

# Jeffrey Weng

翁哲瑞

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## Appointments

NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY  
Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2021–present

STANFORD UNIVERSITY  
Shorenstein Postdoctoral Fellow on Contemporary Asia, 2020–21

## Education

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY  
Ph.D. in Sociology, 2020  
M.A. in Sociology, 2014

YALE UNIVERSITY  
B.A. in Political Science and International Studies, 2008

## Publications

### BOOK PROJECT

*Out of Many Voices, One: Language and the Reinvention of the Chinese Nation.*

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Weng, Jeffrey. Forthcoming. “Stop the Presses! Publishing Chinese Character Simplification, 1935–1936.” *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2020. “End of an Era: Transforming Language and Society in Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, ca. 1870–1950.” *European Journal of Sociology* 61(2): 269–299.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2020. “Uneasy Companions: Language and Human Collectivities in the Remaking of Chinese Society in the Early Twentieth Century.” *Theory & Society* 49(1):75–100.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2018. “What is Mandarin? The Social Project of Language Standardization in Early Republican China.” *Journal of Asian Studies* 77(3): 611–633.

### BOOK CHAPTERS

Weng, Jeffrey. 2020. “Vernacular Language Movement.” *Oxford Bibliographies in Chinese Studies*. Ed. Tim Wright. New York: Oxford University Press.

Lie, John and Jeffrey Weng. 2020. “East Asia.” Pp. 129–146 in *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism*, edited by John Stone, Polly Rizova, Rutledge M. Dennis, and Xiaoshuo Hou. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons.

### BOOK REVIEWS

Weng, Jeffrey. Forthcoming. “Sound, Meaning, Shape: The Phonologist Wei Jiangong (1901–1980) between Language Study and Language Planning, by Mariana Münning.” *Bulletin of the Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica*.

Weng, Jeffrey. Forthcoming. "Kingdom of Characters: The Language Revolution That Made China Modern, by Jing Tsu." *The Journal of Asian Studies*.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2017. "The Rural Modern: Reconstructing the Self and State in Republican China, by Kate Merkel-Hess." *The China Review* 17(3):190–194.

**Invited talks**

Weng, Jeffrey. 2022. "What is Mandarin? Designing a New Language for a New Nation." International Chinese Language Program, National Taiwan University. Taipei, Taiwan.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2022. "The Transformation of Language and Society in Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, c. 1870–1950." Global Asia Research Center, National Taiwan University. Taipei, Taiwan.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2022. "Out in the Field in the Archives: One Historical Sociologist's Perspective on the Discipline." Department of Sociology, National Chengchi University, Taipei, Taiwan

Weng, Jeffrey. 2021. "Chinese Character Simplification and the Publishing Industry, 1935–1936." Colloquium. Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica. Taipei, Taiwan.

**Conference & workshop presentations**

Weng, Jeffrey. 2023. "Out of Many Voices, One: Language in the Reinvention of the Chinese Nation." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Section on Comparative-Historical Sociology. Panel, "Historical Sociology of Political and Economic Formations." Philadelphia, PA.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2022. "Meritocracy vs. Egalitarianism in Language and Education: China in the 1930s." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Section on Global and Transnational Sociology, refereed roundtable. Los Angeles, CA.

Weng, Jeffrey (panel organizer, chair, and presenter). 2022. "Hiding in Plain Sight: Language and the Construction of China's Ethnoracial Majority." *Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference*. Panel, "The Outsiders Within: Contesting Majority and Minority Peoplehood in Modern and Contemporary China." Honolulu, HI.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2021. "Bourdieu in China: Language and Symbolic Power Beyond Western Models." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Regular Session, Sociological Theory.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2021. Hiding in Plain Sight: Language and the Construction of the World's Largest Ethnoracial Group." University of Tokyo / National Taiwan University Sociology Forum. Taipei, Taiwan.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2020. "Hiding in Plain Sight: Language and the Construction of the World's Largest Ethnoracial Group." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Panel, "Internal Boundaries and Multinational States." San Francisco, CA.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2019. "Hiding in Plain Sight: Language and the Construction of the World's Largest Ethnoracial Group." Center for Culture, Organizations, and Politics Workshop. University of California, Berkeley.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2019. "Who are You Calling Anomalous? Eurocentric Explanations of the Rise of National Standard Languages and the Chinese Case." *The Eleventh International Convention of Asia Scholars*. Panel, "Sounding Chinese: Evolving Notions of Nation, Language and Identity." Leiden University, International Institute for Asian Studies. Leiden, Netherlands.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2019. "Stop the Presses! Character Simplification and the Publishing Industry in China Under the Nationalists, 1935–1936." *Languages and Scripts in China: New Directions in Information and Communications History*. Workshop at Columbia University. New York, NY.

Weng, Jeffrey (panel organizer and presenter). 2019. "Spreading the Word: National Language Education in China in the 1920s and 1930s." *Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference*. Panel, "Finding the Nation's Voice: Language Ideologies and the Remaking of Mandarin in Twentieth-Century Mainland China and Taiwan." Denver, CO.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2018. "The Political Economy of Spelling: The Publishing Industry and Character Simplification in China under the Nationalists, 1935–1936." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Section on Comparative Historical Sociology, refereed roundtable. Philadelphia, PA.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2017. "The End of East Asian Linguistic Cosmopolitanism: Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, ca. 1850–1950." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Section on Asia and Asian America, refereed roundtable. Montreal, Canada.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2016. "What is Mandarin? The Invention of a National Standard Language in Early Republican China." *East Asia as Method: Culture, Knowledge, Space*, Institute of East Asian Studies Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates. Berkeley, CA.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2016. "Language, Class, and Nation: The Rise of a National Lingua Franca and the Problem of Equity." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Comparative-Historical Section, Refereed Roundtable. Seattle, WA.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2016. "What is Mandarin? Nationalism and Linguistic Modernity in Early Twentieth Century China." *Colloquium Talk*. Nanjing University, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Nanjing, China.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2016. "What is Mandarin? Evolving Notions of Language and Peoplehood in Early Twentieth-Century China." *Language, Power and Identity in Asia: Creating and Crossing Language Boundaries*. Leiden University, International Institute for Asian Studies. Leiden, Netherlands.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2015. "Linguistic Modernity: The Limits of Ideology and State Power in the Creation of Modern Standard Languages." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Theory Section regular session panel, "Theorizing Inequality." Chicago, IL.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2015. "Linguistic Modernity: The Limits of Ideology and State Power in the Creation of Modern Standard Languages." *Junior Theorists Symposium*. Panel, "The State and Globalization." Chicago, IL.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2015. "Linguistic Modernity: The Limits of Ideology and State Power in the Creation of Modern Standard Languages." *Social Science History Association Annual Meeting*. Panel, "Fields and Disciplines." Baltimore, MD.

Weng, Jeffrey. 2014. "Language and Nation-Building in Early Twentieth-Century China: A Critique of Bourdieu." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Theory Section, refereed roundtable. San Francisco, CA.

### **Fellowships and grants**

Taiwan National Science and Technology Council Grant, 2023–25  
 The Catherine and William L. Magistretti Graduate Fellowship, 2019–20  
 Metro New York Leaders Fellowship, 2018–19  
 Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 2017–18  
 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, 2016–17  
 Finalist, Harvard Academy Scholars Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies (10 finalists chosen from 1,139 applicants), 2016  
 Dr. C.F. Koo and Cecilia Koo Fellowship for Outstanding Graduate Student in East Asian Studies, UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies, 2017  
 Long-Ling Hsiao Chu and Chao Chi Chu Fellowship in Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies, 2017  
 UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies Dissertation Fellowship, 2016–17  
 Helen Gan and Richard Aston Fellowship, 2015–16  
 UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates, 2015–16  
 China Times Cultural Foundation Young Scholars Award, 2015  
 Leo Lowenthal Fellowship, UC Berkeley Department of Sociology, 2015  
 Republic of China East Asian Fellowship, UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies, 2015

Taiwanese-American Foundation of Boston University Fellowship, 2015  
UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies Summer Research Grant, 2014  
UC Berkeley Department of Sociology Small Research Grant, 2013–14  
Institute for Humane Studies, Bernard Marcus Fellowship, 2013–14  
UC Berkeley Graduate Division Summer Grant, 2013  
Institute for Humane Studies, Baxter Fellowship, 2012–13  
Yale-China Association Teaching Fellowship, 2008–10

**Teaching**

*Race and Ethnicity* (fall 2023)  
*Political Sociology* (fall 2023)  
*Methods in Historical Sociology* (spring 2023)  
*Nations and Nationalism* (spring 2023, spring 2022)  
*Classical Sociological Theory* (fall 2022, fall 2021)  
*Contemporary American Society* (spring 2022)

**Service**

TO THE DISCIPLINE      Peer reviewer, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Social Problems*, *Sungkyun Journal of East Asian Studies*, *Sociology of Development*, *Journal of Asian Sociology*

TO THE DEPARTMENT      Member, Curriculum Committee and International Programs Committee (2023–24)  
Member, Doctoral Program Committee (2022–23)  
Colloquium and Proseminar Coordinator (fall 2022)

**Languages**

Mandarin Chinese (fluent)  
Spanish (advanced)

**Professional affiliations**

American Sociological Association  
Association for Asian Studies  
Yale-China Association

**Other skills**

Organist, St. John's Episcopal Cathedral, Taipei  
Baritone, Taipei Philharmonic Chorus

**References**

JOHN LIE (dissertation chair)  
C.K. Cho Professor  
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University of California, Berkeley  
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