

# Jeffrey Weng

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY  
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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

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

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 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):190–194.

## Work in progress

Weng, Jeffrey. “Stop the Presses! Character Simplification and the Publishing Industry in China Under the Nationalists, 1935–1936.”  
[Revise-and-resubmit at the *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*.]

Weng, Jeffrey. "Hiding in Plain Sight: Language and the Construction of the World's Largest Ethnoracial Group." [Completed manuscript.]

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*

**Presentations,  
talks & workshops**

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

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**

The Catherine and William L. Magistretti Graduate Fellowship, 2019–20  
Second Round, Junior Research Fellowship (3-year postdoctoral fellowship), Merton

College, University of Oxford, 2019  
 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  
assistantships**

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

**Service and  
experience**

CO-CONVENER, Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates, Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, 2015–16

- Coordinated biweekly doctoral candidates' writing workshop
- Organized 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

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, 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

RESEARCH ASSISTANT to John Lie, 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, 2012–13

- Research in Chinese legal studies; translation of Chinese materials into English

YALE-CHINA TEACHING FELLOW, Hunan University, China, 2008–10

- Designed and taught undergraduate courses in history, literature, and English language

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

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

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 for 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)

**Professional  
affiliations**

American Sociological Association  
Association for Asian Studies  
Yale-China Association

**Other skills**

ORGANIST, PIANIST, AND CHORAL CONDUCTOR  
Regular paid substitute in local churches and synagogues

**References**

JOHN LIE (dissertation chair)  
C.K. Cho Professor  
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