation* and *Social Media & Politics.* Politics and Computational Social Science and Political Networks   Aug 2020

Discussant: *Chinese Politics.* Southern Political Science Association Conference   Jan 2020

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Democracy, Public Support, and Measurement Uncertainty" (with Yue Hu and Frederick Solt), Joint Quantitative Political Science Conference for Asia and Australasia   Jan 2021

"Policy Orientation and Diffusion in Responsive Governance: Responses to the Chinese 2018 Vaccine Scandal", Association of Chinese Political Studies Annual Meeting   Nov 2020

"Who is Influencing Public Opinion during a Public Health Crisis on Social Media in China?", Southern Political Science Association Conference   Jan 2020

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member of American Political Science Association
Member of Midwest Political Science Association
Member of Association of Chinese Political Science
Member of Southern Political Science Association
The Society for Political Methodology

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND SKILLS

Certificate

Certificate in Informatics, The University of Iowa, U.S.A.   2021
 Programming in Python, Java, and SQL.

ICPSR, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI   2018
 Causal Inference for the Social Sciences & Multilevel Models II: Advanced Topics.

Skills

Analysis & Programming: R, Python, Stan, JAGS, Stata, SQL, Mplus, Java.

Application: LaTeX, Markdown, Git(GitHub).

Language: English, Chinese (Mandarin)

REFERENCES

Frederick Solt, **Ph.D**   frederick-solt@uiowa.edu; (319)335-2340

Associate Professor, University of Iowa

William M. Reisinger, **Ph.D**   william-reisinger@uiowa.edu; (319)335-2351

Professor, University of Iowa

Caroline Tolbert, **Ph.D**   caroline-tolbert@uiowa.edu; (319)335-2340

Professor, University of Iowa

Elizabeth Menninga, **Ph.D**   elizabeth-menninga@uiowa.edu;(319)335-3835

Assistant Professor, University of Iowa