

# Michael Thompson-Brusstar

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Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science

Ann Arbor, MI

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## Education

*University of Michigan*, Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science 2016-2023 (expected)

Dissertation: *Supervision Science: Bureaucratic Control in China from Mao to Xi*

Major field: Comparative Politics (with honors)

Minor field: Political Methodology

*Santa Fe Institute*, [Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science](#) 2018

*University of Michigan*, M.A. Asian Studies: China 2015

*Juniata College*, B.A. International Politics 2012

## Interests

Chinese politics; bureaucracy; political economy; authoritarianism; text-as-data; anti-corruption

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

M. Thompson-Brusstar, 2022. [“Supreme supervisor? The historical development of the People’s Procuracy in the People’s Republic of China,”](#) *China Law and Society Review*.

Ding, I. and M. Thompson-Brusstar, 2021. [“The Anti-Bureaucratic Ghost in the Bureaucratic Machine.”](#) *The China Quarterly* 248(S1), 116-140.

Hanson, M. and M. Thompson-Brusstar, 2021. [“Building Socialist Legality: Political Order and Institutional Development in the Soviet and Chinese Procuracies”](#), *Europe-Asia Studies* 73:1, 157-177.

## Working Papers and Projects

“Discipline and Punishment in the Chinese Communist Party,” with Alexander Jaronow. *Book chapter; Accepted.*

“Learning by Going Out: Sub-national Diplomacy and Bureaucratic Learning in Reform China,” with James Evans. *In preparation.*

“Validating Optical Character Recognition Approaches for Political Text,” with Blake Miller. *In preparation.*

“Information and Autonomy in Xi’s China: The Case of Central Inspection Teams” *In preparation.*

## Invited Presentations

“Information and Autonomy in Xi’s China: The Case of Central Inspection Teams,” UC San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy China Research Workshop, April 29, 2022.

"Discipline and Punishment in the Chinese Communist Party," at "The CCP at 100", hosted by CSIS and COSi (CIRA), November 15-16, 2021.

"Building Socialist Legality: Political Order and Institutional Development in the Soviet and Chinese Procuracies", Ash Fellows Seminar Series, Harvard University. May 14, 2021.

## Other Presentations

"An Out-of-sample validation approach to digitizing historical documents," with Blake Miller, *Michigan Institute for Data Science 2020 Symposium; Text as Data Conference 2022*.

"Designing Anti-corruption: Evidence from China," *MPSA 2020 (cancelled due to COVID19)*.

"Anti-Corruption and Prosecutor Transparency in China," *presented at APSA 2018*.

"Anticipating Inspections and Anti-Corruption Outcomes in China," *presented at APSA 2018*.

"Authoritarian Courts and Urban Bias: Dispute Resolution Organs in the PRC," *presented at MPSA 2017*.

## Other writing

Book Review, 'Manipulating Globalization: The Influence of Bureaucrats on Business in China' *H-Diplo*, February 2019.

Contributor, "Xi Won't Go," *ChinaFile*, February 2018.

## Research Experience

Graduate research assistant:

*Optical Character Recognition (OCR) for Political Research: Historical Institutions Lab* (Prof. Noah Nathan, Prof. Edgar Franco Vivanco):

*Religious Regulation in Central Asia* (Prof. Pauline Jones);

*China's Gilded Age* (Prof. Yuen Yuen Ang)

*Authoritarian Legality in China: Law, Workers, and the State* (Prof. Mary Gallagher)

## Teaching Experience

Graduate Student Instructor, *Research Design*  
(with Prof. Nancy Burns)

Fall 2022

Sole instructor, *The Use of Social Science Computer Programs*  
(Graduate level course)

Winter 2022

Graduate Student Instructor, *Senior Honors Thesis Seminar*  
(with Prof. Brian Min)

Fall 2020

Module Instructor, *University of Michigan Data Camp*,  
(canceled due to COVID19)

Summer 2020

Graduate Student Instructor, *Introduction to Comparative Politics*  
(with Prof. Mary Gallagher)

Fall 2016, 2018

## Extramural Awards

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|---|-----------------|
| Fulbright Student Fellowship, Taiwan  | 2021            |
| Fulbright Student Fellowship, China (canceled by <a href="#">Executive Order 13936 3(i)</a> ) | 2020-2021       |
| Institute for Humane Studies<br><i>Graduate Student Fellowship</i>                            | Fall 2019, 2020 |

## Intramural Awards

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| Graduate Student Research Grant<br><i>Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies, University of Michigan</i> | Fall 2019              |
| Precandidacy Research Grant<br><i>Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan</i>                    | Summer 2018            |
| Zimmerman Award<br><i>Political Science Department, University of Michigan</i>                           | Winter 2018            |
| Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship<br><i>University of Michigan</i>                     | 2013-2014, Summer 2014 |

## Service

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| <a href="#">U-M Community of Queer Political Scientists</a> , <i>coordinator</i> | 2018-     |
| U-M China Interdisciplinary Workshop, <i>student coordinator</i>                 | 2016-2018 |

## Reviewer

Selected: *Governance; Journal of Law, Economics, and Organizations; British Journal of Political Science; Political Science Research and Methods*

## Languages and Computing

Mandarin Chinese (professional fluency)  
*R* (advanced), Python (intermediate), SQL (basic),  $\LaTeX$