Rex Weiye Deng

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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." Under 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

"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

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

Timothy 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 Foreign Policy Paper Award

2023

Awarded at APSA 2022

School of Political Science and Economics Award

2019

2020

- 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	2025
Juniors Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (\$6,000)	2025
Research Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (\$16,700)	2024
Dissertation Grant, WashU (\$1,000)	2024
Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Govern-	2024
ment, and Public Policy, WashU (\$15,000)	
Co-PI: Margit Tayits and Taishi Muraoka	

• 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)

2

	Travel Grants 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 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) East China University of Political Science and Law, Shanghai, China Training Camp of Political Methodology and Chinese Political Institution	Summer 2024 Summer 2023 Summer 2022 Summer 2021 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) Columbia University, Department of Political Science Research assistant (Junyan Jiang)	2021–2023 2023 2022 2022 2022
Fieldwork	China (Interviews with officials at local procuratorates)	2024
Presentations	Annual Meetings of Professional Associations American Political Science Association (APSA) International Studies Association (ISA) The Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth)	2022–2025 2025 2025

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)	2022–2023, 2025
Western Political Science Association (WPSA)	2023, 2025
Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)	2023, 2023
Peace Science Society (International)	2023
ISA-Midwest	2024
15A-Wildwest	2022
Workshops and Seminars	
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	2025
(NYU)	
Comparative Politics Annual Confernce (WashU)	2023-2025
State Capacity Conference (Yale)	2022
The Politics of State Authority and Insecurity Workshop (Rutgers Uni-	2022
versity)	
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
Data belefice for Folities (bacob Montgomery)	1411 2021
Guest Lecturers	
Digital Propaganda and Repression (Yingdan Lu, Northwestern)	Fall 2025
Chinese Politics (Peng Peng, WashU)	Fall 2025
To the discipline	
Journal Reviewer: Conflict Management of Peace Science, Journal of Ch	inese Political Sci-
ence	
Chair: APSA 2025, Timothy E. Cook Best Graduate Student Paper Awar	rd committee
To Washington University in St. Louis	
To Washington University in St. Louis Coordinator, Comparative Politics Annual Conference 2025	
Manager, WashU Political Data Science Lab, Fall 2022 – Fall 2023	
manager, masiro romitear Data science Lab, Pali 2022 – Pali 2023	
R, Python, Stata, ArcGIS, Qualtrics, Tableau, LaTEX	
Mandarin Chinese (native), Cantonese (native)	
English (floors) Innones (haris)	

Teaching

Service

Technical Skills

Languages

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 davidcarter@wustl.edu

Ted Enamorado

Associate Professor Washington University in St. Louis ted@wustl.edu