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Pronouncing my name: [click here](#)

Areas of Interest Education; Stratification; Social demography.

Education	University of Wisconsin–Madison Ph.D. student, Sociology	Madison, WI Aug. 2024 – Present
	Beijing Normal University M.A., Economics of Education	Beijing, China Sep. 2021 – June 2024
	Southwestern University of Finance and Economics B.A., International Business	Chengdu, China Sep. 2016 – June 2020

Research Papers

Peer-reviewed papers

1. Zheng, Lei, Xiang Qi and Chong-Jiu Zhang. [Can improvements in teacher quality reduce the cognitive gap between urban and rural students in China?](#) *International Journal of Educational Development*. 2023.

Working papers

1. Out of Male-land: imbalanced sex ratios and migration. [\[Slides\]](#). 2024.
2. Sex ratio imbalance and trends on returns to education. [\[Slides\]](#). 2024.
3. Educational inequality in a risk society: risk attitudes and parental educational investments (with Lei Zheng). [\[Slides\]](#). 2024.
4. Reduction or reproduction: the impact of public investments on preschool educational inequality (with Zhuorui Deng). 2023.

Conferences

2025 *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, Washington, D.C.; *International Chinese Sociological Association Annual Conference*, Chengdu, China

2024 *Midwest Sociology of Education Conference*, Evanston, IL

2023 *Hong Kong Sociological Association Annual Conference*, Hong Kong; *International Chinese Sociological Association Annual Conference*, Philadelphia, PA; *Chinese Sociological Association Annual Conference*, Tianjin, China; *American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting*, Chicago, IL

2022 *International Chinese Sociological Association Annual Conference*, virtual; *Chinese Society of Education Annual Conference of Economics of Education*, virtual; *Winter Forum of Social Stratification and Mobility*, virtual

Teaching	Teaching assistant , Educational Psychology <i>Beijing Normal University (Zhuhai)</i>	Spring 2023
	Instructor , JA Economics <i>Junior Achievement China</i>	Fall 2016 - Fall 2019
Referee Services	<i>China Economics of Education Review</i> (in Chinese)	
Fellowships and Grants	Graduate School Fellowship (UW–Madison)	2024
	First Prize Scholarship (BNU)	2023
	Graduate Student Research Fund (BNU)	2022
	First Prize Scholarship (BNU)	2022
	Graduate Student Scholarship (BNU)	2021
Affiliations	Hong Kong Sociological Association	
	International Chinese Sociological Association	
	Population Association of America	
Skills	Computer	
	Python, R, Stata, ArcGIS, \LaTeX	
	Language	
	Mandarin (Beijing & Southwestern) [native], Cantonese [conversational]	