# YIXIAO SUN

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Update: March 2025

#### **EDUCATION**

Michigan State University

East Lansing, MI

Ph.D. in Communication

2025-

Advisor: Dr. David M. Markowitz

Nanjing University

Nanjing, China

M.A. in Communication (with Distinguished Honor Graduate Award)

2022-2025

Advisor: Prof. Cheng-Jun Wang; GPA: 4.00/4.00

Sichuan International Studies University

Chongqing, China

B.A. in Internet and New Media (with Distinguished Honor Graduate Award)

2018-2022

Advisor: Prof. Hao Liu; GPA: 3.96/4.00

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- [4] Zhang, Y., Sun, Y., Lu, G., Chen, Z.\*, & Wang, C.J.\* (2025). Let Us Not Wallow in the Valley of Despair: The Role of Emotion, Panic, and Sympathy Discourses in Promoting Productive Actions. *International Journal of Business Communication*. Accepted in March 2025.
- [3] Zhang, Y., Sun, Y.<sup>†</sup>, & Wang, C.J.\* (2025). Unraveling the Shape of Social Media Narratives: Analyzing the Effects of Online Interaction and Narrative Structure on Attention to Digital Asset Transactions. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*. Online First in March 2025. [co-first author<sup>†</sup>]
- [2] Chen, Z., Yu, W., Sun, Y., Wang, C.J.\*, & Liu, X.F.\* (2025). The Dark Side of the Internet: Fueling Misinformation in the COVID-19 Pandemic and the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election. Communication and the Public. Online First in March 2025.
- [1] Sun, Y., Yan, X.F., Zhang, Y., Chen, J., Chen, Z.\*, & Wang, C.J.\* (2024). Globalization in International Tensions: The Impact of Military Conflicts on the Cultural Orientations of Multinational Corporations' Advertising in Modern China (1932–1937). Chinese Journal of Communication, 17(4), 452–470.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- [6] Sun, Y., & Ma, Z. (2024). Authoritarians in Response to Societal Crises: Reciprocal Dynamics of Right-Wing Authoritarianism, COVID-19 Fear and Prevention Belief. Paper presented at the 110th Annual National Communication Association (NCA) Conference, New Orleans, LA. [Top Paper Award]
- [5] Sun, Y., Fei, Y., & Yu, C. (2024). Resource Exchange, Perceived Social Support, Companionship and Intimacy: Characterizing the Social Relationship Between Users and ChatGPT. Paper presented at the 110th Annual National Communication Association (NCA) Conference, New Orleans, LA. [Top Student Paper Award]
- [4] Sun, Y. (2024). Building Identity Through Narratives: Who Voices Dissent Within the Party?. Paper in Progress presented at the 110th Annual National Communication Association (NCA) Conference, New Orleans, LA.

- [3] Zhang, Y., Sun, Y., Chen, Z., & Wang, C.J. (2024). How Emotion and Narrative Foster Resilience in Adversity: The Case of Large-Scale Online Donations during COVID-19. Paper presented at the 110th Annual National Communication Association (NCA) Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- [2] Sun, Y., Yan, X.F., Zhang, Y., Chen, Z., & Wang, C.J. (2023). From Imperialism to Cultural Imperialism: Localized Versus Globalized Advertisements of Imported Commodities in China (1932–1937). Paper presented at the 73rd Annual International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, Toronto, Canada.
- [1] Zhang, Y., Lu, G., Sun, Y., Chen, Z., & Wang, C.J. (2023). Traversing the Valley of Despair in Affective Mobilization: Issue Engagement, Emotion, and Online Donation on Sina Weibo During the Outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Paper presented at the 73rd Annual International Communication Association (ICA) Conference, Toronto, Canada.

### UNDER REVIEW

- [2] Sun, Y., & Ma, Z.\* (Under Review). Bipolarity of Positive and Negative Affects: Contemporaneous Network Relations of Nuanced Affect States.
- [1] Sun, Y., & Ma, Z.\* (Under Review). Authoritarians in Response to Social Crisis: Reciprocal Dynamics of Right-Wing Authoritarianism, COVID-19 Fear and Prevention Belief.

### SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

- [4] Sun, Y., & Ma, Z.\* Measuring Agency Through Text and Language Data: Validating Two Distinct NLP Approaches, Riveter and LIWC, Across Diverse Scenarios.
- [3] Sun, Y., & Ma, Z.\* Agency and Meaning in Life as Conscious Experiences in Shaping Emotions.
- [2] Sun, Y., Zhang, Y., & Wang, C.J.\* Too Deep in the Role: Unveiling the Connection Between U.S. Political Elites' Social Media Narrative Identity and Their Dissent Voting Behavior.
- [1] Li, W., Sun, Y., & Yue, Y. Artificial Intelligence vs. Medical Experts: A Comparative Analysis of Semantic Quality and Readability in Health Advice from Large Language Models and Human Institutions.

# **HONORS** and AWARDS

• Top Student Paper Award

#### Research and Academic Excellence

• Top Paper Award

Jul 2024

Political Communication Division, National Communication Association (NCA)

Jul 2024

Human Communication and Technology Division, National Communication Association (NCA)

• Chongqing Excellent Graduation Thesis Award

Jan 2023

### Competitive External Scholarships and Fellowships

National Scholarship for Graduate Student

Oct 2024

• HUANG Jianliang Scholarship

Oct 2023

• National Scholarship for Undergraduate Student	Dec 2021
Selected Competition Awards	
• National Second Place, Dissemination Data Mining Competition	Sep 2023
$\bullet$ First Place in West China, ESG National College Innovation Competition	Dec 2021
• Provincial Second Prize, Challenge Cup National Academic Works Competition	Aug 2021
• Provincial Third Prize, National Advertising Art Competition	Jul 2021
• National Third Prize, National English Competition for College Students	Nov 2020
Graduation Honors	
• Chongqing Distinguished Honor Graduate Award	Jun 2022
GRANTS	
External	
• National Social Science Foundation of China (22BXW032), ¥200,000, Research Fellow Project title: Computational Narrative Research on Chinese Stories and Chinese Voices in the Digital Media Era (PI: Cheng-Jun Wang)	2022-2025 a
• CAST Science Popularization Program (KXYJS2022063), \(\frac{\pmathbf{x}}{30,000}\), \(co-PI\) Project title: The Dissemination of Science Popularizating Information in Public Health Emergencies and Its Impact on Social Mobilization	2022-2024 d
• Chongqing College Students' Innovation Training Program (S202010650015), ¥2,500, PI Project title: Research on the Visualization of Public Opinions along the Belt and Road from the Perspective of Geopolitics: Twitter as an Example	2020–2023 e
Internal	
• Distinguished Postgraduate Talent Cultivation Program (2023GYB08), ¥10,000, PI Project title: Research on Advertising Strategies for Imported Commodities during the Republic of China from the Perspective of Cultural Imperialism	2023–2025 a
Travel Grants	
• National Communication Association (NCA) Student Caucus Travel Grant, \$200	2024
TEACHING	
Teaching Assistant	
Applications of Large Language Models in Digital Humanities, Nanjing University Undergraduate lecture; Instructor: Dr. Zhihao Ma	Spring 2025
<b>Text Data Analysis</b> , Nanjing University Graduate lecture; Instructor: Dr. Zhicong Chen	Spring 2024

Planning and Creative Strategy, Nanjing University

Graduate seminar; Instructor: Dr. Zhihao Ma

Fall 2023, 2024

Spring 2024

# Advertising Strategy and Creation, Nanjing University

Undergraduate lecture; Instructor: Dr. Zhihao Ma

### ACADEMIC SERVICES

#### Services for Academic Association

#### National Communication Association (NCA)

Information Officer, Human Communication and Technology Division

2025, 2026

 Responsible for managing and distributing division communications, maintaining the official NCA website, and overseeing social media engagement.

# RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

# Computational Communication Collaboratory, Nanjing University

Student Member

Nanjing, China Sep 2022–present

#### Chongqing Overseas Publicity Research Center

Global Public Opinion Research Intern

Chongqing, China May 2020–May 2022

### **SKILLS**

- Statistical Programming / Markup Languages: Python, R, Stata, LaTeX, HTML, SQL, CSS, SPSS
- Languages: Mandarin (Native), English (Proficient)
- Applications: Tableau, CiteSpace, Brackets, Photoshop, Premier Pro, Animate, Audition
- Music: Piano (Level 8 Certificate), Singing