Dongshu Liu

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City University of Hong Kong, Tat Chee Ave, Hong Kong

Academic Appointment

Assistant Professor, Department of Public and International Affairs, **City University of Hong Kong**, June 2020-

- Deputy Director, Political Analysis Lab, 2023-
- Affiliated Member, Centre for Public Affairs and Law, 2020-

Other Academic Appointment

GLD Fellow, Governance and Local Development Institute, University of Gothenburg and Cornell University, 2025-2027

Education

Syracuse University, May 2020

- Ph.D., Political Science
- M.A., Political Science, 2017
- Committee: Dimitar Gueorguiev (Chair), Matthew Cleary, Christopher Faricy, Simon Weschle, Yuhua Wang (Harvard)

London School of Economics and Political Science, 2013

- M.Sc., Comparative Politics (Research)

Hong Kong Polytechnic University, 2012

- B.B.A., Major in Management and Minor in Applied Mathematics

Research Interests

Comparative politics and authoritarian politics; China's domestic and foreign politics, East Asian politics; Political Economy and Behavior: distributive politics, elite accommodation, mass consent, and bureaucratic implementation

Publications

Book Manuscript

The Dictator's Tightrope Walk: Power versus People in China's Distributive Politics
(Under Review, Oxford University Press)

How do states sustain transformative economic change when reforms upset entrenched distributions of resources and power? In this book, I theorize the strategies through which autocracies sustain reform while preserving ruling coalition cohesion under tight fiscal and political constraints. The book shows how China has continued market-oriented development by mitigating elite resistance, maintaining loyalty through institutionalized side payments, and sequencing welfare expansion to minimize distributive conflict. It extends existing theories by identifying the compensatory and distributional mechanisms that allow autocracies to pursue reform while retaining political control.

Journal Articles

1. **Liu, D.**, Suh, K., and Shao, L., Does China's "Wolf Warrior Diplomacy" Affect the U.S. Public's Approval of Hawkish Policies toward China? *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *Conditional accepted*
2. Du, J., Han, R., **Liu, D.** and Shao, L., When Do Narratives of Foreign Residents' Participation Shape Citizens' Willingness to Coproduce *Journal of Asian Public Policy*, *Accepted*
3. Kim, C.J., and **Liu, D.**, Does Defiance Work? How Defying "Naming and Shaming" Shapes Foreign Public Opinion, 2026 *Journal of Peace Research*, Online First, DOI: 10.1093/jopres/xjag054
4. Dong, B., **Liu, D.**, and Yu, J., 2026, Persuading the Public: Nationalist Propaganda and Support for Costly Environmental Policies in China, *Environmental Politics*, 35(2), 358-381
5. Dong, B., Walker, R. and **Liu, D.**, 2026, Tolerating Violence: Public Opinions on Anti-Government Protest and State Repression, *Democratization*, 33(2), 222–246
6. Li, Y., **Liu, D.**, and Shao, L., 2025, Propaganda with Subculture: A Resource for Internet Control in China, *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, 30, 449-473
7. Zhu, X., Qiu, T., and **Liu, D.**, 2025, Curbing Elite Capture or Enhancing Resources: Recentralizing Local Environmental Enforcement in China. *China Quarterly*, 261, 73-92
8. **Liu, D** and Shao, L., 2024, Nationalist Propaganda and Support for War in an Authoritarian Context: Evidence from China, *Journal of Peace Research*, 61(6), 985-1001
    - *Runner-Up, Nils Petter Gleditsch Article of the Year Award 2024*
9. Shao, L., **Liu, D.**, and Wang, F., 2024, Suppression by Mobilization: How Information Control Strategies Contain Political Criticism in Autocracies, *Political Research Quarterly*, 77(3), 729-742
10. Gueorguiev, D., and **Liu, D.**, 2024, Double Standard: Chinese Public Opinion on the Hong Kong Protests, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 41(4), 343-364
11. Liu, D., 2023, Cooptation without Opposition: Government Response in the Authoritarian Legislature in China, *Democratization*, 30(7), 1400-1422
12. Liu, D., 2023, Policy Influence of Delegates in Authoritarian Legislatures: Evidence from China, *Political Research Quarterly*, 76(2), 481-495

13. Shao, L., Du, J., Han, R., and **Liu, D.**, 2023, Racial and Gender Stereotypes in Immigration Attitudes: Evidence from China, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 49(9), 2391-2415

14. Shao, L., Du, J., Han, R., and **Liu, D.**, 2023, How does Marriage Demand Stimulate Support for Immigration in Asia? *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 49(5), 1311-1330

15. Zhu, X., Qiu, T., and **Liu, D.,** 2023, Resisting Public Monitoring and Activism in Authoritarian Regimes: Evidence from Local Environmental Litigation in China. *Governance*, 36(2), 459-477

16. **Liu, D.** and Carrington, N., 2022, Minority versus Minority: Partisanship and Inter-Group Competitions among Asian Americans. *American Politics Research*, 50(2), 265-276

17. **Liu, D.,** and Shao, L. 2022, Public Opinion Backlash Against China's International Expansion. *Journal of Contemporary China*, 31(135), 366-382

18. Liu, D., 2020, Advocacy Channels and Political Resource Dependence in Authoritarianism: Non-Government Organizations and Environmental Policies in China. *Governance*, 33(2), 323-342

19. Liu, D., 2019, Punishing the Dissidents: The Selective Implementation of Stability Preservation in China. *Journal of Contemporary China*, 28(119), 795-812

20. Shao, L., and **Liu, D**., 2019, The Road to Cynicism: The Political Consequences of Online Satire Exposure in China. *Political Studies*, 67(2), 517–536

Book Review

Liu, D., 2023, The Making of a Neo-Propaganda State: China's Social Media under Xi Jinping, by Titus C. Chen. Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2022, *China Quarterly*, 255, 796-797

Under Review

From Pixels to Participation: How Digital Culture Fosters Civic Engagement (with Wei Gu and Ning Liu, Revise and Resubmit at Publi

Blaming the capital: How does the Chinese government shed responsibilities for governance failure?bilities for governance failure? (with Binzizi Dong and Richard Walker, Revise and Resubmit at Public Administration)

Navigating Social Inequality: Passive Resistance and Politics of Blame in Contemporary Chinese Society (with Junhao Yu, under review)

Putnam's Puzzle in the People's Republic: How Immigrants' Civic Engagement Erodes Immigration Approval in China (with Li Shao, Rongbin Han, andJuan Du, under review)

How China's Wedge Strategies and Use of Force in a Taiwan Contingency Shape Allied Public Support for a U.S. Intervention: Experimental Evidence from Japan and South Korea (with Kyungwon Suh and Li Shao, under review)

Teaching Experience

City University of Hong Kong

- PIA8621 Quantitative Methods (Ph.D. level)
- PIA8616 Political Science and Philosophy (Ph.D. level)

- PIA4602 Undergraduate Capstone Projects (Undergraduate Level)
- PIA3127 Political Institutions and Behavior (Undergraduate Level)
- POL3108 International Relations (Undergraduate Level)
- POL3607 Advanced Research Methods (Undergraduate Level)
- POL2603 Social Science Research Methods (Undergraduate Level)
- POL6603 Research Methods in Public Policy and Management (Master's Level)
- POL5705 Social Change and Urbanization in Contemporary China (Master's Level)
- POL5707 Chinese Foreign Policy (Master's Level)

Syracuse University:

- PSC300: Authoritarian Regimes in the Contemporary World (Undergraduate Level, as lecturer)

Conferences and Invited Talks

2026 ACPS, APSA, The International Conference on Studying China, Text-as-Data in China (CUHK)
GLD Annual Conference, Australian National University (Invited Workshop)
2025 APSA, WPSA, IPSA, EPSinHK, Governance and Local Development Institute
Annual Conference (Accepted but canceled), SOAS University of London
2024 University of Hong Kong, ESSinHK, APSA, National Chengchi University
University of Macau, University of Melbourne, Tsinghua University (Online)
2023 University of Alabama, MPSA, EPSA, PMRC, German Institute for Global and Area Studies
Temple University Japan, EPSinHK, UCSD Young Scholar Conference, APSA
2022 UCSD Young Scholar Conference, APSA Asia, APSA
2021 Pacific International Politics Conference, APSA, Empirical Political Science Research Workshop, MPSA
2020 Hong Kong Political Science Association Annual Meeting, APSA Asia Workshop, WPSA,
AAS (canceled), SPSA
2019 Zhejiang University, University of Macau, APSA, Chinese Internet Research Conference, MPSA,
Harvard Experimental Political Science Graduate Conference, Graduate Seminar on China (CUHK)
2018 MPSA

Grants and Scholarship

APSA Centennial Center Research Fund, Principal Investigator, 2025-2026

Humanities and Social Sciences Research Fund, Ministry of Education of China, Co-Investigator, 2022-2024

Grant for Computational Social Science and Law Lab, City University of Hong Kong, Collaborator, 2021-2024

Grant for Sustainable Development Lab, City University of Hong Kong, Co-Investigator , 2021-2024

Early Career Scheme, Principal Investigator, Research Grants Council, Hong Kong, 2021-2025 (HKD 638,408, USD 82,270)

APSA Asia Workshop Scholarship, 2020-2021

Start-up Grant, City University of Hong Kong, 2020-2022 (HKD 300,000)

East Asia Summer Research Grant, Syracuse University, 2019

Roscoe Martin Scholarship, Syracuse University, 2019, 2018, 2017

Graduate Student Scholarship, Syracuse University, 2015-2020

Awards and Fellowship

GLD Fellowship 2025-2027, Governance and Local Development Institute, Cornell University and University of Gothenburg

Runner-Up, Nils Petter Gleditsch Article of the Year Award 2024, Journal of Peace Research

Best Paper Award, International Conference on China Policy Studies, 2024

Top 5% Instructor Recognition for Semester A, 2023/2024, City University of Hong Kong, 2024

Syracuse University Graduate School Summer Dissertation Fellowship, 2019

Service

City University of Hong Kong

- Departmental Undergraduate Internship Coordinator, 2022-

- Departmental Undergraduate Program Committee, 2023-

- Departmental Research Education Committee, 2020-

    - Acting Chair, Fall 2024

- Departmental Undergraduate Scholarship Coordinator, 2021-2022

- Departmental Undergraduate Admission Committee, 2021-2023

Syracuse University

- University Internationalization Council, Syracuse University, 2018-2019

- University Academic Integrity Panel Member, Syracuse University, 2018-2020

Professional

- Referee: *ANU Press, American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Asian Survey, Asian Studies Review, Business and Politics, China Quarterly, Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Democratization, Environmental Politics, Governance, International Journal of Communication, International Journal of Press/Politics, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Contemporary China, Journal of Current Chinese Affairs, Journal of Information, Technology & Politics, Journal of Peace Research, Legislative Studies Quarterly, New Media & Society, Policy Sciences, Political Behavior, Perspectives on Politics, Political Research Quarterly, Political Science Research and Methods, Political Psychology, Public Administration & Policy, Public Administration Review, Public Management Review, Quality & Quantity, Regulation and Governance, Social Movement Studies, The Social Science Journal*

- Conference Chair and Discussant: IPSA2025 (Discussant), APSA Mini-Conference on Chinese Politics 2023 (Organizing Committee), MPSA 2021 (Panel chair and discussant), SPSA 2020 (Panel chair and discussant)

- CNPolitics (2014-), Chinese-language platform introducing social science research for general audiences in China

- Media Interview: Aftenposten (Norway), The Associated Press, The Atlantic, Australian Financial Review, Bloomberg, CNA (Singapore), CNN, EFE Spanish News Agency, The Economist, El Mercurio (Chile), Japan Times, National Public Radio, New York Times, RTHK, Rzeczpospolita (Poland), The Straits Times, Swedish Radio, Thanh Niên (Vietnam), Weekendavisen (Denmark)

Language & Skills

Chinese (Native), English (Fluent)

Stata, SPSS, **R**, LaTeX, Qualtrics, Nvivo

Reference

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