

ZHIFAN LUO

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology,
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, University at Albany - State University of New York, 2021
B.A. Sociology, Fudan University, 2011

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Media sociology, political sociology, computational social science, mixed-methods, elites and power, digital public sphere, digital authoritarianism

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- Luo, Zhifan**, and Muyang Li. 2022. "Participatory Censorship: How Online Fandom Community Facilitates Authoritarian Rule." *New Media & Society*. Online first. doi: [doi/10.1177/14614448221113923](https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448221113923)
- Luo, Zhifan**. 2022. "'Why Should Facebook (not) Ban Trump?': Connecting Divides in Reasoning and Morality in Public Deliberation." *Information, Communication & Society* 25(5): 654-668. doi: [10.1080/1369118X.2021.2021272](https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2021.2021272)
- Luo, Zhifan**. 2022. "Politicalization or Professionalism? A Case-Study of the Military's Discourse in China." *Armed Forces & Society* 48(1): 185-204. doi: [10.1177/0095327X20906848](https://doi.org/10.1177/0095327X20906848)
- Yang, Qinghua, **Zhifan Luo**, Muyang Li, and Jiangmeng Liu. 2022. "Understanding the Landscape and Propagation of Misinformation of COVID-19 and its Correction on Sina Weibo." *Global Health Promotion* 29(1): 44-52. doi: [10.1177/17579759211035053](https://doi.org/10.1177/17579759211035053)
- Luo, Zhifan**. 2021. "Disciplining the Party: From Rectification Campaigns to Intra-Party Educational Activities." *China: An International Journal* 19(4): 52-74.
- Li, Muyang, & **Zhifan Luo**. 2020. "The 'Bad Women Drivers' Myth: The Overrepresentation of Female Drivers and Gender Bias in China's Media." *Information, Communication & Society* 23(5): 776-793. doi: [10.1080/1369118X.2020.1713843](https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2020.1713843)
- Major, Aaron, and **Zhifan Luo**. 2019. "The Political-Military Foundations of China's Global Ascendancy." *Journal of World-Systems Research* 25(2): 420-448. doi: [10.5195/jwsr.2019.874](https://doi.org/10.5195/jwsr.2019.874)

Luo, Zhifan. 2017. “Intrastate Dynamics in the Context of Hegemonic Decline: A Case Study of China’s Arms Transfer Regime.” *Journal of World-Systems Research* 23(1): 35-60. doi: [10.5195/jwsr.2017.600](https://doi.org/10.5195/jwsr.2017.600)

Peer-reviewed Book Chapter

Luo, Zhifan, and Muiyang Li. Forthcoming. “Collecting and Analyzing Weibo Data: A Roadmap for Social Research.” Pp. 614-632 in *The SAGE Handbook of Social Media Research Methods (2nd Edition)*, edited by A. Quan-Haase and L. Sloan. London: SAGE.

Non-peer-reviewed Publications

Luo, Zhifan, and Muiyang Li. 2022. “[Online fan communities in China carry out their own form of self-censorship.](#)” *The Conversation*.

Luo, Zhifan, and Muiyang Li. 2022. “[Online posts may not reflect Chinese opinion when it comes to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.](#)” *The Conversation*.

Wu, Cary, Abidin Kusno, Ann H. Kim, Carol Liao, Dennis Kao, Guida Man, Hae Yeon Choo, Jing Zhao, Muiyang Li, Min Zhou, S. Harris Ali, Sibao Chen, Sida Liu, Weiguo Zhang, **Zhifan Luo.** 2021. “[As Asian Canadian scholars, we must #StopAsianHate by fighting all forms of racism.](#)” *The Conversation*.

Luo, Zhifan. 2019. “Review of Artistry of Historical Sociology: Interviews with Leading Scholars, by Taihui Guo.” *International Sociology Reviews* 34(2):164–166.

Book Translation (English to Chinese)

Lachmann, Richard. 2020. *First Class Passengers on a Sinking Ship: Elite Politics and the Decline of Great Powers*. New York: Verso (Anticipated publication in China by the Zhejiang University Press: 2023).

SELECTED AWARDS, FELLOWSHIP, AND GRANTS

External Sources

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| 2022 | LA&PS Postdoctoral Fellowship, York University, Canada (51,000 CAD) |
| 2022 | Western Postdoctoral Fellowship Award, Western University, Canada (102,464 CAD; Declined) |
| 2021 | Collaborator, Canada Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Insight Development Grants, Canada (45,130 CAD) |
| 2020 | Co-organizer, The Canada-China Initiatives Fund, York University, Canada (2,427 CAD) |
| 2020 | Co-Principal Investigator, The National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Award, U.S. (15,461 USD) |
| 2020 | Presenter, International Communication Association – Political Communication Division Travel Grant (250 USD) |
| 2020 | Presenter, International Communication Association – Computational Methods Interest Group Travel Grant (100 USD) |
| 2019 | Presenter, American Sociological Association Student Forum Travel Award, U.S. (250 USD) |

- 2019 Collaborator (equal contribution), Honorable Mention for the Best Project Award, The Summer School on Methods for Computational Social Science, Germany

Internal Sources

- 2021 SSHRC Explore Grant, York University, Canada (4,080 CAD)
- 2021 Research Grant, the Canada-China Initiatives Fund at the York Centre for Asian Research, York University (4,000 CAD)
- 2020 Liska Dissertation Research Award, Department of Sociology, University at Albany, U.S. (750 USD)
- 2020 Meadows Award for Excellence in Research, Department of Sociology, University at Albany, U.S. (300 USD)
- 2019 Dissertation Research Fellowship Awards, University at Albany, U.S. (700 USD)
- 2019 Karen R. Hitchcock New Frontiers Fund – Initiative For Women Award, University at Albany, U.S. (600 USD)
- 2018 Benevolent Association Award, University at Albany, U.S. (400 USD)
- 2017 Graduate Student Association Professional Development Grant, University at Albany, U.S. (413 USD)
- 2016 Graduate Student Employees Union Professional Development Award, University at Albany, U.S. (400 USD)
- 2013 Student Travel Grant, Department of Sociology, University at Albany, U.S. (400 USD)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Luo, Zhifan. “The Power Elite in the Twenty-First Century: Ideas, Discourses, and China Policy.”

Luo, Zhifan. “From Free Trade to Fair Trade: How the U.S. Political Elite Talked about Trade with China.”

Luo, Zhifan, & Muiyang Li. “Global Risk, Counter-Global Framing: How Western-Centric Geopolitical Identities Mediate the Perception of the Global Health Crisis.”

Li, Muiyang, Fan Yang, & **Zhifan Luo.** “Cross-Ideology News Consumption and Public Trust in COVID-19 Vaccines: A Canada versus the U.S. Comparative Study.”

Li, Muiyang, Ronald Jacobs, & **Zhifan Luo.** “In AI We Trust: Algorithmic Imaginaries, Trust, and Democracy.”

Ali, Syed Harris, Chandrima Chakraborty, Sibor Chen, Muiyang Li, **Zhifan Luo,** Guida Ching-Fan Man, and Alvin Yang (ed.). *Combating Anti-Asian Racism.*

Luo, Zhifan, Alvin Yang, & Muiyang Li (ed.). Special issue on Transculturality of Anti-Asian Racism. *Sociological Inquiry.*

INVITED TALKS

- 2023 “Analyzing Digital Text.” The Resource Centre for Public Sociology, York University.

- 2023 “Digital Text as Data: A Computational Approach.” The Digital Intimacy, Gender & Sexuality Lab, Concordia University.
- 2022 “Digital Authoritarianism as Collaborative Work: A Study of Queer-fantasy Community on Chinese Social Media.” Concordia University.
- 2022 “Free or Fair?: How U.S. Elites Talked about Trade with China and Why.” New Mexico State University, the U.S.
- 2021 “Can Computers Read? Epistemology and Methodology of Computational Social Science.” Yunnan University, China.
- 2020 “China’s Foreign Policy: The Domestic Roots.” Universidade Positivo, Brazil.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Censoring for Legitimacy: The Social Dimension of Censorship and Reproduction of Legitimacy.” 2023 Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association (Philadelphia, PA, U.S.).
- 2023 “Adapting the Conceptual Tool to the Digital Future: A Two-Dimensional Framework of Censorship.” The XX ISA World Congress of Sociology (Melbourne, Australia).
- 2023 “Debating Authenticity in the Narratives of Domestic Violence.” The 73rd Annual International Communication Association Conference (Toronto).
- 2023 “Negotiating the State’s Moral Authority: ‘Censorship’ with Legitimacy?” The Canadian Law and Society Association annual meeting (Toronto).
- 2022 “Source of Divergence: A Comparative Studies of News on COVID-19 Origin in the U.S. and Canada.” 2022 Media Sociology Symposium (Virtual).
- 2022 “Digital authoritarianism goes global: China’s soft and hard information campaigns.” 12th International Conference on Social Media & Society (Virtual).
- 2021 “From Free Trade to Fair Trade: How the U.S. Political Elite Talked about Trade with China.” 47th Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association (Virtual).
- 2021 “Why Should Facebook (not) Ban Trump? The Moral Foundations of Social Media’s Content Moderation.” 2021 Media Sociology Symposium (Virtual).
- 2021 “The Blind Men and the Elephant in the Room: Negotiating the Uncertainty of Censorship in Chinese Boys’ Love Fantasy Dramas.” 2021 Media Sociology Symposium (Virtual).
- 2021 “Evaluating the Impacts of Ideological Campaign on Social Media.” The 7th International Conference on Computational Social Science (Virtual).
- 2020 “Comparing the News Coverage of SARS and Wuhan Coronavirus.” The 6th International Conference on Computational Social Science (Virtual).
- 2020 “Are the Public Misinformed of COVID-19? Understanding the Landscape and Propagation of Coronavirus Misinformation on Sina Weibo.” The 6th International Conference on Computational Social Science (Virtual).

TRAINING IN RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- 2021 Linking Twitter & Survey Data, the GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (Virtual)
- 2020 ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods (Machine Learning, Regression Analysis) (Virtual)
- 2020 ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods – Social Network Analysis (Virtual)
- 2019 3rd Summer School on Methods for Computational Social Science – Methods for Analyzing Multimedia Data, the GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (Berlin, Germany)
- 2019 Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS), RTI International (Durham, NC, U.S.)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Canadian Review of Sociology/Revue canadienne de sociologie* Associate Editor (2023-2027)
- Special Issue Editor for *Sociological Inquiry* on Transculturality of Anti-Asian Racism (scheduled publication in 2024)
- Roundtable organizer, the American Sociological Association Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology section (2022 Annual Meeting)
- Organizer and discussant, Anti-Asian Racism During COVID-19 Workshop, York Centre for Asian Research (June 2021)
- Student Member, the Committee on Racial Justice, University at Albany (2021)
- Editor, *States, Power, and Societies* (ASA Political Sociology Section newsletter) (2020-2022)
- Editorial team member, *Journal of World-Systems Research* (2019-2020)

AD-HOC REVIEWER

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| <i>Current Sociology</i> | <i>Information, Communication & Society</i> |
| <i>Canadian Journal of Communication</i> | <i>Journal of World-Systems Research</i> |
| <i>Asian Journal of Communication</i> | <i>Chinese Journal of Communication</i> |
| <i>Asian Journal of Comparative Politics</i> | <i>Feminist Media Studies</i> |

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages: R, Python, SPSS, STATA, NVivo