

## **JEFFREY WENG**

Ph.D. Candidate  
University of California, Berkeley  
Department of Sociology  
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### **Education**

Ph.D. in Sociology (expected May 2020), University of California, Berkeley  
Dissertation: *With One Voice: Reinventing Language and Nation in China*  
Committee: John Lie (chair), Mara Loveman, Wen-hsin Yeh, Pamela Crossley

M.A. in Sociology (December 2013), University of California, Berkeley  
Thesis: "The Making of Modern Standard Chinese: A Critique of Bourdieu through the Lens of Language Reform and Nation-Building in Early Twentieth-Century China."

B.A. in Political Science and International Studies (2008), Yale University

### **Research Interests**

Race, ethnicity, nation; political sociology; global and transnational sociology; comparative historical sociology; sociology of language; social theory; Asia, China

### **Publications**

#### *Peer-Reviewed Articles*

Weng, Jeffrey. Forthcoming. "Uneasy Companions: Language and Human Collectivities in the Remaking of Chinese Society in the Early Twentieth Century." *Theory & Society*.

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. Forthcoming. "Vernacular Language Movement." *Oxford Bibliographies in Chinese Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Lie, John and Jeffrey Weng. Forthcoming. "Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism in East Asia." *Blackwell Companion to Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism*. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons.

*Book Review*

Weng, Jeffrey. 2017. “Review of ‘The Rural Modern: Reconstructing the Self and State in Republican China,’ by Kate Merkel-Hess.” *The China Review* 17(3).

**Work in Progress**

Weng, Jeffrey. “Hiding in Plain Sight: Language and the Construction of the World’s Largest Ethnoracial Group.” [Under review at the *American Journal of Sociology*.]

Weng, Jeffrey. “End of an Era: Transforming Language and Society in Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, ca. 1870–1950.” [Under review at the *European Journal of Sociology*.]

Weng, Jeffrey. “Stop the Presses! Character Simplification and the Publishing Industry in China Under the Nationalists, 1935–1936.” [Under review at *Twentieth-Century China*.]

Weng, Jeffrey. “Spreading the Word: Language and Social Change in China.” [Completed manuscript.]

Weng, Jeffrey. “The Agony of Privilege: The Politics of Ethnoracial Majorities in China and the United States.” [In progress.]

**Peer Reviewer**

*Sociology of Development*  
*Journal of Asian Sociology*

**Conference Presentations**

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

The Catherine and William L. Magistretti Graduate Fellowship, 2019–2020  
 Second Round, Junior Research Fellowship (3-year postdoctoral fellowship), Merton College, University of Oxford, UK, 2019.

Metro New York Leaders Fellowship, 2018–2019

Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 2017–2018

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, 2016–2017

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, 2016–2017

Helen Gan and Richard Aston Fellowship, 2015–2016

UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates, 2015–2016

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, 2013–2014  
 Institute for Humane Studies, Bernard Marcus Fellowship, 2013–2014  
 UC Berkeley Graduate Division Summer Grant, 2013  
 Institute for Humane Studies, Baxter Fellowship, 2012–2013  
 Yale-China Association Teaching Fellowship, 2008–2010

## Research and Teaching

### Graduate student instructor (TA)

- “Evaluation of Evidence” (Methods), Professor Daniel Schneider (fall 2018)
- “Politics and Social Change” (Political Sociology), Dr. Tiffany Page (fall 2014)
- “Modern Social Theory,” Professor John Lie (fall 2013)
- “Introduction to Sociology,” Professor Ann Swidler (fall 2012), Professor Thomas Gold (spring 2013), Dr. Jill Bakehorn (spring 2014)

### Reader (grading assistant)

- “Economy and Society,” Dr. Joseph Lough (fall 2019)
- “Sociology of Culture,” Dr. Jill Bakehorn (spring 2019, spring 2015)
- “Sociology of Work,” Dr. Linus Huang (spring 2012)
- “Sociology of Sports,” Dr. Linus Huang (fall 2011)

Graduate student assistant to Faculty Working Group, “Borders, Flows, and Networks: Actors, Knowledge, and Publics in East Asia,” Penelope Edwards, John Lie, Aihwa Ong (convenors), UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies (fall 2013): Assisted with research and record-keeping to facilitate faculty discussions on current research projects in sociology, political science, anthropology, history, English, and ethnic studies

Graduate Student Researcher (research assistant) to John Lie (summer 2013): Conducted archival research at the Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley, to investigate the inception of Korean-language instruction in the United States in 1941–1942

Research assistant to Stanley Lubman, UC Berkeley School of Law (2012–2013): Research in Chinese legal studies; translation of Chinese materials into English

## Experience and Service

Co-convenor, Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates, Institute of East Asian Studies (IEAS), University of California, Berkeley (2015–2016): IEAS-funded biweekly doctoral candidates’ writing workshop and conference, “East Asia as Method” (October 7–8, 2016), with 22 presenters (selected from more than 150 applicants), 6 discussants, and 2 invited extramural faculty keynote speakers

Yale-China Teaching Fellow, Hunan University, China (2008–2010): Designed and taught undergraduate courses in history, literature, and English language

Yale-China Service Intern, The Zigen Fund, Beijing and Guizhou, China (2007): Translated and updated bilingual (Chinese/English) publicity materials; designed curriculum and taught classes for Zigen’s training program for teachers of English

Research and Translation Intern, Shanghai Yudan, Shanghai, China (2009): Translated (into Chinese) British LGBT antidiscrimination legislation; participated in Yudan's scholarly conference on "Sexual Orientation in the Law and Society," August 2009

Taiwan Tech Trek Intern, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan) (2006): Produced detailed report on revising the English-language version of the Ministry's website; worked with the Chief of the E-Diplomacy Unit of the Department of Information and Cultural Affairs; First Place in the Humanities Award for presentation on internship work at the Taiwan Tech Trek Academic Conference

## **Languages**

Mandarin Chinese (fluent); Spanish (advanced)

## **Other Skills**

Organist and pianist (regular professional in local churches and synagogues)  
Chorister (more than 20 years' experience in choral ensembles)

## **Professional Affiliations**

American Sociological Association  
Association for Asian Studies  
Yale-China Association

## **References**

John Lie (dissertation chair)  
C.K. Cho Professor  
Department of Sociology  
University of California, Berkeley  
410 Barrows Hall  
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Mara Loveman  
Professor  
Department of Sociology  
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Wen-hsin Yeh  
Richard H. and Laurie C. Morrison Chair Professor  
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Pamela Crossley  
Charles and Elfriede Collis Professor of History  
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