# Tony Zirui Yang

One Brookings Drive Washington University in St. Louis Campus Box 1063 St. Louis, Missouri 63130



## Appointment

Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

Assistant Professor of Political Science, August 2025 –

**Nuffield College, University of Oxford**, Oxford, United Kingdom Postdoctoral Prize Research Fellow in Politics, 2024 - 2025

#### Education

Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri

Ph.D., Political Science, 2024 A.M., Political Science, 2021

Dissertation: "Essays on Government Censorship and Public Opinion in

Authoritarian Regimes" (Chair: Margit Tavits)

Renmin University of China, Beijing, China

LL.B. (with Honor), Law, 2018

**University of California, Davis**, Davis, California Exchange Student in Political Science, 2016 - 2017

#### Research Interests

Authoritarian Politics, Political Communication, Chinese Politics, Public Opinion toward Conflicts, Text-as-Data, Audio-as-Data, Experimental Methods

# **Publications**

"Normalization of Censorship: Evidence from China." *Conditionally Accepted, The Journal of Politics*, [Paper] [Appendices]

"Russian Invasion of Ukraine and Chinese Public Support for War." (with Deniz Aksoy and Ted Enamorado) *forthcoming, International Organization*, [Paper] [Appendices]

# Working Paper

"Participatory Censorship in Authoritarian Regimes" Revise & Resubmit, Comparative Political Studies, [Paper]

"Doublespeak: Limits of China's Hard and Soft Propaganda during Political Crises" (with Hongshen Zhu) *Under Review*, [Paper]

"How Chinese Censorship Allows Public Discourse on Democracies but Not Their Institutions" [Available Upon Request]

"Listen to the Party! An Audio-as-Data Approach to Emotional Propaganda" (with Haohan Chen and Yiqiang Wang) [Available Upon Request]

"The American Public Penalizes LGBTQ Supreme Court Nominees" (with Andrew Stone) [Available Upon Request]

## Work in Progress

"Transnational Impact of Chinese Propaganda on Inter-group Relations Overseas" (with Jeremy Siow and Minh Trinh)

"Gender Identity and Reducing LGBTQ Prejudice" (with Margit Tavits)

#### Grants

#### **External Research Grants**

Early Career Scheme, University Grants Committee, Hong Kong: 2023 (HK\$1,006,340 (≈ US\$128,400), with Haohan Chen & Yiqiang Wang) Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (\$20,000) APSA Centennial Center Research Grant (\$2,500) Institute for Humane Studies: 2022, 2023 (\$15,000 total) Institute for Humane Studies (\$5,000, with Minh Trinh & Jeremy Siow)

## **Internal Research Grants**

Global Futures Small Grants (\$2,000, with Jeremy Siow)
Weidenbaum Center Small Grant (\$12,000, with Margit Tavits & Jeremy Siow)
Weidenbaum Center Small Grant (\$9,000, with Deniz Aksoy)
Legislative Studies Quarterly Research Fund, Washington University (\$5,000)
Graduate Research Seed Grant, Washington University (\$2,000)

### **Travel Grants**

Asian/MENA PolMeth Annual Meeting Travel Grant: 2024 NSF Grant for PolMeth Annual Meeting: 2022, 2023 (\$1,900 total) APSA Committee on the Status of LGBT Travel Grant: 2022 (\$300) APSA Annual Meeting Travel Grant: 2021 (\$300)

#### Presentations

#### **Invited Talks**

Indiana University Bloomington, World Politics Speaker Series, "Normalization of Censorship: Evidence from China." November 2022
The University of Hong Kong, Methods Hub Talk Series, "Conducting Survey Experiments on Politics in China." November 2022

## **Conferences & Workshops**

APSA: 2022, 2023

MPSA: 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 (Accepted)

WPSA: 2023

PolMeth: 2022, 2023

Asian PolMeth: 2022, 2024

Peace Science Society (International): 2023

Authoritarian Political System Group Online Workshop: 2023 The Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research: 2023

NYU Experimental Political Science Conference: 2023

UCSD Young Scholars Conference: 2022

WUSTL Comparative Politics Annual Conference: 2022, 2023

NYU Quantitative China Studies Seminar: 2021

Harvard Experimental Political Science Conference: 2021

## Teaching Guest Lecturer

Political Power in Contemporary China (Juan Qian, UW-Madison), 2023 Global Information Wars (Haohan Chen, HKU), 2023 Understanding Political Protest & Violence (Sunita Parikh, WUSTL), 2020

# Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis

Graduate Level

Game Theory I (Keith Schnakenberg), Fall 2020 *Undergraduate Level* 

Quantitative Political Methodology (Ted Enamorado), Spring 2022 Latin American Politics (Guillermo Rosas), Fall 2021 Introduction to Political Theory (Clarissa Hayward), Spring 2021 Introduction to Comparative Politics (Guillermo Rosas), Spring 2020 Political Psychology (Taylor Carlson), Fall 2019

Fieldwork China: November 2022 to February 2023

# Additional Training Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri

Text Analysis (Brandon Stewart), Summer 2023

Causal Inference with Panel Data (Yiqing Xu), Summer 2021

Introduction to Python (Ryden Butler), Summer 2019

## University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom

Principles of Economics, Summer 2015

Skills & Languages **Programming:** R, Python, Qualtrics, MFX

Languages: Mandarin & Cantonese (native), English (fluent), French (basic)

Service Reviewer for American Political Science Review, Environmental Politics, Journal of

Quantitative Description: Digital Media, The China Quarterly Coordinator, Comparative Politics Annual Conference 2022

# **Margit Tavits**

Dr. William Taussig Professor Washington University in St. Louis

Email: tavits@wustl.edu

## **Ted Enamorado**

References

**Assistant Professor** 

Washington University in St. Louis

Email: ted@wustl.edu

# **Haifeng Huang**

Associate Professor Ohio State University

Email: huang.5457@osu.edu

# **Deniz Aksoy**

**Associate Professor** 

Washington University in St. Louis Email: denizaksoy@wustl.edu

# **Carly Wayne**

**Assistant Professor** 

Washington University in St. Louis Email: carlywayne@wustl.edu

# **Taylor Carlson**

Associate Professor

Washington University in St. Louis

Email: tncarlson@wustl.edu