

# Yue Hu

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## Education

### *Degree*

Ph.D. in Political Science, The University of Iowa, U.S.A. 2018-05

Dissertation: “Rebuilding the Tower of Babel: Language Policy and Political Trust in China.”

Committee Chair: Wenfang Tang

Committee Members: William M. Reisinger, Frederick Solt, Caroline J. Tolbert, and David Cassels Johnson (Education)

Abstract: My dissertation explores how authoritarian governments use language policy to impact public political trust. Based on a comprehensive examination through survey analyses, experiments, and large-scale text analyses, my research demonstrates that authoritarian governments, such as in China, can use language policy as a political tool to influence citizens’ political attitudes. In particular, language policy empowers the official language used by government representatives, such as street-level bureaucrats, reinforcing their political identities and enhancing citizens’ trust in them. Using an original randomized experiment in China based on a new sociolinguistic technique, my research finds robust evidence that listeners hold significantly more trust in bureaucrats who speak the official language than in those who speak dialects, even if the respondent and government representative share the same dialect. Furthermore, my research shows that language not only influences citizens’ political trust but also their understanding of political concepts. Using a computer-assisted text analysis of over one million articles from the official newspaper of the dominant party of China from 1946-2003, I indicate a refocusing strategy by which the official discourse about democracy manipulates the meaning of democracy in the Chinese political language without contradicting with the Western democratic values, while simultaneously preserving the authoritarian regime. Drawing on multiple waves of nationally representative surveys from China, my dissertation also identifies distinctive effects of improving listening, speaking, and relative proficiencies of Putonghua on Chinese citizens’ political interest, efficacy, pursuit, and institutional-based political trust. This study contributes to political science, and even the entire social science by justifying the important role of language in human social and political lives and turning the research focus from language content to language context.

M.A. in Political Science, The University of South Carolina, U.S.A. 2013-12

M.A. in Political Science, The University of Regina, Canada 2011-03

LL.B. in International Politics, Nankai University, China 2009-06

### *Additional Training*

Certificate in Informatics, The University of Iowa, U.S.A. 2016-12

Experimental Methods, National University of Singapore (IPSA), Singapore 2014-06/07

## Professional Positions

Statistical Consultant, Iowa Social Science Research Center, University of Iowa. 2015-08/2018-05

## Research Interests

*Comparative Politics:* Language policy, political communication, inequality.

*Political Methodology:* Survey experiment, text analysis, network analysis, spatial analysis.

*International Relations:* Soft power, public diplomacy, Chinese foreign policy.

## Publications

### *Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles*

Vicki Hesli Claypool, William Reisinger, Marina Zaliznaya, Yue Hu, et al. ‘Tsar Putin and the Corruption’ Thorn in his Side: The Demobilization of Votes in a Competitive Authoritarian Regime”. *Electoral Studies* 54 (2018), pp. 182–204.

Yue Hu. “Are Informal Education Facilities Effective Means for Generating Political Support? A Spatial Analysis”. *Social Science Quarterly* (2018). Forthcoming.

Frederick Solt, Yue Hu, Kevan Hudson, Jungmin Song, et al. “Economic Inequality and Class Consciousness”. *The Journal of Politics* 79.3 (2017), pp. 1079–1083.

Frederick Solt, Yue Hu, Kevan Hudson, Jungmin Song, et al. “Economic Inequality and Belief in Meritocracy in the United States”. *Research and Politics* 3.4 (2016), pp. 1-7.

Wenfang Tang, Yue Hu and Shuai Jin. “Affirmative Inaction: Language Education and Labor Mobility among China’s Muslim Minorities”. *Chinese Sociological Review* 4.48 (2016), pp. 346-366.

Yue Hu. “Institutional Difference and Cultural Difference: A Comparative Study of Canadian and Chinese Cultural Diplomacy”. *Journal of American-East Asian Relations* 20.2-3 (2013), pp. 256-268.

### *Journal Articles in Chinese*

Yue Hu and Yuchao Zhu. “‘Issue-Oriented’ vs. ‘Ism-Oriented’: Indigenizing Political Science in China?”. *Tianjin Social Science* 3 (2011), pp. 46-50. (胡悦和朱毓朝:《“问题与主义”导向之争:西方比较政治学沿革及其借鉴意义》,载《天津社会科学》,2011年第3期,第46-50页。)

Tongshun Cheng and Yue Hu. “The Cultural Props of Foreign Policy”. *Tribune of Study* (2010), pp. 33–37. (程同顺和胡悦:《对外政策的文化道具:浅析文明冲突论的工具性》,载《学习论坛》2010年第26期,第33-37页。)

Yue Hu. “An Analysis of Politics Fixed Position of CPPCC from the Political Scientific Angle”. *Journal of Tianjin Institute of Socialism* (2009), pp. 19–23. (《从政治科学角度分析人民政协的政治定位》,载《天津市社会主义学院学报》2009年第1期,第19-23页。)

### *Software*

Frederick Solt and Yue Hu. “pewdata: Reproducible Retrieval of Pew Research Center Datasets”. Available at The Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN). 2016. <http://CRAN.R-project.org/package=pewdata>.

Frederick Solt and Yue Hu. “dotwhisker: Dot-and-Whisker Plots of Regression Results”. Available at The Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN). 2015. <http://CRAN.R-project.org/package=dotwhisker>.

Frederick Solt and Yue Hu. “interplot: Plot the Effects of Variables in Interaction Terms”. Available at The Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN). 2015. <http://CRAN.R-project.org/package=interplot>.

### *Under Review*

Yue Hu. “Culture Marker vs. Authority Marker: How Do Language Attitudes Affect Political Trust?”

Yue Hu. “Strategic Communication: Why the Chinese Government Engages in Discourse about Democracy and Why It Matters”.

Amy Liu and Yue Hu. “The Effects of Foreign Language Proficiency on Public Attitudes: Evidence from the Chinese-Speaking World”.

### *Working Projects*

“Measure Political Desirability: An Experimental Method” (with Wenfang Tang).

“The Logic of Peaceful Rise: Revisiting the Power-Peace Relationship in International Politics” (with Ray Ou-Yang)

“The Popularity of Political Propaganda in Modern China: A Model of Demands” (with Zijie Shao).

## **Invited Talks**

2018

“Culture Marker vs. Authority Marker: How Does Language Attitude Affect Political Trust?”  
Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, Jan., 3.

2017

“Investigating Inequality with Real-Life Data: Research Strategies and Methods.” Nankai University, Tianjin, Jun., 25.

## **Conferences**

2018

“Measuring the Influence of Language in Political Science Research.”

St. Louis Area Methods Meeting (SLAMM), Ames, Iowa, Apr. 20.

“Rebuilding the Tower of Babel? The Influence of Language Policy on Political Trust.”

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Convention, Chicago, Illinois, Apr. 5–8.

2017

“Cultural Accent vs. Authority Accent: How Does Language Attitude Affect Political Trust.”

Association of Chinese Political Science (ACPS) Annual Meeting, Tianjin, China, Jun., 9–11.

Chinese Political Science and Methods Workshop, Shanghai, China, Jul., 8–9.

Political Culture, Psychology, and Behavior Research Workshop, Nanjing, China, Jul., 9–11.

“The Weight of History: Explaining the Anti-Japanese Sentiments in the Chinese Circle” (with Amy Liu).

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Convention, Chicago, Illinois, Apr. 7–9.

“The Popularity of Political Propaganda in Modern China: A Model of Demands” (with Zijie Shao).

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Convention, Chicago, Illinois, Apr. 7–9.

“The Logic of Peaceful Rise” (with Ray Ou-Yang).

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Convention, Chicago, Illinois, Apr. 7–9.

International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, Baltimore, Maryland, Feb. 22–25.

2016

“Measure Political Desirability: A List Experimental Method” (with Wenfang Tang);

“Propaganda with Museums: A Spatial Analysis of Patriotic Educational Demonstration Bases in China”.

Association of Chinese Political Science (ACPS) Annual Meeting, Monterey, California, Oct, 10–11.

“Value Promotion, Justification, or Mobilization? The Dynamic of the Discourse on Democracy in Modern China.”

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference, Chicago, Apr., 7-10.

2015

“Affirmative Inaction: Education, Social Mobility, and Ethnic Inequality in China” (with Wenfang Tang and Shuai Jin).

“Language and Political Trust.”

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference, Chicago, Apr., 16–19.

2013

“Connecting Nationalism and Political Transition: A Study of Nationalist Influence on Political Transition based on the China Case.”

University of South Carolina Inaugural Graduate Student Conference, Columbia, South Carolina.

2012

“Twofold-Affecting Model: A Cultural Pattern of Social Change from a Comparative Study between the China and Russia Cases.”

American Association for Chinese Studies (AACS) Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, Oct. 12-14.

## Researching Program

Youth Project of National Social Science Foundation of China: Assessing and Improving the Political Ecology of Grassroots Party Organizations (ID: 17CZZ041).

Principal Investigator and Methodology Director

2017/06-2020/06

## Teaching Experience

*Instructor, University of Iowa*

Designing Political Research

Fall 2017

Math Camp for Incoming Graduate Students (with Jieli Yao)

Summer 2017

Introduction to R Workshop Series

2015-2017

Multilevel Modeling with Stata and R

2016-2017

Math Camp for Incoming Graduate Students (with Shuai Jin)

Summer 2016

*Guest Lecture, University of South Carolina*

Comparative Politics-Developing Countries

Spring 2012

National Security of United States

Fall 2011

## **Grants**

Ballard and Seashore Fellowship

2017

Post-Comprehensive Research Award

2016

T. Anne Cleary International Dissertation Research Fellowship

2016

Center of Asian and Pacific Studies Graduate Dissertation Grant

2016

Best Conference Paper Award of Department of Political Science

2016

Graduate Research Award, University of Regina

2010

City Administration Scholarship, Tianjin Municipal People's Government

2008

## **Professional Affiliation**

Member of American Political Science Association (& Political Communication Section).

Member of Midwest Political Science Association.

Member of Association of Chinese Political Science

Member of American Association for Chinese Studies.

## **Skills**

Analysis & Programming: R, Stata, Python, C++, Mathematica, NetLogo, JAGS, UCINET.

Application: L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Markdown, Git(GitHub).

Language: English, Chinese (Mandarin)