

FAN LIANG

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Kunshan, Jiangsu
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[Google Scholar](#)
[ResearchGate](#)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS	Duke Kunshan University Division of Social Sciences Assistant Professor of Media	2021 – Present
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Faculty Affiliate, Center for the Study of Contemporary China
Faculty Affiliate, Global Health Research Center
Faculty Lead, Digital Technology and Society Cluster
Faculty Director, SocioTech Futures Lab

EDUCATION	University of Michigan Ph.D. in Communication and Media	2016 – 2021
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	University of Glasgow M.Sc. in Political Communication Chevening Scholar	2014 – 2015
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	Shanghai Jiao Tong University B.A. in Public Administration	2005 – 2009
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| JOURNAL
ARTICLES | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. Zhong, W., Chen, B., Liang, F., & Zhang, M. (2025). Picturing protest: Visual framing in authoritarian media on Twitter. <i>Digital Journalism</i>, 1-22. 24. Pan, Z., Liang, F., & Tang, S. (2025). Trust in information sources and parents' knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) of children's PCV13 vaccination in the Yangtze River Delta Region, China. <i>Vaccines</i>, 13(9), 1-14 23. Liang, F. & Li, M. (2025). Geopolitics in platform governance: Algorithmic sovereignty and data localization in China and the United States, <i>Policy & Internet</i>, 1-11. 22. Tian, L, Liang, F., & Huang, Z. A. (2025). China defenders from abroad: Exploring pro-China foreign political influencers on X/Twitter, <i>Social Media + Society</i>, 1-12. 21. Liang, F. (2025). Tethered labor: Creation and coercion in the platform economy, <i>Media Culture & Society</i>, 1-17. 20. Ollier-Malaterre, A., Szwajnoch, E., Trauth-Goik, A., Bernot, A., Liang, F., & Poon, A. (2025). Navigating through the fog: Reflexive accounts |
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- on researching China’s digital surveillance, censorship, and other sensitive topics, *Journal of Contemporary China*, 1-18.
19. **Liang, F.** & Ji, L. (2024). Manufacturing influencers: The gatekeeping roles of MCNs (multi-channel networks) in cultural production, *Information, Communication & Society*, 1-17.
 18. Li, M., **Liang, F.**, & Zhu, Q. (2024). Examining active news avoidance across countries: A multi-level moderation analysis of news interests, news trust, and press freedom, *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 1-25.
 17. Tian, L. & **Liang, F.** (2023). Cultural porters and Banyun in Chinese fandoms on Bilibili, *Transformative Works & Cultures*, 41, 1-8.
 16. **Liang, F.** & Campbell, S. (2023). Technological acceptance and social shaping of 5G: Quantitative and qualitative Insights from China and the US, *International Communication Gazette*, 1-17.
 15. **Liang, F.**, Zhu, Q., & Li, M. (2023). The effects of flagging propaganda sources on news sharing: Quasi-experimental evidence from Twitter, *The International Journal of Press/Politics*, 28(4), 909-928.
 14. Campbell, S., Ross, M. Q., **Liang, F.**, & Rich, L. (2023). From moving about the city to moving about the home: Considering bounded spaces of connected mobility, *International Journal of Communication*, 5669–5689.
 13. Xu, P., Krueger, B., **Liang, F.**, Zhang, M, Hutchison, M., & Chang, M. (2023). Media framing and public support for China’s Social Credit System: An experimental study, *New Media & Society*, 1-19.
 12. **Liang, F.** & Lu, S. (2023). The dynamics of event-based political influencers on Twitter: A longitudinal analysis of influential accounts during Chinese political events, *Social Media + Society*, 1-12.
 11. Kim, Y., Chen, Y., & **Liang, F.** (2023). Engineering care in pandemic techno-governance: The politics of care in China and South Korea’s COVID-19 tracking apps, *New Media & Society*, 25(6), 1432-1450.
 10. **Liang, F.** & Chen, Y. (2022). The making of “good” citizens: China’s Social Credit Systems and infrastructures of social quantification, *Policy & Internet*, 1-22.
 9. Jia, L. & **Liang, F.** (2021). The globalization of TikTok: Strategies, governance, and geopolitics, *Journal of Digital Media & Policy*, 12(2), 273-292.
 8. **Liang, F.**, Chen, Y., & Zhao, F. (2021). The platformization of propaganda: How Xuexi Qiangguo expands persuasion and assesses citizens in China, *International Journal of Communication*, 15, 1855–1874.
 7. Lee, S., **Liang, F.**, Hahn, L., Lane, D., Weeks, B., & Kwak, N. (2021). The impact of social endorsement cues and manipulability concerns on perceptions of news credibility, *Cyberpsychology, Behavior & Social Networking*, 1-6.

6. Campbell, S., Zhao, F., Frith, J., & **Liang, F.** (2021). Imagining 5G: Public sense-making through advertising in China and the US, *Mobile Media Communication*, 1-16.
 5. **Liang, F.** (2020). COVID-19 and Health Code: How digital platforms tackle the pandemic in China, *Social Media + Society*, 1-4.
 4. **Liang, F.** (2019). The New Silk Road on Facebook: How China's official media cover and frame national initiative for global audiences, *Communication & the Public*, 4(4), 261-275.
 3. Lane, D. S., Lee, S. S., **Liang, F.**, Kim, D. H., Shen, L., Weeks, B. E., & Kwak, N. (2019). Social media expression and the political self, *Journal of Communication*, 69(1), 49-72.
 2. **Liang, F.**, Das, V., Kostyuk, N., & Hussain, M. M. (2018). Constructing a data-driven society: China's Social Credit System as a state surveillance infrastructure, *Policy & Internet*, 10(4), 415-452.
 1. Kwak, N., Lane, D. S., Lee, S. S., **Liang, F.**, & Weeks, B. E. (2018). From persuasion to deliberation: Do experiences of online political persuasion facilitate dialogic openness?, *Communication Research*, 1-23.
- CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS
1. Cao, J., Peng, X., **Liang, F.**, & Tong, T. (2024). "Voices help correlate signs and words": Analyzing deaf and hard-of-hearing (DHH) TikTokers' content, practices, and pitfalls", *Proceedings of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, 1-18.
- BOOK CHAPTERS
2. **Liang, F.** & Tian, L. (2023). From citizens to users: The algorithmic turn in China's surveillance apparatus. In Filimowicz, M. (Ed.), *Algorithms & Society: China's digital civilization* (pp.1-16), Routledge.
 1. **Liang, F.** (2020). Talking politics via images: Exploring the 2016 Chinese Internet memes war on Facebook. In Herdin, T. & Faust, M. (Ed.), *De-westernizing visual culture: Perspectives from the Global South* (pp.163-181), Nomos Publishing.
- OTHER PUBLICATIONS
3. **Liang, F.** (2021). China's social credit system is a fragmented experiment, *Devdiscourse*
 2. **Liang, F.** (2018). Book review: Can the Internet strengthen democracy?, *Global Media & Communication*, 14(3), 368-369.
 1. Kostyuk, N., Chen, W., Das, V., **Liang, F.**, & Hussain, M. M. (2017). High-tech governance through big data surveillance: Tracing the global deployment of mass surveillance infrastructures, 1995 to present, *SSRN*, 1-38.

AWARDS

Top Paper

- *Top Student Paper Award*, the 71st International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, Political Communication Division (First author, 2021)
- *Top Student Paper Award*, the 71st International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, Communication & Technology Division (Co-author, 2021)
- *Top Student Paper Award*, the 68th ICA Conference, Public Diplomacy Interest Group (Solo author, 2018)
- *Top Student Paper Award*, the 68th ICA Conference, Visual Communication Studies (First author, 2018)
- *Top Paper Award in Open Call Competition*, the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Conference, Communication Theory & Methodology Division (Co-author, 2018)

Academic Awards

- *Outstanding Faculty Scholarship Award*, Center for the Study of Contemporary China, Duke Kunshan University, 2023
- *Jiangsu ShuangChuang PhD Program*, ¥150,000, Jiangsu Education Department, 2023 – 2024
- *Chevening Scholarship*, the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, £28,000, 2014 – 2015

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Research Grants

- Research Grant, Kunshan Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ¥80,000, 2025-2027
- Social Science Division Chair's Discretionary Fund, Duke Kunshan University, ¥10,000, 2025-2026
- Summer Research Program Grant, Duke Kunshan University, ¥52,600, 2025
- Faculty Scholarship Grant, Duke Kunshan University, ¥40,000, 2024
- Social Science Division Chair's Discretionary Fund, Duke Kunshan University, ¥10,000, 2024-2025
- Research Grant, Summer Research Scholars (SRS) program, Duke Kunshan University, ¥38,400, 2024
- Research Grant, Summer Research Scholars (SRS) program, Duke Kunshan University, ¥38,400, 2023
- Research Grant, the Center for the Study of Contemporary China (CSCC), Duke Kunshan University, \$2,000, 2022
- Research Grant, Wang-Cai and Syneer Labs, ¥10,000, 2022
- Hou Tu Research Funding, Duke Kunshan University, ¥50,000, 2022-2023
- Kunshan Government Research Special Fund, ¥50,000, 2022-2024

- Summer Research Grant, the Center for the Study of Contemporary China (CSCC), Duke Kunshan University, \$2,000, 2022
- Research Grant, Summer Research Scholars (SRS) program, Duke Kunshan University, ¥25,600, 2022
- Research Grant, the Center for the Study of Contemporary China (CSCC), Duke Kunshan University, \$2,000, 2021
- Research Grant, Duke Kunshan University, ¥70,000, 2021
- Graduate Student Research Grant, the Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies, University of Michigan, \$2,500, 2019
- Graduate Travel Scholarship, University of Michigan, \$800, 2019
- American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Predissertation-Summer Travel Grant, \$5,000, 2018
- Graduate Travel Scholarship, University of Michigan, \$1,500, 2018
- Rackham Conference Travel Grant, University of Michigan, \$1,300, 2018
- Conference Travel Grant, Freie Universität Berlin, €1,300, 2018
- Volkswagen Foundation for Computational Method Workshop, €700, 2018
- Rackham Conference Travel Grant, University of Michigan, \$800, 2017

Fellowships

- International Institute Individual Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2018
- Lieberthal-Rogel Travel and Research Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2018

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- The 75th International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, June 11-16, 2025, Denver, CO
- The 2025 Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference, March 13-16, 2025, Columbus, OH
- The 2024 International Conference on Social Media & Society, July 16-18, 2024, London, UK
- The 74th International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, June 20-24, 2024, Gold Coast, Australia
- The 10th Biennial Surveillance Studies Network / Surveillance & Society Conference, May 29-31, 2024, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- The 2023 Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) Conference, October 18-21, 2023, Philadelphia, PA
- The 9th International Conference on Computational Social Science, July 17-20, 2023, Copenhagen, Denmark
- The International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) Annual Conference, July 9-13, 2023, Lyon, France

- The 73rd International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, May 25-29, 2023, Toronto, Canada
- International Conference on Automated Decision-Making and Chinese Societies, February 1-3, 2023, Melbourne, Australia
- The 2022 Annual Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR), November 2-5, 2022, Dublin, Ireland
- The 2022 Conference of British Association for Chinese Studies (BACS), August 31 - September 1, 2022, London, UK
- The 72nd International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, May 26-30, 2022, Hybrid Format
- The 79th Annual Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference, April 7-10, 2022, Hybrid Format
- Digital Transactions in Asia IV - 2022 Conference, February 10-11, 2022, Virtual Format
- The 71st International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, May 27-31, 2021, Virtual Format
- The 70th International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, May 21-25, 2020, Virtual Format
- The 5th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), July 17-20, 2019, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- The 69th International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, May 24-28, 2019, Washington, D.C.
- The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Conference. August 6-9, 2018, Washington, D.C.
- The International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) Annual Conference. June 20-24, 2018, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR
- The 68th International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference, May 24-28, 2018, Prague, the Czech Republic
- The 16th Chinese Internet Research Conference. May 22-23, 2018, Leiden University, Netherlands
- Data Science Research Forum. December 1, 2017, Ann Arbor, MI
- The 15th Chinese Internet Research Conference. June 5-6, 2017, Fort Worth, TX
- Global Fusion Conference. October 13-14, 2017, Athens, OH
- The 67th International Communication Association (ICA) Preconference, May 25, 2017, San Diego, CA
- Science, Technology, and the Politics of Knowledge in Global Affairs, March 30-31, 2017, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

INVITED TALKS

- LRCCS Noon Lecture, April 12, 2022, the Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- Digital Transformation in China – Recent Trends and Impacts, January 19, 2018, Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany

TEACHING

Instructor, Duke Kunshan University (2021 – Present)

- MEDIA 201: New Media and Society (Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025)
- MEDIA 203: Global Media and Communication (Fall 2025)
- MEDIA 207: Cultures of New Media (Spring 2025)
- MEDIART 208: Chinese Mass Media (Spring 2024)
- MEDIART 208: Comparative Media Systems and Chinese Mass Media (Fall 2021, Fall 2022)
- MEDIART 307: International Communication (Spring 2022)
- MEDIART 401: Campaigns and Marketing (Fall 2024)
- INFOSCI 103: Computation, Society and Culture (Fall 2023)
- SOSC 314: Computational Social Science (Spring 2023)
- INDSTU 391: Independent Study (Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025)
- CAPST 495: Signature Work Capstone I (Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024, Spring 2025)
- CAPST 496: Signature Work Capstone II (Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025)

Instructor, Technische Universität Berlin (2021)

- China's Rising Role in Global Communication (Spring 2021)

Instructor, University of Michigan (2019)

- COMM 322 Faculty Directed Undergraduate Research (Spring 2019)
- COMM 408 Big Data, Social Media, and Politics (Spring 2019)

Graduate Student Instructor (GSI), University of Michigan (2017 – 2020)

- COMM 102 Media Processes and Effects (Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Winter 2019)
- COMM 221 Quantitative Skills for Communication Studies (Fall 2019)
- COMM 307 Social Networks (Winter 2020)
- COMM 380 Persuasion, Communication and Campaigns (Winter 2018)

Guest Lecturer

- Emotions and Misinformation on Social Media, Social Innovation Foundations, Duke Kunshan University (June 2024)

- Fake News in International Communication, Wuhan University (Summer 2022, Summer 2023)
- International Communication, Université Paris Nanterre (Fall 2022)
- Transformations in the Digital Society, University of Groningen (Fall 2020)
- COMM 466 Global Digital Politics, University of Michigan (Winter 2020)
- POLSCI 389 China's Rising Global Role, University of Michigan (Winter 2020)
- Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, University of Michigan (Winter 2017)

TRAINING

- ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI, USA (June – July, 2019)
- Oxford Internet Institute Summer Doctoral Program, Oxford, UK (July, 2018)
- Computational Social Science Initiative and Workshops: Data Visualization for Social Science, Ann Arbor, MI, USA (March, 2018)
- Computational Method Workshop: Automated Content Analysis, Hanover, Germany (February, 2018)

ACADEMIC SERVICES

- Reviewer: MIT Press, Routledge, *New Media & Society*, *Political Communication*, *Information, Communication & Society*, *Policy & Internet*, *Social Media + Society*, *International Journal of Press/Politics*, *Communication Research*, *Chinese Journal of Communication*, *Mass Communication & Society*, *International Journal of Communication*, *Mobile Media & Communication*, *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, *Asian Journal of Communication*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, *Big Data & Society*, *Surveillance & Society*, *AI & Society*, *Communication & the Public*, *Television & New Media*, *International Journal of Cultural Studies*, *Sociology Compass*, *Sociology of Development*, *Journal of Crime, Law, and Social Change*, *The China Quarterly*, *Journal of Contemporary China*, *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, *Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management*, *Asiatische Studien*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Quality & Quantity*, *Regulation & Governance*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Globalizations*, *Health Policy and Technology*, *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, *PLOS ONE*, *Social Sciences*, *Global Media & China*, *Asian Security*, *Financial Innovation*, *Sustainability*, *Discover Artificial Intelligence*, *Global Policy*, *China Information*, *Modern China*, *Chinese Sociological Review*, *Asian Politics & Policy*, *Asian Journal of Technology Innovation*, *Global Change, Peace & Security*, *Body & Society*, *Journal of Political Marketing*, *Security Dialogue*, *Social Science Computer Review*, *Continuum - Journal of Media & Cultural Studies*, *Platforms*

& Society, Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, Scientific Reports, Political Science Research and Methods, Comparative Migration Studies, Communication Research & Practice, Journal of Current Chinese Affairs

- Conference Reviewer and Membership: ICA, AoIR, IC2S2, IAMCR, AAS
- Voting Member, the Surveillance in the Majority World Research Network (2024 – Present)
- Signature Work Mentor: Undergraduate Studies, Duke Kunshan University (2022 – Present)
- Academic Advisor: Undergraduate Studies, Duke Kunshan University (2021 – Present)
- Advisory Board, Center for the Study of Contemporary China, Duke Kunshan University (2023 – Present)
- Faculty Lead: Digital Technology and Society Cluster, Center for the Study of Contemporary China, Duke Kunshan University (2023 – Present)
- Faculty Lead: Global Health Media Project, Global Health Research Center, Duke Kunshan University (2022 – 2024)
- Committee Member: Dii Dachuang Project, the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Committee, Duke Kunshan University (2023 – Present)
- General Chair: Digital Technology for Sustainability Symposium, Duke Kunshan University (2025)
- Pathways to Success Mentor: Undergraduate Studies, Duke Kunshan University (2021 – 2023)
- Project Manager: Big Data Innovation and Governance Lab, University of Michigan (2016 – 2021)
- Peer Mentor: Department of Communication and Media, University of Michigan (2017 – 2018)
- Graduate Student Mentor: Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, University of Michigan (2017)

MEDIA COVERAGE

- Cheung, R. (2023, December 18). The Grand Experiment, *The Wire China*.
- Udemans, C. (2018, October 23). Blacklists and redlists: How China's Social Credit System actually works, *Technode*.

SKILLS

R, Python, SAS, MATLAB, Octave, SPSS, jamovi, Tableau, Gephi, NodeXL, LaTeX, Overleaf, HTML, MySQL, NVivo

POLICY CONSULTANCY

The Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (December 2019)

NON-ACADEMIC Journalist, Chengdu Economic Daily, China, 2009 – 2014
EMPLOYMENT