

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

Yue Hu. “Are Informal Education Facilities Effective Means for Generating Political Support? A Spatial Analysis”. *Social Science Quarterly* (2019). <https://rdcu.be/bj3NK> (visited on 02/07/2019).

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.

“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 Jieliu 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: \LaTeX , Markdown, Git(GitHub).

Language: English, Chinese (Mandarin)