

Zheqiao Chen

CONTACT INFORMATION zheqiao.chen@columbia.edu (949) 436-4682
www.zheqiaoc.com

EDUCATION **Columbia University in the City of New York** 2024 – 2025
Master of Political Science
Mentor: Andrew Nathan

Communication University of China 2020 – 2024
Bachelor of Public Administration
Mentor: Zijie Shao, Steven Dong

University of California Irvine 2022 – 2023
Visiting student

RESEARCH INTEREST Comparative Politics, Political Communication

RESEARCH **How Media Promote Populism in Elite Contexts: An Analysis of 70 Years of the Chinese Gaokao**
Co-author: Junyu Jiang
July 2024 – Present
This ongoing research aims to explore how two conflicting ideologies—populism and elitism—coexist in Chinese official media. We seek to gain insights into this question by analyzing historical Chinese newspapers.

Top-down Pressure and Government Responsiveness
Supervisor: Zijie Shao
February 2024 – July 2024
This research examined the effect of Central Environmental Inspection (CEI) on local government responsiveness. By analyzing textual data from the Local Leader Message Board (LLMB) for 12 cities using semi-supervised learning, the results show that local governments more actively respond to citizen appeals during CEI to address potential environmental issues.

War Memory and Nationalism: A Conjoint Experiment
Supervisor: Lu Zhang
June 2023 – Present
This ongoing research aims to explore the sources of online nationalism. I argue that a person's memory of wars can influence their nationalist sentiments. To investigate this, I designed a conjoint survey experiment that simulates a Weibo interface.

Early Political Communication Discourse Analysis of the CCP
Supervisor: Zijie Shao
February 2023 – April 2023
I assisted in creating a database of early CCP political communication texts, and used *ggplot2* for data visualization. This research discovered diverse patterns of Chinese modal particles in official documents from different historical periods. It also revealed how CCP leverages unofficial news to draw people's attention to official news and effectively guide public opinion in adverse political situations.

INTERNSHIPS

The Institute for Global Decarbonization Progress (iGDP)

Research and Public Relations Assistant

April 2022 – November 2022

- Compiled energy data and policies from 23 provinces (2008-present) and contributed to the *Closing the Emissions Gap through Subnational Climate Actions in China* report and the *China Carbon Neutrality Action* database.
- Tracked progress in clean energy and coal phasing out in several influential countries. Contributed to the *Global Coal Phase-Out Progress Tracking Report*.
- Facilitated promotion of the *Zero Plastic Future* project, managed social media platforms, and independently completed the project's final report.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Project Assistant

July 2021 – February 2022

- Independently translated TNC's documents on Water Benefit Investment principles and guidelines.
- Provided data visualization support to the team and created easy-to-understand maps and tables using Tableau.
- Collected data and information and drafted a report on water replenishment.

ACTIVITIES

Student Union

Coordinator

June 2021 – July 2022

- Established and managed the first social media account for the Student Union, and developed its communication strategy.
- Responsible for department operations and arranging member training; received Best Department and Best Coordinator awards from the Student Union.
- Formulated publicity guidelines and collectively established the organization's long-term vision and short-term planning through monthly meetings.

Media Center at the Communication University of China (CUC)

Student Journalist

April 2021 – February 2022

- Made news reports and handled every step of the process from conducting interviews and filming to copywriting and editing.
- Responsible for operating the CUC's WeChat video account, which won the *Annual Creative Performance Award* and was ranked among the *Top 100 Best WeChat Video Accounts for Colleges*.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Econometrics Summer School

University of Chicago & Peking University

2022

Computational Social Science Training

Communication University of China

2021

SKILLS

Languages: English (fluent), Chinese (native)

Computer Languages: Python (beginner), HTML (intermediate)

Statistical Packages: Stata (intermediate), R (beginner)

Applications: GeoDa, Qualtrics, L^AT_EX