

Ruilin LAI

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Updated December 2024

Academic Appointment	New York University Abu Dhabi Research Assistant	2021
Education	Washington University in St Louis Ph.D. in Political Science	<i>Expected 2028</i>
	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology M.Phil. in Social Science (<i>on study leave in 2021</i>)	2022
	M.Sc. in Global China Studies	2019
	Hong Kong Baptist University B.Soc.Sc. (First Class Honors) in Government and International Studies	2018
	L'Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po Paris) One-year exchange study	2016-2017
Additional Training	University of Michigan Ann Arbor ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research	2019
Interests	Substantive: Comparative politics, political communication <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media bias and media capture in democracies and autocracies• Judicial capture and judicial repression in autocracies• American politics; Chinese politics; Hong Kong politics Methodological: Text-as-data, social network analysis	
Publication	[1] “Capturing the Fourth Estate: Government Influence on U.S. Newspaper Coverage of Foreign Leaders” Accepted, <i>British Journal of Political Science</i>	
	[2] “Can Autocratic Power Influence Media in Democracies? Evidence from China’s Expulsion of American Journalists” Conditionally accepted, <i>Political Science Research and Methods</i>	
	[3] “Who Funds Whose Infrastructure: Country Dyadic Analysis of Global Project Finance Loans” with Jean Hong (Michigan) and Ilker Karaca (Iowa State) Link 2024, <i>Review of International Political Economy</i>	
	[4] “Political Institutions and Global Project Finance Loans” with Jean Hong (Michigan) and Ilker Karaca (Iowa State) Link 2023, <i>International Studies Quarterly</i> 67(2)	
Working Paper	[1] “Judicial Repression and Opposition to Autocracy: Evidence from Hong Kong” <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Young Scholar Best Paper Award</i>, APSA Conference Group on Taiwan Studies [2] “Independent Judiciary for Authoritarian Repression: Evidence from Hong Kong” with Jean Hong (Michigan)	

[3] “After Repression: The Impacts of Confession Propaganda upon Failed Uprisings” with Eddy Yeung (Emory) and Matthew Gabel (WashU)

Other Writing

[1] “China’s Vaccine Scandal 2018: Pharmaceutical Companies Pacing Heightened Regulatory Risks” with Gang Chen
2018, *East Asian Institute Background Brief* 1386.

Honours, Grants, and Fellowships

External

[1] Academic Mentoring Grant (US\$8,000) | Institute for Human Studies 2024

Internal

[1] Department Seed Grant (US\$2,500) | WUSTL 2024

[2] Arts & Sciences Conference Grant (US\$2,883) | WUSTL 2023-2024

[3] Weidenbaum Center Research Grant (with Matt Gabel) (US\$13,720) | WUSTL 2024

[4] Weidenbaum Center Research Grant (with Deniz Aksoy) (US\$15,000) | WUSTL 2023

[5] Arts & Sciences Graduate Fellowship | WUSTL 2022-2028

Pre-doctoral

[1] Li Po Chun Charitable Trust Fund Scholarship (HK\$8,000) | HKUST 2022

[2] Dr Charles Chan Postgraduate Scholarship (HK\$54,090) | HKUST 2020

[3] Postgraduate Studentship (HK\$415,920) | HKUST 2019-2022

[4] EITM Certification Scholarship for ICPSR Summer Program (US\$3,700) 2019

[5] MGCS Program Scholarship (HK\$20,000) | HKUST 2019

[6] MGCS Program Conference Grant (HK\$11,000) | HKUST 2019

[7] Scholarship for Global Attachment Opportunities (HK\$6,000) | HKBU 2018

[8] Reaching Out Award (HK\$10,000) | Hong Kong SAR Government 2018

[9] Social Sciences Scholarship for Global Exchange (HK\$4,000) | HKBU 2018

[10] Exchange Sponsorship (HK\$34,000) | HKBU 2017

[11] Full Admission Scholarship (HK\$680,000) | HKBU 2014-2018

Conference Participation

Annual Meetings

American Political Science Association 2021, 2024

International Studies Association 2021-2022

Midwest Political Science Association 2019-2024

Western Political Science Association 2020

Small Conferences and Workshops

Pacific International Politics Conference (Coauthor presented) 2021

SPSA Mini-Conference on The Politics of Authoritarian Regimes 2025 (scheduled)

Service

Assistant | Authoritarian Political Systems Group 11/2023-05/2024

Editorial Assistant | *American Political Science Review* 10/2023-05/2024

Teaching Experience

Assistant Instructor | Department of Political Science, WUSTL

Data Science for Politics (Undergraduate) Fall 2024

Senior Thesis Research (Advanced Undergraduate) Spring 2024

Political Violence (Advanced Undergraduate) Fall 2023

Teaching Assistant | Division of Social Science, HKUST
Quantitative Data Analysis for Social Research (Undergraduate)
Politics Through Films (Undergraduate)

Spring 2022
Fall 2020

Skills

Language

Mandarin Chinese (Native), English (Advanced), Cantonese (Intermediate)

Software

R, Python, Java, Stata, *L^AT_EX*, Gephi, Visone

Other

Citizenship: Hong Kong