

# Anqi Shao

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## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. Candidate in Life Sciences Communication** 9/2019-Present

Committee Members: Dr. Dietram Scheufele, Dr. Dominique Brossard,  
Dr. Kaiping Chen, Dr. Amy Claessens, Dr. Yea-seul Kim  
Ph.D. Minor in Political Science and Computer Science  
University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

**Master of Science in Communication Science** 2/2019  
University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands

**Bachelor of Science in Biology** 6/2016  
Fudan University, China

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Project Assistant** 7/2023-Present

“Persuasive Effects of Calls to ‘Do Your Own Research’”

Department of Life Sciences Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- Conducted data modeling for a quantitative content analysis of the "Do your own research" ethos in digital media.
- Managed the setup and execution of an online experiment about the persuasiveness of “Do your own research”, including the development of treatments and measures.

**Research Assistant** 7/2021-8/2022

“Reducing Bias in Human-AI Conversation”

Department of Life Sciences Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- Designed an experiment study on human-computer interaction with large-language model (GPT-3) chatbots.
- Employed a variety of modeling techniques and deep learning methods for data analysis of the crowdsourced experiment.

**Research Assistant** 10/2017-1/2019

Amsterdam School of Communication Research

- Developed a machine learning model to classify vaccine-related misinformation in Dutch

## RESEARCH INTEREST

computational social science, science communication, misinformation, identity politics,  
human-computer interaction

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Duan, Z., **Shao, A.**, Yang, S., Chen, K., Hu, Y., Suh, Y., Kim, J., Lee, H., Liao, X. (2024). Vectionary: A Word-Embedding-Based Optimization Approach to Extracting Moral Appeals from Text. *Political Analyais (forthcoming)*
- Chen, K., **Shao, A.**, Burapacheep, J., & Li, Y. (2024). Conversational AI and Equity: Assessing GPT-3's Communication with Diverse Social Groups on Contentious Topics. *Scientific Reports*.
- Chen, K., Jin, Y., & **Shao, A.** (2022). Science Factionalism: How Group Identity Language Affects Public Engagement with Misinformation and Debunking Narratives on a Popular Q&A Platform in China. *Social Media+ Society*, 8(1). [all authors have equal contribution]
- Wirz, C., **Shao, A.**, Bao, L., Howell, E. L., Monroe, H., & Chen, K. (2021). Media Systems and Attention Cycles: Volume and Topics of News Coverage on COVID-19 in the United States and China. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*.
- Ho, P., Chen, K., **Shao, A.**, Bao, L., Ai, A., Tarfa, A., Brossard, D., Brown, L & Brauer, M. (2021). A Mixed Methods Study of Public Perception of Social Distancing: Integrating Qualitative and Computational Analyses for Text Data. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*
- Meppelink, C., Hendriks, H., Trilling, D., van Weert, J. C., **Shao, A.**, & Smit, E. S. (2021). Reliable or not? An automated classification of webpages about early childhood vaccination using supervised machine learning. *Patient Education and Counseling*, 104(6), 1460-1466.
- Howell, E. L., Kohl, P., Scheufele, D. A., Clifford, S., **Shao, A.**, Xenos, M. A., & Brossard, D. (2020). Enhanced threat or therapeutic benefit? Risk and benefit perceptions of human gene editing by purpose and heritability of edits. *Journal of Risk Research*, 1-17.
- Chen, K., Bao, L., **Shao, A.**, Ho, P., Yang, S., Wirz, C., Brossard, D., Brauer, M., & Diprete Brown, L. (2020). How public perceptions of social distancing evolved over a critical period: communication lessons learnt from the American state of Wisconsin. *Journal of Science Communication*, 19(5), A11.

## **MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW**

- Chinn, S., Hassel, A., **Shao, A.**, (under review) What Does it Mean to 'Do Your Own Research'? A Comparative Content Analysis of DYOR Messages in Instagram and Facebook Posts about Women's Health, Food, and Vaccines. Paper in revise & resubmission to *New Media and Society*
- Middleton, L., **Shao, A.**, Cate., A., Haugen, J., & Li, N. (in R&R). Benefits outweighing risks: Thematic content of U.S. agricultural news coverage on CRISPR technology between 2012 and 2022. Paper in revise & resubmission to *Agriculture and Human Values*

## **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

### **Computational social science**

- Shao, A.** (2021, Aug). Influencers Alleviate Spiral of Silence, but Levitate Public Opinion Polarization? Preliminary Observations from an Agent Based Modeling Approach

[Conference presentation]. *Fourth Annual Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) Conference*, Virtual

**Shao, A.**, Chen, K., Duan, Z., Yang, S. (2022, Jun). The Reproductive Dynamics of Moral Appeal Expression on Social Media – Examining Public Discourse of COVID-19 Issues on Twitter [Conference presentation]. *ICA 2022 Regional Conference: Computational Communication Research in Central and Eastern Europe*, Virtual

**Shao, A.** (2020, Nov). Echoing Inside or Beyond the Walls: The #SciComm Discussion on Twitter [Conference presentation]. *106<sup>th</sup> National Communication Association (NCA) annual convention*. Virtual

**Shao, A.**, Meppelink, C., Smit, E., Trilling, D., Weert, J., and Hendriks, H. (2019, May), Automatically distinguishing correct information from misinformation about vaccines: a supervised machine learning approach [Conference presentation] *69th Annual International Communication Association (ICA) Conference*.

Duan, Z., **Shao, A.**, Hu, Y., Lee, H., Liao, X., Suh, Y. J., Kim, J., Chen, K., Yang, S., Yang, K. (June 2024) Vec-tionaries to Extract Latent Message Features from Texts: A Case Study of Moral Appeals. [Conference presentation] 74th Annual International Communication Association Conference, Gold coast, Australia

### Science & political communication

**Shao, A.**, Wang, Y., (2023, April) Cutting “Long COVID” Stories Short: Did News Outlets Oversimplify the Uncertainty in Medical Research about Post-COVID Conditions? [Conference presentation]. *Public Communication of Science and Technology (PCST) Conference*, Rotterdam, the Netherlands

**Shao, A.**, Xenos, M., (2022, Aug). Thematic and Semantic Shifts of Human Gene Editing in News Coverage through the CRISPR Baby Scandal. [Poster presentation]. *Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication (AEJMC) Conference*, Detroit, MI, United States.

**Shao, A.**, Bao, L., Wirz, C., Monroe, H., Chen, K. (2021, Dec). “They are Facing a Catastrophe”: Polarization and its trends in news coverage of COVID-19 case updates between the U.S. and China [Conference poster]. *SRA 2021 Annual Meeting*, Virtual

**Shao, A.**, Chen, K., Jin, Y., (2021, August), How Group Identity Polarizes Public Deliberation on Controversial Science: Examining Public Discourse on GMO Misinformation and Counter-Narratives from a Popular Q&A Platform in China. Paper presented at the *Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) annual conference*. Virtual.

Chinn, S., Hasell, A., **Shao, A.**, (June 2024) What Does it Mean to 'Do Your Own Research'? A Comparative Content Analysis of DYOR Messages in Instagram and Facebook Posts about Women's Health, Food, and Vaccines. [Conference presentation] 74th Annual International Communication Association Conference, Gold coast, Australia

Chen, K., **Shao, A.**, Jin, Y., (2021) “I Am Better Than You”: How Nationalism Strengthens Misperceptions. Accepted by *71st Annual ICA Conference, Engaging the Essential Work of Care: Communication, Connectedness, and Social Justice*. Virtual.

Yang, S., Newman, T. P., Brossard, D., Bao, L., Mueller-Herbst, J. M., Okada, T., **Shao, A.**, Scheufele, D. A., & Xenos, M. A. (2021, May). Signs of March for Science: Did they tell the right story? Paper presented at *the Public Communication of Science and Technology (PCST) conference*, Aberdeen, Scotland. Virtual.

## **Health communication**

- Shao, A.**, Chen, K., Johnson, B., Miranda, S., Xing, Q. (2022, Aug). Ubiquitous Coverage, Differentiated Effects: Intermedia Agenda Setting and its Effects in Communicating Protective Behaviors to American Adults during the COVID-19 Pandemic [Conference presentation]. *Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication (AEJMC) Conference*, Detroit, MI, United States.
- Chen, K., Bao, L., **Shao, A.**, Ho, P., Yang, S., Wirz, C.D., Brossard, D., Brauer, M., & Brown, L.D. (2020). How public perceptions of social distancing evolved over a critical time period: communication lessons learnt from the American state of Wisconsin. *2020 World Conference on Scientific Literacy: Special session "Scientific Literacy and public health crisis"*. Virtual.

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- Shao, A. (2023, Mar). *Implementation and Ethics of Automated Online Data Collection*. Invited talk at CMRG Brownbag, University of Wisconsin–Madison, School of Journalism and Mass Communication

## **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS**

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| <b>LSC Professional Development/Travel Awards</b> | 2020-2023 |
| <b>UW Student Research Grant</b>                  | 2023      |

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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| <b>Teaching Assistant</b>  | 8/2019-5/2023        |
| Department of Life Sciences Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison |                      |
| Risk Communication, LSC 625  | Spring 2023          |
| Visualizing Science and Technology, LSC 350                                | Fall 2022            |
| Research Methods in Communication Industry, LSC 250                        | Spring 2021          |
| Marketing Communications for the Sciences, LSC 270                         | Fall 2020, Fall 2019 |
| Science, Media, and Society, LSC 251                                       | Spring 2020          |

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE & ACTIVITIES**

- Manuscript Reviewer, *Scientific Reports*, February 2023
- Newsletter translator for Simplified Chinese, *Digital Journalism*, June 2024 -

## **REFERENCES**

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| <b>Dr. Dietram Scheufele</b><br>Taylor-Bascom Chair Professor<br>Department of Life Science<br>Communication<br>University of Wisconsin-<br>Madison<br>Email:scheufele@wisc.edu<br>Phone:608.262.1614 | <b>Dr. Dominique Brossard</b><br>Professor & Chair<br>Department of Life Science<br>Communication<br>University of Wisconsin-<br>Madison<br>Email: dbrossard@wisc.edu<br>Phone:608.263.3073 | <b>Dr. Kaiping Chen</b><br>Assistant Professor<br>Department of Life Science<br>Communication<br>University of Wisconsin-<br>Madison<br>Email: kchen67@wisc.edu<br>Phone:608.262.0184 |
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