Di Zhou

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Department of Sociology, New York University
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Last Updated: Aug. 2025

Research Interests

Class & Inequality, Political Economy, Computational Methods, Culture & Ideology

Education

2026 (Expected)	**New York University** – New York, NY
	Ph.D. in Sociology
	Dissertation: "On the Theory and Measurement of Class."
	Committee: Vivek Chibber (Chair), Mike Hout, Siwei Cheng
2017	**The University of Chicago** – Chicago, IL
	M.A. in Social Sciences
2015	**Chinese University of Hong Kong** – Hong Kong, SAR China
	M.A. in Global Communication
2011	**University of Iowa** – Iowa City, IA
	B.A. in Communication Studies

Publications

Zhang, Yinxian, and **Di Zhou**. Forthcoming. "One Sentiment, Multiple Interpretations: Contrasting Official and Popular Anti-Americanism in China." *Sociological Science.*

Zhou, Di, and Yinxian Zhang. 2024. "Political Biases and Inconsistencies in Bilingual GPT Models —the Cases of the U.S. and China." *Scientific Reports.* 14 (1): 25048.

Zhou, Di. 2022. "The Elements of Cultural Power: Novelty, Emotion, Status, and Cultural Capital." *American Sociological Review.* 87 (5): 750–81.
• *Best Student Research Paper Award, ASA Section on Asia and Asian America (2023)*
• *Best Student Research Paper Award, Honorable Mention, ASA Section on Communication, Information Technologies and Media Sociology (2023)*

Chen, Lijun, Dali Yang, **Di Zhou**, & Qiang Ren. 2018. *Child and Youth Well-Being in China*. Routledge: New York, NY.

Under Review

Zhou, Di. "Redesigning The Measure of Class: The American Class Structure Revisited."
• *Erik Olin Wright Prize, Havens Wright Center for Social Justice (2025)*
• *Robert D. Mare Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention, ASA Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility (2025)*
• *Aage Sørensen Award, ISA Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility (2025)*

Knight, Carly R., and **Di Zhou**. "The Construction of Economic Subjects in Business-Related Self-Help Books, 1970 to 2022." (Revise & Resubmit)

Working Papers

Zhou, Di. "The Transformation of the American Class Structure through Neoliberalism."

Zhou, Di. "Supervision without Authority? Organizations' Adoption of Surveillance Technologies and Occupation-level Class Shifts."

Zhou, Di and Virgilio Lazardi *(equal authorship)*. "The Geography of the American Working Class."

Zhou, Di, Byungkyu Lee, and Neal Meyer. "Class, Policy Preferences, and Political Ideology."

Awards/Honors/Fellowships

2025	Erik Olin Wright Prize, Havens Wright Center for Social Justice
2025	Robert D. Mare Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention, ASA Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility
2025	Aage Sørensen Award, ISA Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility
2024-25	Dean's Dissertation Writing Fellowship (New York University)
2024	Research Inception Grant (New York University)
2023-24	Adam Smith Fellowship (Mercatus Center)
2023	Best Student Research Paper Award, ASA Section on Asia and Asian America
2023	Best Student Research Paper Award with the Distinction of Honorable Mention, ASA Section on Communication, Information Technologies and Media Sociology
2018-23	MacCracken Doctoral Fellowship (New York University)
2020	Dissertation Research Fund (New York University)
2016	Social Sciences Scholarship (University of Chicago)
2014-15	Recognition of Academic Excellence Scholarship (Chinese University of Hong Kong)
2011	President's List (University of Iowa)
2008-09	First-class Scholarships (Communication University of China)
2008-09	Scholarships for Academic Excellence (Communication University of China)

Teaching

Spring 2022	Teaching Assistant, SOC-UA 388: **Capitalism and Democracy** Undergraduate course instructed by Vivek Chibber, New York University
Fall 2021	Teaching Assistant, SOC-GA 2332: **Introduction to Statistical Methods** Graduate/PhD course instructed by Siwei Cheng, New York University
Spring 2021	Teaching Assistant, SOC-GA 2332: **Introduction to Statistical Methods** Graduate/PhD course instructed by Siwei Cheng, New York University

Professional Presentations

Aug 2025	Presenter. "Redesigning The Measure of Class: The American Class Structure Revisited." *ASA, Chicago, IL*
Aug 2025	Presenter. "Redesigning The Measure of Class: The American Class Structure Revisited." *UCLA RC28, Los Angelas, CA*

Sep 2024	Presenter. "Political Biases and Inconsistencies in Bilingual GPT Models —the Cases of the U.S. and China." *Workshop of AI Governance in Global Dynamics, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada*
Aug 2024	Presenter. "Extracting Class Dimensions using Text Data: The Change of Class Structure of the US Labor Market, 1960 to 2020. *ASA, Montreal, Québec, Canada*
Aug 2023	Presenter. "East Rising, West Falling? Tracing the long-term changes in public sentiments in China" *ASA, Philadelphia, PA*
May 2023	**Invited Speaker**. "The Elements of Cultural Power: Novelty, Emotion, Status, and Cultural Capital." *NLP for Social Science, Columbia University, NY*
Nov 2022	**Invited Speaker**. "The Elements of Cultural Power: Novelty, Emotion, Status, and Cultural Capital" *Department of Sociology, Shandong University, Virtual*
Mar 2019	Presenter. "How Chinese Immigrants Become Trump Supporters: Revisiting Immigrant Political Resocialization Theory in the Age of 'Disconnection.'" *NYLON Conference, UCL, London, UK*
Mar 2018	Panel chair and paper presenter. "How Chinese new immigrants become Trump supporters?" in panel "Identities, Subjectivities, and the State(s): Immigrant Politicization in the Global Age." *Annual Conference of Association for Asian American Studies, San Francisco, CA*
May 2017	Presenter. "How Chinese new immigrants become Trump supporters? Revisiting theories of political resocialization in the context of 2016 Presidential Election on Zhihu (the 'Chinese Quora')." *East Asia Workshop, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL*

Peer Review and Other Service

Reviewer	*Social Forces, Sociological Methods & Research, Chinese Journal of Communication*
2023-2024	Social Media Volunteer, ASA Section on Communication, Information Technologies and Media Sociology
2022-2023	Graduate Student Representative on the Faculty Search Committee

Programming, Software, and Language Skills

Programming languages: R, Python, Stata. **Software**: LaTeX, Git, Gephi, MAXQDA. **Languages**: English, Mandarin

References

Vivek Chibber
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Mike Hout
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Siwei Cheng
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