

WEIDONG ZHANG

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EMPLOYMENT

University of Texas at El Paso

September 2024-

Assistant Professor, Department of Criminal Justice & Security Studies

EDUCATION

University of Iowa

August 2024

Ph.D., Political Science

University of New Mexico

June 2020

MA in Political Science

Beijing Foreign Studies University

June 2016

MA in American Studies, China

Hebei Agricultural University

June 2011

BA in English, China

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

International Relations

American Foreign Policy, Global and National Security, International Conflict and Cooperation, China's Grand Strategy, Indo-Pacific Security, Civil Conflict

Political Methodology

Introductory Statistics, Empirical Research Design, Network Analysis, Data Visualization, Duration Modeling, Time Series Analysis

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Independent Instructor

University of Texas at El Paso

DSS:5321 China's Grand Strategy (Spring 2025)

DSS:5314 Strategic Survey-Indo Pacific (Spring 2025)

DSS:5300 U.S. National Security (Fall 2024)

Independent Instructor

University of Iowa

POLI:3000 Analyzing Political Data (Spring 2024)

Instructor (Online courses)

University of Iowa

POLI:1500 Introduction to International Relations (Summer 2023)

POLI:3504 Globalization (Summer 2022)

POLI:1601 Introduction to Social Media & Politics (Fall 2021& Spring 2022)

POLI:3111 American Public Policy (Fall 2021)

Teaching Assistant

University of Iowa

POLI:1500 Introduction to International Relations (Fall 2023)

POLI:1400 Introduction to Comparative Politics (Fall 2022& Spring 2023)

POLI:3512 International Conflict (Spring 2022)

Teaching Assistant

University of New Mexico

POLS 300 Transitional Justice (Spring 2019)

POLS 581 Statistics for Social Research (Graduate level course, Fall 2019)

POLS 495 Junior Honors Seminar (Spring 2020)

POLS 340 International Organizations (Fall 2020)

PUBLICATIONS

Weidong Zhang (2024), Domestic turmoil and diversionary hypothesis: a linear relationship? *International Area Studies Review*, 27(4), 464-486. (Article Link)

Christopher Butler and Weidong Zhang, Choose Your Own Estimator (Or Perish Trying), in R. Joseph Huddleston, Tom Jamieson and Patrick James, eds., *Handbook of Research Methods in International Relations* Edward Elgar Publishing, 2022.

Meiyi Ren and Weidong Zhang, *Reflection on Trump's Foreign Policy and His Struggle with the Washington Establishment*, American Studies Series, Sichuan University Press, 2018.

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

The importance of money and connections: Explaining international status from UNGA draft sponsorship networks

APSA 2024, Philadelphia, PA

ISA, 2024, San Francisco, CA

Peace Science Society (International), 2023, St. Louis, MO

Power-sharing and diversion: how ethnic groups' access to power affects diversionary conflict

ISA Midwest 2023, St. Louis, MO

Extended deterrence or moral hazard at sea? Support from Great Powers and diplomatic maritime claims

APSA 2023, Los Angeles, CA

Domestic turmoil and diversionary hypothesis: a linear relationship?

MPSA 2023, Chicago, IL

Reflection on Obama's Foreign Policy Legacy and Trump's Foreign Policy Approach

14th Annual American Studies Network Conference, 2017, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China

American Public's Evaluation on Obama's Performance in Office

The 2016 Annual Conference of the Chinese Association of American Studies, 2016, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China

American China Hands' evaluations on China and policy suggestions on how to deal with it: 2012-2015

12th Annual American Studies Network Conference, 2015, Peking University, Beijing, China

ACADEMIC TRAINING

- Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research(ICPSR), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, June-August, 2020 & 2021
Bayesian Modeling for the Social Sciences I: Introduction and Application, Maximum Likelihood

Estimation I: Generalized Linear Models, Machine Learning: Applications in Social Science Research, Causal Inference for the Social Sciences, Data Science and Text Analysis, Game Theory, Panel Data and Longitudinal Analysis, Data Visualization

- Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, University of California, San Diego, August, 2019
The Geo-Economic and Geostrategic Dimensions of Great Power Competition in the 21st Century Summer Training Course

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Departmental Travel Funding, University of Iowa (2023)
- First Generation Scholars in the Profession Travel and Accessibility Grant, APSA annual meeting (2023)
- Travel Grant, APSA annual meeting (2023)
- Conflict Processes Section Travel Award, APSA (2023)
- Travel Grant, ISA-Midwest annual meeting (2023)
- EITM Certification Scholarship for ICPSR summer courses, Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models, (2021)
- Grant for Summer Training, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, University of California, San Diego (2019)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
Peace Science Society (International)
International Studies Association

COMPUTER SKILLS

- R
- L^AT_EX
- Stata
- Python

LANGUAGES

Chinese (native)
English
French (second foreign language in undergraduate studies)
Latin (one semester learning in MA period)
Spanish

REFERENCES

Sara Mitchell
Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Iowa
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Kelly Kadera
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Iowa
✉ kelly-kadera@uiowa.edu

Brian Lai
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Christopher Butler
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