

Elaine C. Yao

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Academic appointments

Washington University in St. Louis

2015–
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

Education

Princeton University

2019–25
PhD Politics; MA Politics (2021)

University of Chicago

2013–17
AB Economics (*General and departmental honors*)

Research

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

[Brook no compromise: How to negotiate a united front](#)
American Journal of Political Science (forthcoming)

[How Soft Propaganda Persuades](#) (with Daniel Mattingly)
Comparative Political Studies 55.9 (2022): 1569-1594.

[Authoritarian Responsiveness and Political Attitudes during COVID-19: Evidence from Weibo and a Survey Experiment](#) (with Lai Wei and Han Zhang)
Chinese Sociological Review (2021): 1-37.

WORK IN PROGRESS

[Organizational structure and protest tactics](#)

Observability in Collective Action: Group size and strategic interaction (with Gaétan Nandong)

Policy timing and reputation

Conferences, workshops, talks

INVITED & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025–26
Scheduled: APSA

2024–25
NYU (Political Economy); APSA

2023–24
WashU Conference for Early Career Scholars in Theoretical Political Economy; MPSA

2022–23
Kellogg Center Workshop on Formal Models of Politics (Virginia Tech); Comparative Politics and Formal Theory (Rochester); MPSA, SPSA

2020–21
Chinese Political Economy Workshop (NYU), NYU Quantitative China Studies Seminar

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

2024–25 WashU Conference for Early Career Scholars in Theoretical Political Economy, Political Economy of Political Institutions (Yale), Princeton-Warwick-Yale Political Economy Conference (London)

WORKSHOPS

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

Awards

2021–25 Quantitative and Analytical Political Science (Q-APS) Fellowship
2024 APSA Formal Theory section travel grant
2023, 2024 Stafford Fund (department conference travel award)
2020 Data-Driven Social Science Initiative, Small-Scale Grant (with Lai Wei)

Teaching

At Princeton:

Spring 2025	POL240: International Relations (U)	<i>TA for Christopher Blair</i>
Fall 2024	SPI340: The Psychology of Decision Making and Judgment (U)	<i>TA for Eldar Shafir</i>
Fall 2023	POL576: Formal Political Analysis II (G)	<i>TA for Germán Gieczewski</i>
Fall 2022	POL362: Chinese Politics (U)	<i>TA for Rory Truex</i>
Spring 2022	POL346: Applied Quantitative Analysis (U)	<i>TA for John Londregan</i>
Fall 2021	POL345: Introduction to Quantitative Social Science (U)	<i>TA for Marc Ratkovic</i>
	POL 571: Quantitative Analysis I (G)	<i>Tutor</i>

Professional Activities

REFEREEING

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

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

2017–19 Senior Research Analyst, Financial Intermediation, Federal Reserve Bank of New York

References

Matias Iaryczower

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Princeton University
miarycz@princeton.edu

Germán Gieczewski

Assistant Professor of Politics
Princeton University
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Carles Boix

Professor of Politics & Public Affairs
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