

Curriculum Vitae

Leo Yang Yang

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Academic Positions

Research Assistant Professor, Department of Accountancy, Economics and Finance, Hong Kong Baptist University, Sep 2024 - Present
Visiting Scholar, Center on China's Economy and Institutions, Stanford University, May 2025 – Sep 2025
Post-Doc Scholar, Center on China's Economy and Institutions, Stanford University, Feb 2024 – Aug 2024
Computational Social Science Fellow, UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, Oct 2021 – Dec 2023
Pre-Doc Fellow, Department of Political Science, Stanford University. Jan 2020 – Mar 2020
Visiting Researcher, The Center for European Economic Research (ZEW), June 2014 - July 2014

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science (Specialization in CSS), University of California San Diego, Aug 2017 - Dec 2023.
M.Phil. in Social Science, Division of Social Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Aug 2014 - Jul 2016.
M.A. in Finance, Wang Yanan Institute for Studies in Economics (WISE), Xiamen University, Sep 2011 - Jul 2014.
B.A. in Economics, Tan Kah kee College, Xiamen University, Sep 2006 - Jul 2010.

Research Interests

Computational Social Science, Labor Economics, Education Economics

Academic Affiliations

Faculty Affiliate, Stanford Center on China's Economy and Institutions (SCCEI)
Faculty Affiliate, UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation (IGCC)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- “Biting the Hand That Teaches: Unraveling the Economic Impact of Banning Private Tutoring in China” *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Forthcoming* (with Zibin Huang, Yinan Liu, and Mingming Ma)
- “Robot Adoption and Corporate Pollution Emissions: Evidence from China” *Pacific-Basin Finance Journal* 90, 102647. doi:10.1016/j.pacfin.2024.102647, 2025 (with Rui Xu, Hao Zhang, and Minghui Han)
- “Do Winners Spread More Words? Factional Competition and Local Media Reports on Negative News in Autocracy” *Political Science Research and Methods* 1-18. doi:10.1017/psrm.2022.35, 2022 (with Jean Hong)

Other Publications

- “The Consumption of China’s E-Commerce: Evidence from JD’s Festival Sales”, Chapter 9, *Handbook of U.S. Consumer Economics*, Academic Press, 2019 (with Wei Tian and Miaojie Yu)

Working Papers

- “User Location Disclosure Fails to Deter Overseas Criticism but Amplifies Regional Divisions on Chinese Social Media” (with Yiqing Xu) *Under Review*
- “Gaslighting: How Comment Section Controls on Social Media Shapes Public Opinion in China” (with Thomas Cao and Yiqing Xu)
- “Authoritarian Accountability or Performative Responsiveness? Media Supervision on Chinese Majors”
- “Harnessing the Power of Judgment with LLMs: Accuracy, Discrimination, and Hybrid Human-Machine Behaviors” (with Xiqian Cai, Yurou Wang, and Wenchao Xu) *Under Review*
- “From Visibility to Shadows: The Impact of Police Discretion on Prostitution in Response to Legal Changes” (with Yutian An, Xuancheng Qian, and Yingjie Fan)
- “Lingering Scars: The Persistent Psychological Impact of Political Violence” (with Yuan Liu)

Work in Progress

- “A Silent Silencing Industry: Unveiling the Labor Market of Chinese Censorship” (with David Yang, Eddie Yang, and Andy Zhao)
- “Reimagining the Value of Education: A Comprehensive Study of Socioeconomic and Cultural Returns in China’s Evolving Labor Market” (with Xinyao Qiu, and Hongbin Li)

Honors and Fellowships

- IGCC Computational Social Science Fellowship, 2022
- Ichimore Student Research Award, 2020
- Sanford Lakoff Research Fellowship, 2020

Teaching Experience

Methodology

Advanced Programming in Computational Social Science, UCSD, Fall 2021 /TA
Introduction to Web Scraping, Hong Kong Baptist University, Summer 2020 /Instructor
Making Policy with Data, UCSD, Winter 2018 /TA
Advanced Econometrics, Xiamen University, Fall 2014 /TA

Political Economy

ESG and Sustainability in Economics and Finance, HKBU, Winter 2024 /Instructor
Chinese Econ/Pol Capstone, UCSD, Winter 2020,2021,2022 /TA
Politics of People's Republic of China, UCSD, Fall 2017, Winter 2019 /TA
Political Economy: Modern Capitalism, UCSD, Winter 2018 /TA

Presentations

Seminars/Invited Talks

Zhongnan Accounting Seminar, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, Apr 2025
Invited Talk Series, Southern University of Science and Technology, Feb 2025
Lecture Series on Innovation and Frontiers in Digital Economy, Fudan University, Dec 2024
SZ-HK Youth Scholars Exchange on Economics and Finance, Shen Zhen University, Nov 2024
Outstanding Young Scholars & Practitioners Support Program, Peking University, Aug 2023
Computational Social Science Workshop, Renmin University of China, Jul 2023
Forum for the Growth of Young Scholars in Internet Law, Wuhan University, May 2023
Asian Perspective Seminar Series, Australian National University, Feb 2023
The Fourth Academic Forum of Chinese Political Communication Studies, CUC, May 2021
SDSI Data Science Lab Series Seminar, Stanford, February 2020

Workshops

"Causal Inference Meets Machine Learning" Reading Group, Student Organizer, 2018
UCSD Human Nature Group / Omni Methods Group, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
China Study Reading Group, Student Organizer, 2017, 2018