Lingxiao Chen

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EDUCATION

Emory University   Atlanta, GA
Ph.D. in Sociology   2022–2027 (Expected)
- Dissertation: *Performing the Nation: Celebrity Politics and Public Perception under Authoritarianism*
- Research interests: political sociology, cultural sociology, nationalism, public opinion

University of Hong Kong   Pokfulam, HK
B.A. (First Class Honors), Sociology & Translation, with a minor in French   2021
- Thesis: *Telling China's Stories: the 2008 Sichuan Earthquake VS the COVID-19 Pandemic*

PUBLICATIONS

Chen, Lingxiao. Forthcoming. "Performing Nationalism: Audience Boundary Work in Celebrity Politics under Authoritarianism." *American Sociological Review.*

Xu, Bin, **Lingxiao Chen**, and Xueqia Zhang. 2025. "How to Say 'Black Lives Matter' in Chinese?: Race, Democracy, and Discourses of a Movement." *Social Problems.* spaf024.

WORKING PAPERS

"Nationalist Signaling as Image Repair: Audiences' Moral Economies in China's Entertainment."

"The Hierarchy of Virtue: Moral Engineering of Entertainers in China." Book chapter, *The Politics of Moral Engineering in China* (Edited Volume).

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies | $3,000   2025
Research grants for the project *Performing the Nation*

OYCF-Chow Field Research Fellow, Overseas Young Chinese Forum | $5,000   2025
Award supporting dissertation fieldwork in China Studies (5 recipients annually in North America)

Maureen Blyler Graduate Research Award, Emory Sociology | $250   2025
Awarded for the best research paper by an Emory Sociology graduate student

Graduate Global Research Fellow, The Halle Institute for Global Research | $5,000   2024
Fellowship supporting pre-candidacy fieldwork for the project *Performing the Nation*

Professional Development Support Funds, Laney Graduate School | $2,500   2023
Conference travel grant and training grant for attending the ICPSR quantitative training

Martin L. Levin Scholarship for Summer ICPSR Training | $2,500   2023
Fellowship awarded annually to support one Emory Sociology student in advanced quantitative training

Rosita King Ho Scholarship | $37,340   2017 – 2021
Entrance scholarship covering half the tuition fees at HKU

Talent Development Scholarship under the HKSAR Gov Scholarship Fund | $1,300   2020
National Champion, National Creative English Competition of China

Reaching Out Award under the HKSAR Gov Scholarship Fund | $1,300   2020
Scholarship for participation in overseas exchange programs

Pembroke-King's Programme - HKU Scholarship | $9,450   2019
Fully funded summer program at the University of Cambridge (up to three awards granted annually)

The Consular Book Award in American Studies, U.S. Consulate General HK| $200   2018
Scholarship for outstanding academic performance in American Studies at HKU

Dean's Honours List, University of Hong Kong | Honorary   2017-2021
Awarded for outstanding academic achievements at HKU

National Champion, National Creative English Contest of China | Honorary   2016
First place among 70,000 high school student contestants nationwide

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant | 21st Century China Center, UC San Diego   2020 – 2024
Conducted content analysis of attitudes of leading Chinese experts on U.S.-China relations

Predoctoral Fellowship | Jennifer Pan, Stanford University   2021 – 2022
Led data analysis, produced research reports, and supervised research assistants

Research Assistant | William I. Robinson, UC Santa Barbara   2020 – 2021
Analyzed and compiled data from UN reports for the book on global capitalism post-pandemic

Research Assistant | Tom McDonald, University of Hong Kong   2019 – 2020
Conducted interviews on cross-border financial activities in Hong Kong and mainland China

PRESENTATIONS

Performing Nationalism: Audience Boundary Work in Celebrity Politics under Authoritarianism
- Overseas Young China Scholars Annual Meeting (Aug 2025)
- Ethnography and Qualitative Research International Conference, University of Trento (July 2025)
- American Sociological Association: Nationalist Discourse and Lived Realities Panel (Aug 2024)
- Young Scholars Conference, UC San Diego (May 2024)

From Revolution to Regulation: Moral Engineering of China's Entertainment
- The Politics of Moral Engineering in China Workshop, University of Vienna (July 2025)

How to Say "Black Lives Matter" in Chinese?: Race, Democracy, and Discourses of a Movement
- Department of Sociology, Colby College (Mar 2025)
- Asian America Across the Disciplines Series, University of Pennsylvania (Nov 2023)
- Global Black Lives Matter: An Online Symposium (Sep 2023)
- American Sociological Association (Section on Sociology of Culture) (Aug 2023)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

ICPSR Summer Program   Ann Arbor, MI
Summer Courses, Text Analysis and Causal Inference   2023

University of California, Santa Barbara   Santa Barbara, CA
Semester Exchange, Sociology (Dean's Honor, GPA: 3.92/4)   2020

University of Cambridge   Cambridge, UK
Pembroke-King's Programme (Full Scholarship), Independent Research, Economic Sociology   2019

Teaching Experience

Emory University

- Qualitative Research Methods, (Graduate, TA, Fall 2024)
- Teaching Sociology, (Pedagogy training, Spring 2024)
- Development of Sociological Theory (Undergraduate, TA, Fall 2023)
- Culture and Society (Undergraduate, TA, Fall 2022)

Services

ASA Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity Section

- Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award Committee Member (2025)

ASA Social Psychology Section

- Nominations Committee Member (2025)

Skills

Fieldwork: Hong Kong, U.S.

Languages: Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent), Cantonese (fluent), French (intermediate)

Tools: R, Python, LaTeX, MAXQDA, Qualtrics