Rex Weiye Deng

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Education

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

 Dissertation: How Entertainment Fosters Political Compliance in China Ph.D., Political Science, expected in 2026 M.A., Political Science, 2023

Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan B.A., Economics, 2020

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong SAR, China B.Sc. (First-Class Honors), Global China Studies, 2020

Research Interests

Comparative Politics: Authoritarian Politics, Political Communication, State Building, China International Relations: Public Diplomacy, International Cooperation, U.S-China relations Methodology: Computational Methods (Text-As-Data), Surveys, Experiments

Working Papers

"Screened Realities: How Entertainment Fosters Political Compliance in Autocracies." (Job Market Paper)

[Manuscript] [Appendix]

- Rebecca Morton Poster Award, 2025 Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science
- Timothy E. Cook Best Graduate Student Paper Award, APSA 2024

"Weaponizing Democracy's Woes: Negative Propaganda and Regime Evaluations in Autocracies." Revise and Resubmit, *The Journal of Politics*.

[Manuscript] [Appendix]

"Exploiting Extremism: Strategic Responses of Radical Right Parties to Right-Wing Violence in Europe" (with Taishi Muraoka and Margit Tavits). Under review.

[Manuscript & Appendix]

"How Do State-Led Infrastructure Projects Affect Trust in Historically Hard-to-Reach Places?" (with David Carter). Under review.

[Manuscript] [Appendix]

"Softening the Crisis: How Cultural Diplomacy Fosters Interstate Reconciliation." [Available Upon Request]

"Can Leaders Shape Public Opinion During a Foreign Policy Crisis? Evidcence from U.S. Withdrawal from Afghanistan (with Amaan Charaniya, Dahjin Kim, Gechun Lin, William Nomikos, and İpek Ece Şener). Under review.

[Available Upon Request]

• Best Paper for the Foreign Policy Section, APSA 2022

Juniors Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (\$6,000)

Work in Progress

"The Blessing and Curse of Cute Propaganda" (with Haifeng Huang).

"Turning Crisis into Opportunities: How Authoritarian Regime Appeal to Mass Emotions in Crisis Communication" (with Xiaoxiao Shen).

2025

2019

Honors & Grants

Research Grant

1)	
Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (\$6,200)	2024
Graduate Research Dissertation Grant, Washington University	2024
(\$1,000)	
Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Govern-	2024
ment, and Public Policy, Washington University (\$15,000)	
Co-PI: Margit Tavits and Taishi Muraoka	
Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Govern-	2024
ment, and Public Policy, Washington University (\$12,000)	
Co-PI: Ted Enamorado	
Legislative Studies Quarterly Research Award, Washington University	2020
(\$5,000)	

Travel Grant

Traver Grant	
PolMeth Travel Award (\$1,000)	2025
ISA Travel Grant (\$600)	2025
APSA Political Psychology Section Distinguished Junior Scholar	2024
Award (\$600)	
APSA Travel Grant (\$200)	2023
APSA Travel Grant (\$200); APSA Foreign Policy Section Travel Grant	
(\$500)	

Other Awards

 Awarded for the first Waseda Data Science Competition 	
 Theme: Predict results of Japan's Upper House Election in 2019 	
 With Wenhao (Brian) Jiang, Yuji Mizushima, and Siyuan Shang 	
Dean's List, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	2016–2018

School of Political Science and Economics Award, Waseda University

Scholarships

Asian Future Leadership Scholarship, Bai Xian Asia Institute ($pprox$	2018
\$28,680)	
 Full tuition and living expenses for study at Waseda 	

- Full tuition and living expenses for study at Waseda Ho & Ho Foundation Scholarship, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (\approx \$76,000)
 - Full tuition and living expenses for study at HKUST

Presentations

Annual Meetings of Professional Associations

	American Political Science Association (APSA)	2022–2025
	International Studies Association (ISA)	2025
	The Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth)	2025
	Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)	2022–2023, 2025
	Western Political Science Association (WPSA)	2023, 2025
	Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)	2025
	Peace Science Society (International)	2024
	ISA-Midwest	2022
	Workshops and Seminars	
	Authoritarian Political System Group Online Workshop (Accepted)	2025
	Frontiers in Political Methodology (WashU)	2025
	Virtual Workshops on Authoritarian Regimes (VWAR)	2025
	Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science (NYU)	2025
	Comparative Politics Annual Confernce (CPAC; WashU)	2023-2025
	State Capacity Conference (Yale)	2022
	The Politics of State Authority and Insecurity Workshop (Rutgers University)	2022
Teaching	Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Political Science Undergraduate Level	
	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Guillermo Rosas)	Spring 2024
	Psychology of War (Carly Wayne)	Fall 2023
	Introduction to International Politics (David Carter)	Fall 2022, 2023
	Quantitative Political Methodology (Ted Enamorado)	Spring 2022
	Data Science for Politics (Jacob Montgomery)	Fall 2021
Additional Training	Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri	
raditional framing	Spatial Statistics (Scott Cook)	Summer 2024
	Text-As-Data (Brandon Stewart)	Summer 2023
	Time Series Analysis (Clayton Webb)	Summer 2022
	Python camp (Benjamin Noble)	Summer 2021
	Math camp (Jacob Montgomery)	Summer 2020
	East China University of Political Science and Law, Shanghai, China	
	Training Camp of Political Methodology and Chinese Political Institution	Summer 2020
Service	Journal Reviewer: Conflict Management of Peace Science, Journal of Ch	inese Political Sci-
	ence	
	Coordinator, Comparative Politics Annual Conference 2025 Manager, WashU Political Data Science Lab, Fall 2022 – Fall 2023	
Technical Skills	R, Python, Stata, ArcGIS, Qualtrics, Tableau, 上下X	

Languages

Mandarin Chinese (native), Cantonese (native) English (fluent), Japanese (basic)

References

Margit Tavits

Dr. William Taussig Professor Washington University in St. Louis

Email: tavits@wustl.edu

Carly Wayne

Associate Professor

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

Haifeng Huang

Associate Professor

The Ohio State University Email: huang.5457@osu.edu

David B. Carter

Professor

Washington University in St. Louis

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Ted Enamorado

Associate Professor

Washington University in St. Louis

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