

# Yen-Chieh (David) Liao

The Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Government and the Institute for Data and AI  
University of Birmingham

✉ [davidycliao@gmail.com](mailto:davidycliao@gmail.com) 🌐 [davidycliao](https://davidycliao.com) 🏙 [davidycliao.github.io](https://davidycliao.github.io) | Updated: Nov. 19, 2025

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

### University of Birmingham

Research Fellow in NLP at the Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Government	Sep 2024 –
Affiliate Fellow at the Institute for Data and AI	Jul 2025 –

### University College Dublin

Post-doctoral Researcher at the School of Politics and International Relations	Aug 2023 – Sep 2024
--	---------------------

### University of Bamberg

Pre-doctoral Researcher at the Chair of Comparative Politics	Dec 2021 – Dec 2022
--	---------------------

## EDUCATION

### University of Essex

PhD in Politics	Oct 2017 – Jan 2023
-----------------	---------------------

### National Taipei University

BA and MA in Public Administration and Policy
---

## RESEARCH

### Publications

2025 Electoral Systems and Geographically-Targeted Oversight: Evidence from Taiwan Legislative Yuan. (with Li Tang) *Electoral Studies. Forthcoming*

2025 Catalysts for Progress? Mapping Policy Insights from Energy Research. *Energy Research and Social Science.* (with Brian Boyle, Stefan Müller, Sarah King and Robin Rauner) [DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2025.103955>]

2025 Bureaucratic Reinterpretation of Leaders' Ideologies: A Case Study of People's Daily's Commentary on Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy (in Chinese). *Mainland China Studies.* (with Yi-Nung Tsai) [[https://doi.org/10.30389/MCS.202503\\_68\(1\).0003](https://doi.org/10.30389/MCS.202503_68(1).0003)]

2024 (Mis)perception of Party-voter Congruence and Satisfaction with Democracy. *Political Science Research and Methods.* (with Li Tang and Royce Carroll) [DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/psrm.2024.48>]

2024 Electoral Reform and Fragmented Polarization: New Evidence from Taiwan Legislative Roll Calls. *Legislative Studies Quarterly* [DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1111/lsq.12459>]

2023 The Role of Rituals in Adversarial Parliaments: An Analysis of Expressions of Collegiality in the British House of Commons. (Invited Contribution) *Historical Social Research.* 48 (3): 209-234. (with David Beck and Thomas Saalfeld) [DOI: <https://doi.org/10.12759/hsr.48.2023.31>]

2015 The Rationale for Supporting Nuclear Power: Analysis of Taiwanese Public Opinion Survey. *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific.* 15 (1): 147–176. (with Xiaochen Su, Chung-li Wu, Tai-De Lee, and Chen Tsao )[DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/irap/lcu019>]

### Under Review

Estimating Fractions of Red Guard under Mao's China: A Slogan-based Text Scaling Method with Historical Documents. (with Yi-Nung Tsai) *Invited to Revise and Resubmit. Journal of Computational Social Science.*

Electoral Reform and Issue Attention in Legislative Oversight: From SNTV to Mixed-Member Majoritarian System in Taiwan. (with Yu-Ceng Liao and Yi-ting Wang) *Under Review.*

## **Selected Working Papers**

Multi-Agent Systems with LLMs for Synthetic Survey Experiments on Misinformation: Design and Implementation. (with Linette Lim and Slava Jankin)

Cross-Lingual Stance Detection in Political Texts: Comparison and Application. (with Stefan Müller)

Political Text Analysis with Embedding Regression: From Multilingual to Cross-lingual Application. (with Chen Zheng, Winnie Xia and Slava Jankin)

## **ACADEMIC TRAINING PROGRAMMES**

**2024 ARCHER2 Message Passing Programming with MPI (Edinburgh Parallel Computing Centre)**

**2023 Oxford Large Language Models for Social Science Workshop | 57<sup>th</sup> Essex Summer School:** Advanced Survey Data Analysis and Survey Experiments

**2022 56<sup>th</sup> Essex Summer School,** Introduction to Social Network Analysis

**2021 Machine Learning Summer School:** Standard Training Programme | **55<sup>th</sup> Essex Summer School:** Advanced Methods for Text-as-Data—Natural Language Processing; Quantitative Methods for Causal Inference and Policy Evaluation

**2019 54<sup>th</sup> Essex Summer School:** Introduction to Bayesian Analysis for the Social Sciences

**2018 53<sup>rd</sup> Essex Summer School:** Ideal Point Estimation and Scaling Methods; Generalized Linear Models

## **CODE & OPEN-SOURCE PACKAGES**

**flair:** An R wrapper for accessing the Flair NLP library in Python.

**legisTaiwan:** An R package for accessing real-time Taiwan Legislative Data.

**asmcjR:** An R Package for Supporting the Book 'Analyzing Spatial Models of Choice and Judgment'.

## **TEACHING & SUPERVISION**

### **University of Birmingham MSc Supervision**

**2024-05** Florida Ferizolli (MSc in AI and Government) | Jiaqi Liu (MSc in AI and Sustainable Development),

### **Course and Module**

**2024 University College Dublin** Quantitative Text Analysis (Led by Stefan Müller)

Guest Lecturer in Weeks on Word Embeddings and Transformers

### **Invited Talks**

**2025 Centre of Taiwan Studies, SOAS**

Taiwan's Electoral System & Legislative Behaviour

### **Taipei R LADIES**

Data Analysis and Applications with **legisTaiwan** and Taiwan Legislative Yuan API.

**2024 SPIRe PhD Workshop, University College Dublin**

Introduction to High-Performance Computing with SLURM

### **Teaching and Workshops**

**2023 GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science**

Instructor in Big Data and Computation for Social Data Science (Co-lecturing with Akitaka Matsuo)

### **2022 55<sup>th</sup> Essex Summer School**

Teaching Assistant for Iulia Cioroianu — Course: Quantitative Text Analysis

Teaching Assistant for Akitaka Matsuo — Course: Introduction to Programming in Python

### **2021 54<sup>th</sup> Essex Summer School**

Teaching Assistant for Johannes Karreth — Course: Introduction to Quantitative Methods in R

**2021 EITM Europe Summer Institute**

Teaching Assistant for Ken Benoit and Nicole Baerg — Course: Quantitative Text Analysis

**2020 53rd Essex Summer School**

Teaching Assistant for Iulia Cioroianu — Course: Quantitative Text Analysis

**2020 ECPR Summer School**

Teaching Assistant for Akitaka Matsuo - Course: Machine Learning with Big Data for Social Scientists

**2019 53rd Essex Summer School**

Teaching Assistant for Iulia Cioroianu — Course: Quantitative Text Analysis

## RESEARCH GRANTS & FUNDING

**2023** The Scholarship for Attending Oxford Large Language Models for Social Science Workshop, £300

**2021–22** Taiwan Overseas Pioneers Grants of Ministry of Science and Technology Taiwan, USD\$32,000

**2022** University of Essex Departmental Fund for attending 2022 MPSA, £900

**2019** University of Essex Departmental Fund for attending 2019 EPSA, £450

**2018** Attendance Scholarships to Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis, £250

**2017–21** The Government Doctoral Scholarship in Legislative Studies and Comparative Politics, Taiwan's Ministry of Education USD\$168,000

## PEER REVIEW ACTIVITIES

*European Journal of Political Research* x 2; *Political Science Review* x 3; *Political Science Research and Methods* x 3; *Journal of Taiwan Politics* x 1; *Legislative Studies Quarterly* x 3; *Government and Opposition* x 1

## CONFERENCES (\*: discussant; +: Poster)

**2025** PolMeth Europe (LSE) | PolMeth<sup>+</sup> (Emory) | APSA\* (Vancouver) | EPSA\* (Madrid)

**2024** COMPTEXT (Amsterdam) | EPSA (Cologne) | APSA\* (Philadelphia)

**2023** EPSA (Glasgow) | APSA\* (LA) | ECPR SG Parliaments (Vienna)

**2022** ECPR (Innsbruck) | PolMeth<sup>+</sup> (WashU) | COMPTEXT (Dublin)

**2021** MLSS<sup>+</sup> (NTU, Taiwan) | APSA (Online)

**2019** EPSA (Online) | Asian PolMeth<sup>+</sup> (Online)

**2018** EPSA (Belfast)

## REFERENCES

**Prof. Stefan Müller**

School of Politics and International Relations  
University College Dublin  
 [muelsterstefan.net](mailto:muelsterstefan.net)

**Prof. Thomas Saalfeld**

Chair of Comparative Politics  
University of Bamberg  
 [uni-bamberg.de](http://uni-bamberg.de)

**Prof. Slava Jankin**

Chair in Data Science and Government  
University of Birmingham  
 [sjankin.com](http://sjankin.com)

**Dr. Nicole Baerg**

Department of Government  
University of Essex  
 [nicolebaerg.com](mailto:nicolebaerg.com)

**Prof. Jonathan Sullivan**

School of Politics and International Relations  
University of Nottingham  
 [www.nottingham.ac.uk](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk)

**Prof. Royce Carroll**

Department of Political Science  
University of Houston  
 [scholar.google](http://scholar.google)