

## Xiang Zhou

### Contact Information

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### Employment

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2016- Harvard University  
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology (2020-)  
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology (2019-2020)  
Assistant Professor, Department of Government (2016-2019)  
Faculty Associate, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs  
Faculty Affiliate, Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science  
Faculty Affiliate, Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies  
Faculty Affiliate, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

2015-2016 Princeton University  
Postdoctoral Associate, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies  
Postdoctoral Affiliate, Department of Sociology and Office of Population Research

### Education

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2015 PhD, Sociology and Statistics, University of Michigan  
2011 M.A., Statistics, University of Michigan  
2009 B.S., Mathematics and Physics (Minor in Economics), Tsinghua University

### Research Interests

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Inequality, Education, Causal Inference, Statistical and Computational Methods

### Peer-Reviewed Publications

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20. Zhou, Xiang, and Geoffrey T. Wodtke. 2020. "[Residual Balancing: A Method of Constructing Weights for Marginal Structural Models.](#)" *Political Analysis*. 28(4): 487-506

19. Zhou, Xiang, and Yu Xie. 2020. "Heterogeneous Treatment Effects in the Presence of Self-Selection: A Propensity Score Perspective." *Sociological Methodology*. 50 (1):350-385
18. Wodtke, Geoffrey T. and Xiang Zhou. 2020. "Effect Decomposition in the Presence of Treatment-induced Confounding: A Regression-with-Residuals Approach." *Epidemiology*. 31 (3):369-375
17. Wodtke, Geoffrey T., Zahide Alaca, and Xiang Zhou. 2020. "Regression-With-Residuals Estimation of Marginal Effects: A Method of Adjusting for Treatment-Induced Confounders That May Also Be Effect Modifiers." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A*. 183 (1):311-332.
16. Zhou, Xiang, and Yu Xie. 2019. "Marginal Treatment Effects from a Propensity Score Perspective." *Journal of Political Economy*. 127 (6):3070-3084
15. Zhou, Xiang. 2019. "Hierarchical Item Response Models for Analyzing Public Opinion." *Political Analysis*. 27 (4):481-502
14. Zhou, Xiang, and Geoffrey T. Wodtke 2019. "A Regression-with-Residuals Method for Estimating Controlled Direct Effects." *Political Analysis*. 27 (3):360-369
13. Zhou, Xiang. 2019. "Equalization or Selection? Reassessing the 'Meritocratic Power' of a College Degree in Intergenerational Income Mobility." *American Sociological Review*. 84 (3):459-485
  - Outstanding Article Publication Award, ASA Section on Mathematical Sociology, 2020
12. Zhou, Xiang, and Yu Xie. 2019. "Market Transition, Industrialization, and Social Mobility Trends in Post-Revolution China." *American Journal of Sociology*. 124 (6):1810-1847
  - Sørensen Student Travel Award, International Sociological Association Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification, August 2015.
11. Zhou, Xiang, and Geoffrey T. Wodtke. 2019. "Income Stratification among Occupational Classes in the United States." *Social Forces*. 97 (3):945-972
10. Bloome, Deirdre, Shauna Dyer, and Xiang Zhou. 2018. "Educational Inequality, Educational Expansion, and Intergenerational Income Persistence in the United States." *American Sociological Review*. 83 (6):1215-1253
  - James Coleman Award for the Best Article, ASA Section on Sociology of Education, 2020
9. Zhou, Xiang, and Yu Xie. 2016. "Propensity-Score-Based Methods versus MTE-Based Methods in Causal Inference: Identification, Estimation, and Application." *Sociological Methods & Research*. 45(1):3-40
8. Zhou, Xiang. 2015. "Shrinkage Estimation of Log Odds Ratios for Comparing Mobility Tables." *Sociological Methodology*. 45(1):320-356
7. Xie, Yu, Siwei Cheng, and Xiang Zhou. 2015. "Assortative Mating without Assortative Preference." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 112(19):5974-5978
6. Zhou, Xiang. 2014. "Increasing Returns to Education, Changing Labor Force Structure, and the Rise of Earnings Inequality in Urban China, 1996-2010." *Social Forces* 93(2):429-455
  - Outstanding Student Paper Award, North America Chinese Sociologists Association, 2013
5. Zhang, Chunni, Qi Xu, Xiang Zhou, Xiaobo Zhang, and Yu Xie. 2014. "Are Poverty Rates Underestimated in China? New Evidence from Four Recent Surveys." *China Economic Review* 31:410-425

4. Xie, Yu, and Xiang Zhou. 2014. "Income Inequality in Today's China." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 111(19): 6928-6933
  - Featured in Bloomberg News, NBC News, the Wall Street Journal, etc.
3. Zhou, Xiang. 2012. "A Nonparametric Index of Stratification." *Sociological Methodology* 42(1): 365-388.
  - Clifford C. Clogg Best Student Paper Award, ASA Methodology Section, 2013
2. Xie, Yu, and Xiang Zhou. 2012. "Modeling Individual-level Heterogeneity in Racial Residential Segregation." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 109(29): 11646-11651.
1. Wang, Yan-hui, Liang Hao, Xiang Zhou, Guilu Long. 2008. "Behavior of Quantum Coherence of  $\Xi$ -type Four-level Atom under Bang-Bang Control." *Optics Communications* 281(18): 4793-4799.

## Papers Under Review

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Cheng, Siwei, Jennie E. Brand, Xiang Zhou, Yu Xie, and Michael Hout. "Heterogeneous Returns to College over the Life Course." Revise & Resubmit

Zhou, Xiang. "Semiparametric Estimation for Causal Mediation Analysis with Multiple Causally Ordered Mediators." Revise & Resubmit

Ahearn, Caitlin, Jennie E. Brand, and Xiang Zhou. "How, and for Whom, Does Higher Education Increase Voting?"

Zhou, Xiang, and Teppei Yamamoto. "Tracing Causal Paths from Experimental and Observational Data."

## Software

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Zhou, Xiang. "strat: An Implementation of the Stratification Index."  
<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/strat/>

Zhou, Xiang. "hIRT: Hierarchical Item Response Theory Models."  
<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/hIRT/>

Zhou, Xiang. "localIV: Estimation of Marginal Treatment Effects using Local Instrumental Variables."  
<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/localIV/>

Zhou, Xiang. "rbw: Residual Balancing Weights for Marginal Structural Models."  
<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/rbw/index.html>

Zhou, Xiang. "rwrmed: Regression-with-residuals (RWR) Analysis of Causal Mediation."  
<https://github.com/xiangzhou09/rwrmed>

Trinh, Minh, Teppei Yamamoto, and Xiang Zhou. "paths: An Imputation Approach to Estimating Path-Specific Causal Effects."  
<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/paths/index.html>

## Data Collection Projects

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Xie, Yu, Siwei Cheng, Xiang Zhou. 2011-2016. "Three Waves of College Student Survey on Social Identity, Altruism, Career Choice at Renmin University of China"

Xie, Yu, Siwei Cheng, Xiang Zhou. 2014. "College Student Survey on Career Expectations, Friendship Choice, and Social Behaviors at the University of Michigan"

### **Selected Invited Talks**

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Department of Sociology Colloquium, University of Chicago, March 2021

School of Sociology and Political Science, Shanghai University, August 2020

Department of Sociology Colloquium, Princeton University, December 2019

Jain Family Institute Discussion Series, April 2019

Director's Dinner, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University, April 2019

School of Public Administration Seminar Series, Tsinghua University, June 2018

Conference on China Studies, National Taiwan University, May 2018

East Asia Workshop, University of Chicago, May 2018

Political Methodology Speaker Series, MIT, April 2018

7th Annual JRCPPF Annual Conference, Princeton University, February 2017

Social Demography Seminar, Department of Sociology, Harvard University, October 2016

Fairbank Center 60th Anniversary Symposium, Harvard University, October 2016

Quantitative Social Science Colloquium, Princeton University, February 2016

Gaidar Forum 2016, Gaidar Institute for Economic Policy, Moscow, January 2016

### **Selected Conference Presentations**

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Zhou, Xiang and Teppei Yamamoto. 2019. "Tracing Causal Paths from Experimental and Observational Data." Annual meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, Cambridge, MA (July); Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington DC (August 2019).

Zhou, Xiang and Geoffrey T. Wodtke. 2018-19. "Residual Balancing: A Method of Constructing Weights for Marginal Structural Models." Annual meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, Provo, UT (July 2018); Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL (April 2019); Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York City, NY (August 2019).

Zhou, Xiang. 2017-19. "Hierarchical Item Response Models for Analyzing Public Opinion." Annual meeting of the Society for Political Methodology, Madison, WI (July); Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA (August 2018); and Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA (August 2018); Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL (April 2019).

Zhou, Xiang, and Yu Xie. 2018. "Heterogeneous Treatment Effects in the Presence of Self-Selection: A Propensity Score Perspective." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA (August).

Zhou, Xiang. 2018. "Equalization or Selection? Reassessing the 'Meritocratic Power' of a College Degree in Inter-generational Income Mobility." Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Association, Baltimore, MD (February); Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Boston, MA (May); and the Spring Meeting of International Sociological Association Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification in Seoul, South Korea (May).

Zhou, Xiang, and Yu Xie. 2015. "Market Transition, Industrialization, and Social Mobility Trends in Post-Revolution China." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL (August).

Zhou, Xiang. 2014. "Shrinkage Estimation of Log Odds Ratios for Comparing Mobility Tables." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA (August).

Zhou, Xiang. 2014. "Increasing Returns to Education, Changing Labor Force Structure, and the Rise of Earnings Inequality in Urban China, 1996-2010." Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Boston, MA (May); and XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology in Yokohama, Japan (July).

Zhou, Xiang. 2013. "The Rise of Earnings Inequality in Urban China, 1996-2010: Increasing Returns to Education, State Sector Shrinkage, and Composition Effects." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York City, NY (August).

Zhang, Chunni, Qi Xu, Xiang Zhou, Xiaobo Zhang, and Yu Xie. 2013. "An Evaluation of Poverty Prevalence in China" SCERI-CCER 2013 Joint Conference, Beijing, China (July).

Zhou, Xiang. 2012. "A Nonparametric Index of Stratification." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Denver, CO (August).

Xie, Yu, Siwei Cheng, and Xiang Zhou. 2012. "Assortative Mating without Assortative Preference." Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, San Francisco (May); and the Spring Meeting of International Sociological Association Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification in Hong Kong (May).

Xie, Yu, and Xiang Zhou. 2010. "Modeling Individual-Level Heterogeneity in Racial Residential Segregation." Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association Section on Methodology, Urbana, IL (April).

## **Honors and Awards**

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James Coleman Award for the Best Article, ASA Section on Sociology of Education, 2020

Outstanding Article Publication Award, ASA Section on Mathematical Sociology, 2020

Sørensen Student Travel Award, ISA Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification, 2015

Clifford C. Clogg Award, ASA Methodology Section, 2013

Outstanding Student Paper Award, North America Chinese Sociologists Association, 2013

Outstanding First Year PhD Student, Department of Statistics, University of Michigan, 2010

## **Teaching**

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Instructor, Harvard University

GOV 50, Introduction to Political Science Research Methods (Winter 2017)

GOV 2000, Quantitative Research Methodology (Fall 2017-2019)

GOV 2002, Causal Inference (Fall 2017)

GOV 3009, Applied Statistics Workshop (2017-2018)  
SOCIOLOG 90Z, Inequality (Spring 2020, 2021)  
SOCIOLOG 2245, Causal Inference for the Social Sciences (Spring 2021)

Lab Instructor, University of Michigan

SOC 619, Categorical Data Analysis (Fall 2013)

## **Advising**

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Dissertation Committee: Christopher Lucas (Assistant Professor, Washington University in St. Louis, 2018-), Connor Jerzak (Assistant Professor, University of Texas at Austin, 2022-), Briitta van Staaldouin

Qualifying Paper Committee: Derick da Silva Baum, Nino Cricco, Ohjae Gowen

First-year Advisor: Aleksei Opacic

## **Professional Service**

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Harvard University

- General Exam Committee, Department of Sociology, 2020-21
- Director of Graduate Studies, PhD Program in Social Policy, 2019-20
- Standing Committee on Higher Degrees in Social Policy, 2019-20
- Graduate Poster Session Committee, Department of Government, 2018
- Chair, Harvard East Asian Society Conference 2018
- Junior Faculty Search Committee, Department of Government, 2018
- Reviewer, Harvard-Yenching Institute Fellowship Program, 2017, 2018
- Discussant, Harvard Experimental Political Science Graduate Student Conference 2017
- Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Government, 2017

University of Michigan

- Student Discussant, "Causal Analysis After Haavelmo: Definitions and a Unified Analysis of Identification of Recursive Causal Models"(by James Heckman and Rodrigo Pinto), Causal Inference Symposium 2012

American Sociological Association

- Committee Member, Clifford Clogg Award, Section on Methodology 2021
- Committee Member, Outstanding Article Publication Award, Section on Mathematical Sociology 2021
- Session Organizer, "New Approaches to Understanding and Addressing Inequality," Annual Meeting 2021
- Session Organizer, "Quantitative Methodology," Annual Meeting 2021
- Discussant, "Advances in Quantitative Methodology," Annual Meeting 2020
- Discussant, "Quantitative Methodology," Annual Meeting 2015

Population Association of America

- Discussant, "Statistical Methods in Demographic Research," Annual Meeting 2017
- Chair and Discussant, "Inequality of Opportunity," Annual Meeting 2015

ISA Research Committee on Social Stratification (RC28)

- Chair, "Higher Education," Summer Meeting 2019

American Political Science Association

- Chair, "Generalized Linear Models in Political Science," Annual Meeting 2019
- Discussant, "Causal Inference for Times Series Data," Annual Meeting 2019
- Discussant, "Administrative Data and Record Linkage," Annual Meeting 2018

Midwest Political Science Association

- Chair and Discussant, "Improving Experimental Design," Annual Meeting 2019
- Discussant, "Advances in Scaling Models," Annual Meeting 2019

The Society for Political Methodology

- Discussant, Annual Meeting 2018

Editorial Board: *American Sociological Review* (2020-); *Chinese Sociological Review* (2021-); *Sociological Methodology* (2017-2019), *Sociological Methods & Research* (2021-)

Consulting Editor: *American Journal of Sociology* (2020-22)

Guest Editor: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*

Reviewer: *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Sociology*, *Chapman & Hall/CRC*, *China Economic Review*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Demography*, *Demographic Research*, *European Sociological Review*, *Journal of Economic Surveys*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society A*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, *Research Policy*, *Social Forces*, *Sociological Methodology*, *Sociological Methods & Research*, *Social Science Research*, *Sociology of Education*, *Social Problems*, *The China Quarterly*

**Professional Affiliations**

American Sociological Association

American Political Science Association

Population Association of America

The Society for Political Methodology

ISA Research Committee on Social Stratification (RC28)