

Rex Weiye Deng

Washington University in St. Louis
Department of Political Science
Seigle Hall L019
St. Louis, Missouri 63130

✉ weiye.deng@wustl.edu
🌐 rexweiyedeng.org
linkedin [rex-weiye-deng](https://www.linkedin.com/in/rex-weiye-deng/)
twitter [@rexhere1](https://twitter.com/rexhere1)

Education

- Washington University in St. Louis**, St. Louis, Missouri
Ph.D., Political Science, expected in 2026
- *Dissertation: Turning Resistance into Compliance: The Art of Transforming Negative Public Opinion*
 - *Committee: Margit Tavits (Chair), David Carter, Carly Wayne, Ted Enamorado, and Haifeng Huang (External)*
- 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, Political Psychology, 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.”
Revise and Resubmit, *American Political Science Review*. (Job Market Paper)
[\[Manuscript\]](#) [\[Appendix\]](#)
- Supported by the *APSA Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (DDRIG)*
 - *Rebecca Morton Poster Award*, 2025 Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science
 - *Timothy E. Cook Best Graduate Student Paper Award*, APSA 2024

- “Propaganda of Democracy’s Woes and Its Impact on Regime Evaluations in Autocracies.”
Revise and Resubmit, *The Journal of Politics*.
[\[Manuscript\]](#) [\[Appendix\]](#)

- “Softening the Crisis: How Cultural Diplomacy Fosters Interstate Reconciliation.”
[\[Manuscript\]](#) [\[Appendix\]](#)

- “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.

[\[Manuscript\]](#) [\[Appendix\]](#)

“Can Leaders Shape Public Opinion During a Foreign Policy Crisis? Evidence 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 Award for the Foreign Policy Section, APSA 2022*

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).

“Singing the Truth: Correcting Misperceptions Through Song Lyrics” (with Dahjin Kim).

“Imperial Echoes: How Historical Dramas Shape Contemporary Support for Strongman Rule.”

Honors & Grants

Awards

Provost’s Award for Graduate Research Excellence

2025

- University-level recognition for outstanding scholarly achievement, creativity, and independent research as a doctoral student (WashU)

Dean’s Award for Graduate Research Excellence (Semifinalist)

2025

- School-level recognition of outstanding research and scholarly accomplishments prior to graduation (WashU)

Timothy E. Cook Best Graduate Student Award

2025

- Awarded for the best graduate student paper presented at the Political Communication Section at APSA 2024

Rebecca Morton Poster Award

2025

- Awarded for the best poster at the Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science (NYU)

Best Paper Award for the Foreign Policy Section

2023

- Awarded at APSA 2022

School of Political Science and Economics Award

2019

- 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

Research Grants

APSA Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$10,009)

2025

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

2025

	Research Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (\$16,700) Dissertation Grant, WashU (\$1,000) Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy, WashU (\$15,000) • Co-PI: Margit Tavits and Taishi Muraoka Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy, WashU (\$12,000) • Co-PI: Ted Enamorado Legislative Studies Quarterly Research Award, Washington University (\$5,000)	2024 2024 2024 2024 2020
	Travel Grants APSA DDRIG Travel Grant (\$1,000) PolMeth Travel Award (\$1,000) ISA Travel Grant (\$600) APSA Political Psychology Section Distinguished Junior Scholar Award (\$600) APSA Travel Grant (\$200) APSA Travel Grant (\$200); APSA Foreign Policy Section Travel Grant (\$500)	2025 2025 2025 2024 2023 2022
	Scholarships Asian Future Leadership Scholarship, Bai Xian Asia Institute (\approx \$28,680) • Full tuition and living expenses for study at Waseda University Ho & Ho Foundation Scholarship, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (\approx \$76,000) • Full tuition and living expenses for study at HKUST	2018 2015
Additional Training	Washington University in St. Louis , St. Louis, Missouri Spatial Statistics (Scott Cook) Text-As-Data (Brandon Stewart) Time Series Analysis (Clayton Webb) Python camp (Benjamin Noble) Math camp (Jacob Montgomery)	Summer 2024 Summer 2023 Summer 2022 Summer 2021 Summer 2020
	East China University of Political Science and Law , Shanghai, China Training Camp of Political Methodology and Chinese Political Institution	Summer 2020
RA Experience	Washington University in St. Louis , Department of Political Science Research assistant (Carly Wayne) Research assistant (Margit Tavits, Jacob Montgomery, and Christopher Lucas) Research assistant (Michael Olson) Research assistant (Lucia Motolinia)	2021–2023 2023 2022 2022

Fieldwork **China** (Interviews with officials at local procuratorates) 2024

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, 2025–2026
Western Political Science Association (WPSA)	2023, 2025
Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)	2025
Peace Science Society (International)	2024
ISA-Midwest	2022

Workshops and Seminars

Political Science Speaker Series (Online)	2025
Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research	2025
Authoritarian Political System Group Online Workshop	2025
Frontiers in Political Methodology (WashU)	2025
Virtual Workshops on Authoritarian Regimes	2025
Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science (NYU)	2025
Comparative Politics Annual Conference (WashU)	2023–2025
State Capacity Conference (Yale)	2022
The Politics of State Authority and Insecurity Workshop (Rutgers University)	2022

Teaching

Teaching Assistant

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

Guest Lecturers

Digital Propaganda and Repression (Yingdan Lu, Northwestern)	Fall 2025
--	-----------

Service

To the discipline

Journal Reviewer: *The Journal of Politics*, *Conflict Management of Peace Science*, *Journal of Chinese Political Science*

Chair: APSA 2025, Timothy E. Cook Best Graduate Student Paper Award committee

To Washington University in St. Louis
Coordinator, Comparative Politics Annual Conference 2025
Manager, WashU Political Data Science Lab, Fall 2022 – Fall 2023

Technical Skills R, Python, Stata, ArcGIS, Qualtrics, Tableau, L^AT_EX

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	David B. Carter Professor Washington University in St. Louis davidcarter@wustl.edu
	Carly Wayne Associate Professor Washington University in St. Louis Email: carlywayne@wustl.edu	Ted Enamorado Associate Professor Washington University in St. Louis ted@wustl.edu
	Haifeng Huang Professor The Ohio State University Email: huang.5457@osu.edu	