

# Leslie Huang

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## EDUCATION

**New York University** | PhD in Data Science, *expected* 2021

2018–present

*Transferred PhD programs with full support for my interdisciplinary research.*

- Dissertation: “Evaluating the state of democracy with natural language processing”
- Research interests: Natural language processing, text analysis, network analysis, computational social science

**New York University** | MA in Politics, 2018

2015–2018, Politics PhD student

- PhD Qualifying Paper: “Estimating the distribution of state power at the UN using topic models”
- MA Thesis: “Modelling responsiveness and willingness to negotiate using sentiment: a textual analysis of the FARC-Colombia peace talks”

**Columbia University** | BA in English Literature and Political Science, 2011

Graduated *summa cum laude*

- GPA: 3.99
- Dean’s List; Phi Beta Kappa honor society

## WORKING PAPERS

A. Spirling, L. Huang, and P. Perry. “Boring in a New Way: Estimation and Inference for Political Style at Westminster, 1935–2018.” *Under review*.

L. Huang. “Estimating the distribution of state power at the UN using topic models.”

## SOFTWARE

stylest: R package for estimating textual style. <https://cran.r-project.org/package=stylest>

zipR: R package for Python-style zip(). <https://cran.r-project.org/package=zipR>

## TEACHING

**NYU, Center for Data Science**

- Intro to Data Science (Python), Fall 2018
- Text-as-Data (R), Spring 2018

Taught programming labs for PhD/MS students in Data Science, tutored students on coding and research design, and graded problem sets.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**NYU, Politics** | Research Assistant

June–September 2017

- Wrote/refactored simulations in R for a study on incomplete sampling of networks in experiments.

**NYU, Environmental Studies** | Research Assistant

January–August 2017

- Implemented unsupervised machine learning models. Cleaned and constructed dataset of webscraped texts.

May 2010–May 2011

- Researched and coded case studies on intra- and interstate conflict for NSF-supported project.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**NYU, Center for Data Science** | “NLP/Text-as-Data Speaker Series” Coordinator

June 2017–present

- Manage logistics for a weekly series on cutting-edge NLP research featuring guest speakers from top universities and companies such as Google, Microsoft, and Facebook.

**W. W. Norton & Company** | Assistant Managing Editor

February 2013–July 2015, New York, NY

- *Promoted from Project Editor in September 2013.*
- Shepherded books from manuscript to first printing, working closely with editorial and design teams to ensure accuracy of all text and visual elements throughout the production cycle.

**Foreign Policy Association** | Assistant Editor

June 2011–February 2013, New York, NY

- Guided leading scholars in developing book chapters on international affairs. Wrote and researched supplementary publications. Designed print/digital publications. Hired/supervised interns.

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Center for Data Science Fellowship, 2018–present
- Center for Data Science Supplementary Fellowship Grant, 2018
- American Political Science Association Travel Grant, 2018
- Society for Political Methodology Travel Grant, 2018
- MacCracken Fellowship, 2015–2018
- NYU Dept. of Politics Summer Research Funding, 2016, 2017, 2018

## CONFERENCES

- Paper presentation, American Political Science Association, 2018 Annual Meeting
- Paper co-presentation, Society for Political Methodology, 2018 Annual Meeting
- Poster presentation, Society for Political Methodology, 2018 Annual Meeting
- Invited participant, Text Analysis Developers’ Workshop, 2018

## SKILLS

### Computer languages

Python

R

Stata

SQL (SQLite)

### Analytics

Machine learning

Data visualization

Text mining

Statistics & causal inference

Network analysis

### Human languages

Spanish (ltd. working proficiency)

German (elementary)

Mandarin (elementary)