

Fan Liang

CONTACT INFORMATION

Dept. of Communication and Media
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EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Ph.D. candidate in Communication and Media (2016-)

Dissertation: Automating Authoritarianism Goes Global

Graduate Data Science Certificate (2018-)

University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK

M.Sc. Political Communication (2015)

Chevening Scholar (2014-2015)

Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China

B.A. Public Administration (2009)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Liang, F. (R&R). The New Silk Road on Facebook: How China's Official Media Cover and Frame National Initiative for Global Audiences. *Communication and the Public*.

Lane, D. S., Lee, S. S., **Liang, F.**, Kim, D. H., Shen, L., Weeks, B. E., & Kwak, N. (2019). [Social Media Expression and the Political Self](#). *Journal of Communication*, 69(1), 49-72.

Liang, F., Das, V., Kostyuk, N., & Hussain, M. M. (2018). [Constructing a Data-Driven Society: China's Social Credit System as a State Surveillance Infrastructure](#). *Policy & Internet*, 10(4), 415-452.

Kwak, N., Lane, D. S., Lee, S. S., **Liang, F.**, & Weeks, B. E. (2018). [From Persuasion to Deliberation: Do Experiences of Online Political Persuasion Facilitate Dialogic Openness?](#) *Communication Research*, 1-23.

BOOK CHAPTER

Liang, F. (Forthcoming). Talking Politics via Images: Exploring the 2016 Chinese Internet Memes War on Facebook. In Herdin, T. & Faust, M. (Eds). *De-Westernizing Visual Culture: Perspectives from the Global South*. Baden, Germany: Nomos Publishing.

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

Liang, F., Chen, Y., & Zhao, F. (Under Review). The Platformization of Propaganda: How a Digital Platform Helps China Strengthen Propaganda and Quantify User's Loyalty. *New Media & Society*.

WORKING
PAPERS

- Liang, F.** (in-progress). Chinese Astroturfing on Twitter: Event-driven, Defense-oriented, and Inefficient Campaigns.
- Liang, F.** & Chen, Y. (in-progress). Automating Citizen Classification: Examining Personal Credit Scoring Platforms in China.
- Campbell, S., **Liang, F.**, Frith, J., & Zhao, F. (in-progress). Imagining 5G through Mass and Social Media Narratives: A Comparison of China and the US.
- Liang, F.** (in-progress). The Globalization of China's AI Surveillance and Facial Recognition Products.
- Liang, F.**, Zhu, Q., Weeks, B. E., & Kwak, N. (2019). From Online Credibility to Political Deliberation: How Credibility Perceptions and Technological Skills Predict Cross-Cutting Discussion.
- Liang, F.** (2018). Authoritarian Deliberation in Global Contexts: Analyzing Online Bots and Misinformation on Twitter during China's 19th Party Congress.

OTHER
PUBLICATIONS

- Liang, F.** (2018). [Book review: Can the Internet Strengthen Democracy?](#) *Global Media and Communication*, 14(3), 368-369.
- Hussain, M. M., Das, V., **Liang, F.**, Kostyuk, N., Chen, W. (2017). [High-Tech Governance through Big Data Surveillance: Tracing the Global Deployment of Mass Surveillance Infrastructures, 1995 to Present](#). SSRN, 1-38.

DATA

- Social Media Datasets
 - Liang, F.** (in-progress). *The Discussion of Chinese Politics on Twitter, 2017-2020* [Dataset: 2,307,313 cases and 18 features]. Ann arbor, MI. Project on Chinese Astroturf on Twitter.
 - Liang, F.** & Campbell, S. (2019). *The Discussion of 5G Technology on Weibo and Twitter* [Dataset: 11,313 cases and 11 features from Weibo, 87,586 cases and 17 features from Twitter]. Ann arbor, MI. Project on Imagining 5G.
 - Liang, F.** (2017). *News Coverage Produced by China's Official Media on Facebook, 2009-2017* [Dataset: 266,772 cases and 51 features]. Ann arbor, MI. Project on Authoritarian Media Bias on Facebook.
- Digital Platform and Infrastructure Datasets
 - Liang, F.** (in-progress). *The Global Expansion of China's AI Surveillance Firms* [Dataset: 87 cases and 13 features]. Ann arbor, MI. Project on The Globalization of China's AI surveillance and facial recognition products.
 - Liang, F.** (2019). *The Scoring and Ranking Systems behind Personal Credit Platforms* [Dataset: 59 cases and 21 features]. Ann arbor, MI. Project on Automating Citizen Classification.
 - Hussain, M. M., Das, V., **Liang, F.**, Kostyuk, N., Chen, W. (2017). *The Development of Global Big Data Surveillance Systems* [Dataset: 175 cases and 22 features]. Ann arbor, MI. Big Data Innovation and Governance.

TEACHING
EXPERIENCES

- Instructor, University of Michigan
COMM 322 Faculty Directed Undergraduate Research (Spring 2019): 2 students;
Primary instructor for undergraduate students' research projects
COMM 408 Big Data, Social Media, and Politics (Spring 2019): 13 students;
Primary instructor for the upper-level seminar
- Graduate Student Instructor (GSI), University of Michigan
COMM 102 Media Processes and Effects (Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Winter 2019): 75
students; Ran three discussion sections in the large introductory course to
communication and media studies
COMM 221 Quantitative Skills for Communication Studies (Fall 2019): 40
students; Ran two lab-based seminar classes addressing data analysis in the social
sciences
COMM 380 Persuasion, Communication and Campaigns (Winter 2018): 50
students; Ran two sections addressing upper-level writing requirements

AWARDS AND
HONORS

- Top Paper
Top Student Paper Award, International Communication Association (ICA) Public
Diplomacy Interest Group (May 2018)
Top Student Paper Award, International Communication Association (ICA) Visual
Communication Studies (May 2018)
- Academic Awards
Chevening Scholarship, the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, £28,000
(2014)

GRANTS AND
FELLOWSHIPS

- Fellowships
International Institute Individual Fellowship, University of Michigan, \$3,000
(2018)
Lieberthal-Rogel Travel and Research Fellowship, University of Michigan,
\$3,000 (2018)
- Research and Travel Grants
Graduate Student Research Grant, the Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies,
University of Michigan, \$2,500 (2019)
American Council of Learned Societies Predissertation-Summer Travel Grant,
\$5,000 (2018)
Graduate Travel Scholarship, University of Michigan, \$1,500 (2018)
Rackham Conference Travel Grant, University of Michigan, \$1,000 (2018)
Conference Travel Grant, Freie Universität Berlin, €1,300 (2018)
Volkswagen Foundation for Computational Method Workshop, €700 (2018)
Rackham Conference Travel Grant, University of Michigan, \$800 (2017)

Curriculum Vitae

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

The 5th International Conference on Computational Social Science, July 17-20, 2019. University of Amsterdam, Netherlands.

International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference, May 24-28, 2019. Washington, D.C.

International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) Annual Conference. June 20 - 24, 2018. University of Oregon, Eugene, OR.

International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference, May 24-28, 2018. Prague, the Czech Republic.

The 16th Chinese Internet Research Conference. May 22-23, 2018. Leiden University, Netherlands.

Digital Transformation in China – Recent Trends and Impacts. January 19, 2018. Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany.

Data Science Research Forum. December 1, 2017. Ann Arbor, MI.

The 15th Chinese Internet Research Conference. June 5-6, 2017. Fort Worth, TX.

Global Fusion Conference. October 13-14, 2017. Athens, OH.

International Communication Association (ICA) Preconference, May 25, 2017. San Diego, CA.

Science, Technology, and the Politics of Knowledge in Global Affairs, March 30-31, 2017. Northwestern University, Chicago, IL.

TRAININGS

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI, USA (June-July 2019)

Oxford Internet Institute Summer Doctoral Program, Oxford, UK (July 2018)

Computational Social Science Initiative and Workshops: Data Visualization for Social Science, Ann Arbor, MI, USA (March 2018)

Computational Method Workshop: Automated Content Analysis, Hanover, Germany (February 2018)

RESEARCH GROUPS

[Big Data Innovation and Governance \(Big DIG\)](#), University of Michigan

[Politics and Communication Lab](#), University of Michigan

[Mobile Communication Collective](#), University of Michigan

SERVICES

Reviewer: Policy & Internet

Reviewer: Chinese Journal of Communication

Reviewer: International Communication Association Conference

SKILLS

Data Analytics: R, Python, SAS, MATLAB, Octave, SPSS, jamovi

Cloud Computing: Flux, Hadoop, Spark, TensorFlow

Others: HTML, LaTeX, MySQL, Tableau, Gephi

Curriculum Vitae

MEDIA COVERAGE

Udemans, C. (2018, October 23). [Blacklists and redlists: How China's Social Credit System actually works](#). *Technode*.

NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Journalist, Chengdu Economic Daily, China, 2009-2014

REFERENCES

Professor Muzammil Hussain

Dept. of Communication and Media
University of Michigan
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Professor Scott Campbell

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swcamp@umich.edu

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Professor Min Jiang

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University of North Carolina at Charlotte
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