

# XIAORAN SUN

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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1/2022	Assistant Professor, Department of Family Social Science, College of Education and Health Development, University of Minnesota
09/2019 – present	Postdoctoral Scholar, Departments of Pediatrics & Communication, Stanford University
01/2020 – present	Postdoctoral Scholar, Stanford Data Science

## EDUCATION

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08/2019	Ph.D., Human Development and Family Studies, the Pennsylvania State University Graduate Minor in Social Data Analytics
12/2016	M.S., Human Development and Family Studies, the Pennsylvania State University
07/2015	B.S., Psychology, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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2021–2022	Microsoft Azure Computing Award, Stanford Data Science
2020 – 2021	Scholarship, Stanford Data Science Scholars Program
2017 – 2018	Traineeship, Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training – Big Data Social Science (BDSS-IGERT) Training Program, National Science Foundation (Grant DGE-1144860)
2015 – 2016	University Graduate Fellowship, The Pennsylvania State University
2015 – 2019	Morningside Cultural China Scholarship for Alumni Studying Abroad, Zhejiang University
2014	Li & Fung Scholarship, University of Hong Kong
2013	Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship (First-class), Zhejiang University
2012	National Academic Scholarship, Ministry of Education of P. R. China

## RESEARCH GRANT

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01/2021–12/2021	<b>Postdoctoral Support Grant</b> , Maternal and Child Health Research Institute, School of Medicine, Stanford University <b>PI: Xiaoran Sun, Ph.D.</b> Title: “Examining implications of parent-adolescent digital communication for their relationship quality and adolescent mental health” (The Family Screenome Project) Amount: \$80,000 (\$40,000 received due to other awards)
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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Family systems processes across sociocultural contexts; Families, adolescents, and technology;  
Adolescent and young adult development towards achievement;  
Innovative statistical and computational methods for studying family and youth development

## SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

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### *Manuscripts Published*

13. Sun, X.,\* Updegraff, K. A.,\* McHale, S. M., Hochgraf, A. K., Gallagher, A. M., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. Implications of COVID-19 school closures for sibling dynamics among Latinx children in the U.S.: A prospective, daily diary study. *Developmental Psychology*, 57, 1708-1718. (\*Equal contributions) (Media mentions: [Penn State News](#))
12. Sun, X., McHale, S. M., Updegraff, K. A., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. Implications of Mexican-origin youth's work experiences for relationships with fathers. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, 27, 796-807
11. Skinner, O. D., Sun, X., & McHale, S. M. (2021). Links between marital and parent-child relationship in African American families: A dyadic approach. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 35, 1086-1096.

10. Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2020). Career adaptivity mediates longitudinal links between parent-adolescent relationships and young adult occupational attainment. *Developmental Psychology*, 56, 2309-2321
9. Sun, X., Ram, N., & McHale, S. M. (2020). Adolescent family experiences predict young adult educational attainment: A data-based cross-study synthesis with machine learning. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 29, 2770-2785.
8. Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Crouter, A. C. (2020). Perceived underemployment and couple relationships among African American parents: A dyadic approach. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, 26, 82-92. (Media mentions: [APA spotlight](#), [Penn State News](#))
7. Skinner, O. D., Sun, X., & McHale, S. M. (2020). Longitudinal links between expressivity and African American parent-adolescent relationships: A dyadic approach. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 29, 442-454.
6. Jenkins, A. I. C., Fredman, S. J., Le, Y., Sun, X., Brick, T. R., Skinner, O. D., & McHale, S. M. (2020). Prospective associations between depressive symptoms and marital satisfaction in Black couples. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 34, 12-23.
5. Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2019). Sibling experiences in middle childhood predict sibling differences in college graduation. *Child Development*, 90, 25-34. (Media mentions: [NICHD](#), [ScienceDaily](#), [Penn State News](#), [The University Network](#), [MedicalResearch](#), [知识分子](#))
4. Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2019). Sibling dynamics in adolescence predict young adult orientations to couple relationships: A dyadic approach. *Journal of Adolescence*, 77, 129-138.
3. Lawson, K. M., Sun, X., & McHale, S. M. (2019). Family-friendly for her, longer hours for him: Actor-partner model linking work-family environment to work-family interference. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 33, 444-452.
2. Sun, X., McHale, S. M., Crouter, A. C., & Jones, D. E. (2017). Longitudinal links between work experiences and marital satisfaction in African American dual-earner couples. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 31 (Special Issue: *Advances in Methods and Measurement in Family Psychology*), 1029-1039.
1. Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2017). Maternal and paternal resources across childhood and adolescence as predictors of young adult achievement. *Journal of Vocational Behavior*, 100, 111-123.

#### Chapter Published

- Sun, X.\* & McMillan, C.\* (2018). The interplay between families and technology: Directions for future investigation. In J. Van Hook, S. McHale, & V. King (Eds). *Families and technology*, New York: Springer. (\*Equal contributions)

#### Manuscripts Under Review

- Sun, X., Haydel, F., Matheson, D., Desai, M., & Robinson, T. N. *Mobile phone acquisition age and ownership among low-income Latinx children: Links to well-being.*
- Sun, X., Ram, N., Reeves, B., Cho, M. J., Fitzgerald, A., Yang, X., & Robinson, T. N., *Dynamic characteristics of young adults' smartphone interactions with parents: Observing screenomes at multiple timescales.*
- Padilla, J., Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. *Longitudinal links between adolescent siblings' gender-typed characteristics and sibling relationship quality: A dyadic approach.*

## PRESENTATIONS AT SCHOLARLY MEETINGS

#### Conference Symposia & Workshops

- Sun, X. (2020, November). *Family Dynamics in the Digital World: Qualitative and Quantitative Analyses of Data From Interviews, Social Media, and Smartphones*. Symposium chaired at the National Council on Family Relations, virtual conference.
- Sun, X. (2020, November). *Introduction to Machine Learning for Family Research: Basic Concepts, Common Algorithms, and Application Examples*. Workshop chaired at the National Council on Family Relations, virtual conference. (137 registered attendees)

- Sun, X.** (2019, November). *How Families Help Youth to Flourish: The Role of Family Dynamics in Adolescent and Young Adult Positive Well-Being*. Symposium chaired at the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.
- Sun, X.** (2019, March). *Leveraging Machine Learning Methods for Research on Child Development in the Big Data Era*. Symposium chaired at the Biennial Meeting of Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Sun, X.** (2018, June). *Sociocultural Contexts of the Work-Family Interface: A Call to Identify Resiliency Factors*. Symposium chaired at the Biennial Meeting of Work and Family Researchers Network, Washington, D.C.
- Sun, X.** (2018, April). *The Role of Family in Adolescent and Young Adult Romantic and Sexual Relationships: A Call for Systems Research*. Symposium chaired at the Biennial Meeting of Society for Research on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN

#### **Paper Presentations**

- Sun, X.** & Wang, Y. (2021, November). *Typology of research on families and technology: A systematic review*. Paper presented at the TCRM conference at the National Council on Family Relations, virtual conference.
- Sun, X.**, Updegraff, K. A., McHale, S. M., Hochgraf, A. K., Gallagher, A. M., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. (2021, April). *Implications of COVID-19 school closures for sibling dynamics among Latinx children: A daily diary study*. Paper presented at the 2021 SRCD Virtual Biennial Meeting.
- Sun, X.**, Reeves, B., Ram, N., Cho, M. J., Fitzgerald, A., & Robinson, T. N. (2020, November). *Pulling closer or pushing away? Ambivalence in the dynamics between young adults and parents in the digital context*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, virtual conference.
- Sun, X.**, Robinson, T. N., Ram, N., Reeves, B., Cho, M. J., Chiatti, A., Lee, J., Roehrick, K., Yang, X., & Fitzgerald, A. (2020, July). *Parent-young adult communication in the digital world: A Screenomics paradigm*. Paper presented at 6th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), virtual conference.
- Sun, X.**, McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2019, November). *Career adaptivity mediates longitudinal links between parent-adolescent relationships and young adult occupational attainment*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.
- Sun, X.**, McHale, S. M., Updegraff, K. A., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. (2019, November). *Implications of Mexican-origin youth's work experiences for relationships with fathers*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations, Fort Worth, TX.
- Sun, X.**, & Ram, N. (2019, March). *Family experiences in adolescence predict young adult educational attainment: A machine learning approach*. Paper presented at Biennial Meeting of Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Sun, X.**, Chi, G., Yin, J., & McHale, S. M. (2018, October). *Sibling interactions and shared interests on Twitter: Analyses of a selected sibling sample based on archived Twitter data*. Paper presented at SRCD Special Topics: Conference on the Use of Secondary and Open Source Data in Developmental Science, Phoenix, AZ.
- Sun, X.**, McHale, S. M., & Crouter, A. C. (2018, June). *Perceived underemployment among African American spouses: Implications for couple relationships*. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of Work and Family Researchers Network, Washington, D.C.
- Lawson, K. M., **Sun, X.**, & McHale, S. M. (2018, June). *The associations between wives' and husbands' work-family environment and work-family spillover: Actor-Partner Interdependence Models*. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of Work and Family Researchers Network, Washington, D.C.
- Sun, X.**, & McHale, S. M. (2018, April). *Sibling dynamics in adolescence predict young adult orientations to couple relationships: A dyadic approach*. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of Society for Research on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN
- Sun, X.**, McHale, S. M., Crouter, A. C., & Jones, D. E. (2017, November). *Longitudinal links between work experiences and marital satisfaction among African American dual-earner couples*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL.

- Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2017, November). *Early parental resources predict young adult achievement*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL.
- Padilla, J. & Sun, X. (2017, November). *Links between siblings' gender-typed characteristics and sibling relationship qualities*. Paper presented at the National Council on Family Relations. Orlando, FL.
- Sun, X., McHale, S. M., Updegraff, K. A., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. (2017, May). *Sleep duration predicts time spent on homework among Mexican American adolescents: A daily diary study*. Paper presented at the Pennsylvania State University Mini-Conference on Multivariate/Longitudinal Methods. University Park, PA.

#### Poster Presentations

- Sun, X., LeBouef, S., & Dworkin, J. (2021, November). *It's how you talk about it: Linguistic correlates of family dynamics from young adults' interviews*. Poster presented at the National Council on Family Relations, virtual conference
- Sun, X., Haydel, K. F., Matheson, D., Desai, M., & Robinson, T. N. (2021, April). *Prospective study of mobile phone acquisition and ownership and well-being among Latinx children*. Poster presented at the 2021 SRCD Virtual Biennial Meeting.
- Sun, X., McHale, S. M., Updegraff, K. A., & Umaña-Taylor, A. J. (2018, April). *Time spent on homework among Mexican American adolescents: Contextual correlates and implications for achievement*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of Society for Research on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN
- Sun, X., McHale, S. M., & Updegraff, K. A. (2017, April). *Sibling experiences in middle childhood: Implications for sibling differences in college graduation*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.
- Mayfield, K., Sun, X., & McHale, S. M. (2016, October). *Correlates of fathers' and mothers' coparenting in African American families*. Poster presented at the special topics meeting, Babies, Boys, and Men of Color, Society for Research in Child Development, Tampa, FL.
- Sun, X., Kim, J. J., Fung, J. J., Park, H. & Lau, A. S. (2014, September). *Mothers' and children's implicit theories of intelligence: Implications for child mental health in Hong Kong families*. Poster presented at the Symposium for UCLA Cross-disciplinary Scholars for Science and Technology, Los Angeles, CA.

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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*The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Human Development and Family Studies*

##### Instructor

Summer 2019      HDFS 129: Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies (24 students)

##### Guest Lecturer

Spring 2017      HDFS 433: Developmental Transition to Adulthood  
"Family as a context of young adult career development"

##### Teaching Assistant

Spring 2019      HDFS 129: Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies (657 students)  
Spring 2017      HDFS 249: Adult Development and Aging (60 students)

#### SKILLS

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Proficient in R, Python, SAS, Linux, SPSS, and Mplus  
Proficient in machine learning methods (Python Scikit-Learn, TensorFlow), structural equation modeling, multilevel modeling, and mixture models  
Proficient with web scraping, text analysis, image processing

#### OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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2021      Consulting Editor, *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*

Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Journal of Family Psychology*, *Chinese Sociological Review*, *Frontiers in Psychology*,  
*International Journal of Psychology*

Committee Member, *Reuben Hill Award*, *National Council on Family Relations*

Panel Reviewer, *Society of Research on Adolescence*

2020 Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Journal of Adolescence*, *Youth & Society*, *Personal Relationships*, *Applied Psychology: An International Review*, *Community, Work and Family*

Panel Reviewer, *Society of Research on Adolescence*, *National Council on Family Relations*, *Society for Research on Child Development*

2019 Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, *Developmental Psychology*, *Journal of Family Studies*

Panel Reviewer, *National Council on Family Relations*

Co-reviewer, with Susan M. McHale, Ph.D., *Journal of Family Psychology*

2017 Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Journal of Family Psychology*

Co-reviewer, with Susan M. McHale, Ph.D., *Journal of Marriage and Family*

## NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS AND TALKS

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Sun, X. (2020, September). Sexual objectification of women: Are “compliments” on the body harmless? [in Chinese; 女性物化: “你的身材真好”, 是一种无害的夸奖吗? ] *Ms. Muses, WeChat*, 3282 views.

Sun, X. (2020, February). “Why is he not texting me back?” How smartphones influence intimate relationships. [in Chinese; “他为什么总不回我信息?” 手机如何影响亲密关系] *Ms. Muses, WeChat*, 2593 views.

Sun, X. (2018, December). Growing up in the same family, why siblings can become so different? [in Chinese; “同一屋檐下, 兄弟姐妹为何成为不同的人”] *Ms. Muses, WeChat*, 2178 views.

Sun, X. (2017, December). “How to improve your children’s academic performances? Perspectives from developmental psychology.” [in Chinese] Invited online parenting workshop by UltraBear Education, Inc., 3031 views.

Padilla, J., & Sun, X. (2017, April). “Sibling Relationships in Childhood and Adolescence” The 93rd Annual Pennsylvania Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (PAFCS) Conference, State College, PA.

Sun, X. (2017, February). Is a “Churning” Relationship True Love? [in Chinese; “分分合合” 的感情才是真爱吗? ] *Ms. Muses, WeChat*. 2916 views.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

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*The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Human Development and Family Studies*

08/2018 – 05/2019 **Graduate Student Representative to Faculty Meetings**

Attend the department’s monthly faculty meetings

08/2017 – 05/2018 **Student Advisor**

Coordinate the student buddy program for first-year graduate students

Compile a handbook for international students’ transition into graduate school

Organize student panel meetings for the graduate program’s milestones