Victoria Y. Zhang

Contact

Email: vzhang3@mit.edu

Information GitHub: github.com/victoria-y-zhang

Website: victoria-y-zhang.github.io

RESEARCH INTERESTS Entrepreneurship, Racial Segregation, Social Class, Inequality, Organizational Culture,

Organizational Governance

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

PhD Candidate in Management Science: Economic Sociology

May 2026 (anticipated)

Cambridge, MA

Cell: +1 (724) 689-9594

Dissertation: "Customers as a Constraint: Minority Entrepreneurship in U.S. Street Level Marketplaces"

• Awardee, MIT Systemic Racism Research Fund (2023-2025)

• Committee: Nathan Wilmers, Ezra Zuckerman-Sivan, and Susan Silbey

Amherst College, Amherst, MA

BA in Political Science & French, cum laude

May 2018

Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Sciences Po, Bordeaux, France

Economic Sociology: all coursework in French

September 2016 – January 2017

Publications

Nathan Wilmers, Di Tong, & Victoria Y. Zhang (2025). Between-firm Inequality and Informal Social Polyticus. American Journal of Socialogy.

Social Relations. American Journal of Sociology.

Under Review

Victoria Y. Zhang. Organizational Culture, Class Values, and Subordination at Work. Submitted to Journal.

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS *Denotes equal authorship

Victoria Y. Zhang. Customers as a Constraint: Minority Entrepreneurship in U.S. Street Level Marketplaces.

Victoria Y. Zhang. Popeyes as a Third Space: The Dual Role of Business in Racially Segregated Neighborhoods.

Victoria Y. Zhang. The Effects of Digitization on Spatially Segregated Businesses.

Austin Van Loon & Victoria Y. Zhang. Why Liberals Drink Lattes.

Hesu Yoon & Victoria Y. Zhang. From Bodegas to Bookstores: Essential Businesses During Socioeconomic Upgrading.

Mikaela Springsteen & Victoria Y. Zhang. Local Culture and Innovation in Brick and Mortar Businesses.

Victoria Y. Zhang* & Dylan Nelson*. Private Equity and Worker Commitment: Employee Perceptions of Business Outlook Shape the Foundation of Operational Value Creation.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

*Denotes presenter

Victoria Y. Zhang* (2025). Customers as a Constraint: Minority Entrepreneurship in U.S. Street Level Marketplaces. Academy of Management Annual Conference. (Copenhagen, Denmark).

Victoria Y. Zhang* (2025). Customers as a Constraint: Minority Entrepreneurship in U.S. Street Level Marketplaces. 2nd Annual Equitable Opportunity Conference (Boston, MA).

Victoria Y. Zhang* (2025). Customers as a Constraint: Minority Entrepreneurship in U.S. Street Level Marketplaces. Consortium on Competitiveness and Cooperation (Boston, MA).

Victoria Y. Zhang* (2025). Customers as a Constraint: Minority Entrepreneurship in U.S. Street Level Marketplaces. European Group for Organizational Studies Conference: Subtheme on Entrepreneurship, Social Structures, and Transformative Pathways: Reimagining Opportunities for Social Mobility (Athens, Greece).

Victoria Y. Zhang* (2025). Customers as a Constraint: Minority Entrepreneurship in U.S. Street Level Marketplaces. Organization Science Winter Consortium (Los Angeles, CA).

Victoria Y. Zhang* & Dylan K. Nelson (2025). Private Equity and Worker Commitment: Employee Perceptions of Business Outlook Shape the Foundation of Operational Value Creation American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL).

Victoria Y. Zhang* & Dylan K. Nelson (2024). Private Equity Buyouts and Organizational Culture Berkeley Culture Conference (Berkeley, CA).

Victoria Y. Zhang & Dylan K. Nelson* (2023). Private Equity Buyouts and Organizational Culture Academy of Management Annual Conference. (Boston, MA).

Victoria Y. Zhang*. Class and Organizational Culture (2023). Berkeley Culture Conference (Berkeley, CA).

• Best Student Paper Award

Victoria Y. Zhang*. Class and Organizational Culture (2022). Academy of Management Annual Conference (Seattle, WA).

CHAIRED Symposia

Clemens Aeppli & Victoria Y. Zhang (Chairs). Racial Segregation at Work and Economic Outcomes: Causes and Consequences of Organizational Sorting (2025). Academy of Management Annual Conference (Copenhagen, Denmark).

Presenters: Alicia Sheares, Janet Xu; Discussant: JP Ferguson

Victoria Y. Zhang (Chair). Entrepreneurship by Underrepresented Groups: Barriers, Strategies, and Opportunities (2025). Academy of Management Annual Conference (Copenhagen, Denmark). Presenters: Daniel Auguste, Kylie Hwang, Olenka Kacpercyzck; Discussant: Martin Ruef

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Grant Recipient (\$91,000), MIT Systemic Racism Research Fund (January 2023-May 2025)
- Best Student Paper, Berkeley Culture Conference (\$2000) (2023)
- Nominee, MIT Best Undergraduate Research Opportunity Supervisor (2023)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, MIT Sloan School of Management

- Organizational Processes for Business Analytics (Undergraduate Core Management Course)|Instructor: Ray Reagans 2024
- Power: Interpersonal, Institutional, and Global Dimensions (Undergraduate Elective)|Instructor: Susan Silbey 2023
 - Taught module on Power Sharing
- Organizational Processes (MBA Core Course)|Instructor: Erin Kelly 2023
- Organizational Processes (MBA Core Course)|Instructor: Roberto Fernandez 2022
- Negotiations Final Exam (MBA Core Course) | Instructor: Basima Tewfik 2022, 2024

SERVICE EXPERIENCE General Service

Co-organizer, Race and Organizations Working Group (Bi-weekly working group, with Tiffany Smith and Kyle McCullers) 2022-Present

Membership Committee, Organizations, Occupations, and Work Section, American Sociological Association 2025

Student Nominee, Organizations, Occupations and Work Section of American Sociological Association 2024

Reviewer, Academy of Management Annual Conference

2024, 2025

University and Departmental Service

Organizer, Economic Sociology Working Group

2023

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Supervisor

2023, 2025

 Supervised seven MIT and Wellesley undergraduates for projects involving quantitative text analysis, interviewing entrepreneurs, reviewing and finding relevant literature, and assessing intercoder reliability

Professional Experience Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

May 2021 – August 2021

Research Assistant, Work and Organization Studies

- Conducted Literature review for the Urban Institute and Workrise.
- Contributed to Employer Practices and Worker Outcomes: A Landscape Report.

Niche.com, Pittsburgh, PA

June 2018 - August 2020

Product Manager

Eaton Vance Corporation, Boston, MA

June 2017 - August 2017

Bank Loans Credit Intern

Union for International Cancer Control, Geneva, Switzerland June 2016 – August 2016

March archive and Portropolitic International Cancer Control, Geneva, Switzerland June 2016 – August 2016

Membership and Partnership Intern

Professional Memberships Member, Academy of Management (AOM)

Member, American Sociological Association (ASA)

Member, European Group for Organizational Studies (EGOS)

LANGUAGES

English Native Speaker French Professional Fluency Chinese Elementary