

Jun Zhou

Department of Sociology
University of Michigan
3001 LSA Building
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

zhouxjun@umich.edu

EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Ph.D., Sociology	2020-
Certificate in Science, Technology & Society Studies	

University of Chicago

M.A., Sociology	2019
-----------------	------

University College London

M.A., with Distinction, Gender and Development	2017
--	------

University of Electronic Science and Technology of China

B.A., English Literature, <i>summa cum laude</i>	2016
--	------

APPOINTMENTS & AFFILIATIONS

2024–25	Visiting Fellow, Department of Sociology, Harvard University
2016	Exchange Student, Gender Studies, UCLA

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Political Economy, Gender and Sexuality, Work and Labor, Algorithms and AI, Social Theory

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Zhou, Jun. "Construct Replaceability: Authenticity Regime and the Unequal Reception of AI in Emotional Work." *Work & Occupations*, special issue on AI, Power, and Transformation. [Minor Revision]

- **2025 Grad Student Paper Award** in LaborTech Research Network (Honorable Mention)
- **2025 Best Student Paper Award** in American Sociological Association Communication, Information Technology, & Media Sociology Section
- **Early Career Workshop Award**, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting, July 2026

Zhou, Jun. "Doing Data, Doing Gender: How Gendered AI is Produced through Optimization Loop." *Big Data & Society*, special issue on AI Encoding Identities. [Minor Revision]

PAPER UNDER REVIEW

Zhou, Jun. "Boundary Labor: Performing Work-family Separation in Blurred Workplaces"

- **2025 Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award**, American Sociological Association Sex & Gender Section
- **2022 Best Student Paper in Economic Sociology and Entrepreneurship Award**, American Sociological Association Economic Sociology Section
- **2022 Cheryl Allyn Miller Award for Research on Women and Work**, Sociologists for Women in Society
- **2022 McGuigan Prize for Best Graduate Essay in Women's and Gender Studies**, University of Michigan
- **2020 Raymond Fogelson Award for Best Master Thesis in the Ethnological and Historical Sciences**, University of Chicago

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Zhou, Jun. "Selling Live: Metrics Architecture and the Reorganization of Service Work in China" (manuscript available)

Zhou, Jun and Tiantian Liu. "Mushrooms at the End of Algorithms: How Livestreaming E-commerce Bypasses Rural Farmers in China's Poverty Alleviation" (writing in progress)

Zhou, Jun and Mengyang Zhao. "Verify You Are Human: The Automation Proof Paradox Under the Specter of AI" (writing in progress)

BOOK REVIEW

- 2024 Zhou, Jun. "Refashioning Race: How Global Cosmetic Surgery Crafts New Beauty Standards." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, 10(1), 175-176.

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2025 Sally Hacker Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA Sex & Gender Section
- 2025 Grad Student Paper Award, LaborTech Research Network (Honorable Mention)
- 2025 Best Student Paper Award, ASA CITAMS Section
- 2025 Early Career Workshop Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
- 2025 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, Sociology Department, University of Michigan
- 2024 Best Ethnographic Photo Award, The International Institute, University of Michigan
- 2022 Best Student Paper in Economic Sociology and Entrepreneurship Award, ASA Economic Sociology Section
- 2022 Linda Burton Award, ASA Family Section
- 2022 Cheryl Allyn Miller Award, Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS)
- 2022 McGuigan Prize for Best Graduate Essay in Women's and Gender Studies, University of Michigan
- 2020 Raymond Fogelson Award for Best Master Thesis in the Ethnological and Historical Sciences, University of Chicago
- 2019 Ethno-Photography Award, Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

External

- 2025 Association for Asian Studies (AAS)-Henry Luce Foundation Dissertation workshop
“Labor and the Politics of Care in East Asia”
- 2024 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowship (\$50,000)
- 2022 New Political Economy Graduate Summer Institute Fellowship, Berkeley Economy and Society Initiative, University of California, Berkeley (\$4,000)

Internal

- 2023 Boyd/Williams Dissertation Fellowship for Research on Women and Work, University of Michigan (\$2,000)
- 2023 Digital IDEAS Summer Institute, Digital Studies Institute, University of Michigan
- 2022 Global Individual Fellowship, The International Institute, University of Michigan (\$3,750)
- 2022 Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies Research Fellowship, University of Michigan (\$7,500)
- 2022 Rackham International Research Award, University of Michigan (\$6,500)
- 2021 Rackham International Student Fellowship, University of Michigan (\$10,000)
- 2019 Dean’s Opportunity Scholarship, University of Chicago (\$25,000)

INVITED TALKS & LECTURES

- 2026 Guest Lecture, Princeton University (scheduled)
- 2026 Guest Lecture, NYU Shanghai (scheduled)
- 2025 Cultural and Social Analysis Workshop, Department of Sociology, Harvard University
- 2025 Spring Institute, University of Chicago
- 2025 Guest Lecture, Colby College
- 2022 New Political Economy Graduate Summer Institute, University of California, Berkeley
- 2022 Labor and Society Forum on Digital Labor in China, Zhejiang University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Who is Real? Authenticity Regime and the Unequal Reception of AI in Emotional Work”

- The Biennial Research Conference on “Creative Work in the Digital Age: AI, Power, and Transformation,” June 2025
- CITAMS Media Sociology Symposium, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2025
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2024

“Optimizing Self: Gender, Digital Labor, and the New Dynamics of Work in China”

- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2025
- Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, November 2024

“Doing Data, Doing Gender: How Gendered AI is Produced through Optimization Loop”

- Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, September 2025
- Virtual Mini-Conference “Encoding Realities, Decoding Power” University of Texas at Austin, Feb 2025

“From Panopticon to Platform: Gender, Labor, and the Human-machine Reconfiguration in China”

- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2023
- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting, July 2023

“Gender, Family, and Business Lives in Flux in Immigrant Entrepreneurship”

- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, August 2021
- National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, November 2019
- Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference, May 2019

TEACHING & MENTORING

Pedagogy Award & Training

- 2025 Sociology Department’s Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award
- 2023 Certificate in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (with emphasis on Teaching), Rackham Graduate School
- 2023 Teaching Certificate, Center for Research on Teaching and Learning, University of Michigan

Graduate Student Instructor

- 2025 Economic Sociology (Prof. Mark Mizruchi)
- 2022 Sociological Theory (Prof. Greta Krippner)
- 2022 Sociological Research Methods (Prof. Jonah Stuart Brundage)
- 2021 Sociology of Culture (Prof. Fatma Müge Göçek)

Mentoring

- 2025 Sociology Prelim Exam Mentor, Area: Gender and Sexuality
- 2022–24 Principal Investigator and Mentor, Sociology Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program
- 2022 Honors Thesis Mentor: Yuqing Huang, "Untying the Marriage Package" (Paper won 2021-2022 Eita Krom Prize)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial

- 2023–25 Co-Editor, *Perspectives* Theory Section Newsletter, ASA
- 2022–23 Graduate Student Editor, *Socio-Economic Review*

Award Committee

- 2025 Committee Member, ASA Sex & Gender Feminist Activist-Scholar Award Committee

Conference & Workshop Organization

- 2025 Session Co-Organizer, Contested Digitalization: Continuities and Ruptures in Digital Transformation, Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Conference
- 2024 Panel Organizer, Commemorating Xiaohong Xu: Historicizing the Cultural Revolution and the Reform, Social Science History Association
- 2026 Co-Organizer, Technology, Economy, and Society, SER café with Ekaterina Svetlova, and

- Akos Rona-Tas
- 2023 Co-Organizer, Financialization and Beyond, SER café with Greta Krippner, Timo Walter, and Leon Wanslebe
- 2023 Co-Organizer, Intergenerational Transfers, Wealth, and Gender Inequality, SER café with C  line Bessi  re, Daria Tisch, and Tamara Gutfleisch

University of Michigan

- 2025 Personnel Committee Representatives, Sociology Department
- 2025 Faculty Recruitment Representative, Sociology Department
- 2022 Graduate Student Representative, Science, Technology and Society Program
- 2022 Graduate Student Coordinator, Social Theory Workshop, Sociology Department
- 2022 Graduate Student Coordinator, Economic Sociology and Organizations Workshop, Sociology Department

Reviewer for: *American Sociological Review, Socio-Economic Review, Work & Occupations, Big Data & Society, Sociological Science, Chinese Journal of Communication*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2019-20 Research Assistant, Department of Economics, University of Chicago
- 2018 Research Assistant, Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China
- 2017 Research Consultant, Project Oracle, London, UK
- 2017 Research Assistant, Save the Children, London, UK

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Sociologists for Women in Society, Society for Social Studies of Science, Social Science History Association, Labor Tech Research Network

LANGUAGES

Mandarin Chinese (native), English (proficiency), French (limited working proficiency)