

LE BAO

宝乐

Ph.D. Student

Department of Government

Graduate Fellow

Center For Data Science

School of Public Affairs

American University

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Methodology:

- Measurement; Causal Inference; Bayesian Methods; Hierarchical Modeling; Survey Methodology; Spatial Analysis.

Comparative Politics:

- Comparative Political Behavior; Political Polarization; Authoritarian Regimes.

American Politics:

- Public Opinion on Foreign Policy.

Data Science and Computation:

- Big Data; High-Performance Computing.

EDUCATION

American University, Washington, D.C.

Ph.D. student, Political Science, 2017 - Present

- **Fields:** Political Methodology; Comparative Politics

- **Dissertation:** Essays on the Measurement and Inference of Political Polarization

- **Committee:** Jeff Gill, Ph.D (Chair), Ryan T. Moore, Ph.D, Todd A. Eisenstadt, Ph.D,
Xun Pang, Ph.D (Tsinghua University, China)

Nanjing University, Nanjing, China

M.A., Political Science, 2015 - 2017

Hopkins Nanjing Center, Nanjing, China

Graduate Certificate, Chinese and American Studies, 2015 - 2016

Nanjing University, Nanjing, China

B.A., Political Science, 2009 - 2013

Additional Training

ICPSR Summer Program, Summer 2020, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Measurement, Scaling, and Dimensional Analysis; Machine Learning; Game Theory.

Center for Data Science Workshops, 2019-2020, American University, Washington D.C.

Text as Data; Spatial Statistics for the Social Sciences; Time Series Analysis; Network Analysis; Regression Trees Models.

SPA SEMI Course, Summer 2019, American University, Washington D.C.
Social Network Analysis using R.

ICPSR Summer Workshop, Summer 2018, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Structural Equation Models and Latent Variables.

Summer Methodology Training Program, Summer 2016, SIPA, SJTU, Shanghai, China
Experimental Methods; Qualitative and Mixed Methods.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Working Projects

“**krige**: An R Package for Geospatial Kriging with Metropolis Sampling,” with Jason S. Byers, Jamie L. Carson, and Jeff Gill. (Under review)

“Should Missing Values of the Outcome Variable Be Imputed for Regression Models?” with Benjamin Bagozzi and Jeff Gill.

“Economic Inequality, Informational Dynamics, and Mass Polarization.”

“American Public’s Views on U.S.-China Trade: A Multi-Level Explanation.”

“Revisiting the ‘Asian Value’: A Bayesian Latent Variable Approach,” with Jie Lu.

“ ‘Rubber Stamp’ and Institutional Breakdown: The Role of Institutions and Authoritarian Resilience of China.”

“Self-Perceived Knowledge and Attitude Extremity: Survey Experiments on the American Public’s Views of China-Related Issues,” with Jie Lu and Yongrong Cao.

Research Experience

National Science Foundation, Political Science & Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics (MMS), and Political Science, “Smooth National Measurement of Public Opinion across Boundaries and Levels: A View from the Bayesian Spatial Approach”, SES-1630265 and SES-1630263, **Research Assistant**. (2019 - present, with Jeff Gill)

Asian Barometer Survey (Wave 5), **Project Assistant**. (2019, with Yun-han Chu, Jie Lu, Min-Hua Huang, and Yu-tzung Chang)

Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES) China Module, **Project Assistant**. (2018-present, with John Aldrich and Jie Lu)

Book project, *Who Speaks for Nature?: Indigenous Movements, Public Opinion, and the Petrostate in Ecuador* (Oxford University Press), **Research Assistant**, (2018, with Todd A Eisenstadt)

Americans’ Attitudes toward China Survey, **Project Assistant**. (2017, with Jie Lu and Yongrong Cao)

Research on Youth Values, funded by Nanjing University and the State Education Commission of the P.R.C., **Co-Researcher**. (2014 - present, with Hongna Miao, Hsin-Che Wu, and Hongbo Yu)

Asian Barometer Survey (Wave 4), Fieldwork Supervisor. (2015)

Research on the Political Efficacy of Chinese College Students, National Undergraduate Innovation Training Program, **Co-Principal Investigator**. (2012 - 2013, with Tao Ren, Qian Cao, and Leyao Hou)

Conferences and Talks

- “Economic Inequality, Media Freedom, and Public Political Polarization.” Invited Guest Speaker. Introduction to Political Research Course (GOVT-310), School of Public Affairs, American University, Washington, DC, February 2020.
- “China Shock, Media Usage, and Context: American Public’ s Views of U.S.-China Trade.” *Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, San Juan, PR, January 2020.
- “Self-Perceived Knowledge and Attitude Extremity: Survey Experiments on the American Public’ s Views of China-Related Issues” *SPA Ph.D. Student Speaker Series*, School of Public Affairs, American University, Washington, DC, April 2018.
- “I think I know: Survey Experiments on the Role of Self-Perceived Knowledge in the American Public’s Views of Tibet and Related Issues.” *Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting*, Chicago, IL, April 2018.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

- *Introduction to Survey Research*, American University, Spring 2020 (with Andy Ballard, Jeff Gill, Ryan T. Moore, Liz Suhay)
- *Introduction to Comparative Politics*, American University, Summer 2019 (with Jie Lu)
- *Data Science and Programming with R*, Southwest Jiaotong University, Chengdu, China, Summer 2018 (with Jie Lu)
- *Introduction to Comparative Politics*, American University, Spring 2018 (with Eric Hershberg)

Middle School Instructor (volunteer)

- *Math, Politics, Information Technology*, DZC Middle School, Zhongwei, China 2013 – 2014

High School Instructor (trainee)

- *History*, Jinling High School, Nanjing, China 2013

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS

Professional Service

Editorial Assistant for

- *Political Analysis*. (2019 - present).

Reviewer for

- *Political Analysis, Political Science Research and Methods, Political Behavior, International Security Quarterly, Research and Politics, Journal of Chinese Political Science, Asian Journal of Communication*.

Member

- *American Political Science Association, Society for Political Methodology, Midwest Political Science Association, Southern Political Science Association, International Political Science Association, National Capital-Area Political Science Association, American Statistical Association*.

AWARDS, HONORS, AND GRANTS

EITM Certification Scholarships, EITM Summer Institutes, 2020.

Graduate Assistantship, American University, Fall 2017 - Present.

Conference Travel Grant, Department of Government, SPA, American University, 2017 - Present.

Scholarship for Outstanding Students, Hopkins-Nanjing Center, 2016.

Excellent Surveyor in Chinese Political Culture and Political Participation, the Center for Public Affairs and Local Governance at Nanjing University, 2015.

Outstanding Volunteer, Nanjing University, 2014.

National Undergraduate Innovation Training Program of China, “Research on the Political Efficacy of Chinese College Students” (Grant No. G1210274121), Nanjing University and the Ministry of Education of P.R.C., 2013 - 2014.

Ping An Endeavourers Scholarship, Nanjing University and Ping An Insurance (Group) Company of China, Ltd., 2012.

People’s Scholarship, Nanjing University and the Ministry of Education of P.R.C., 2010 - 2012.

SOFTWARE

R Pacakge

- `krige`: Geospatial Kriging with Metropolis Sampling (with Jason S. Byers, Jeff Gill, Jamie L. Carson)

SKILLS

Computing and Programming Platform

- R, Python, C/C++, Mplus, z-Tree, Stata.

Tools

- L^AT_EX, Qualtrics, HPC, AWS, SQL, UNIX/LINUX.

Languages

- Chinese: Native
- English: Proficient reading, writing, and speaking

(Updated: August 26, 2020)