

Zhihang Ruan

695 Park Ave, Room HW 1703A
Hunter College
New York, NY 10065 USA

Email: zr588@hunter.cuny.edu
Phone: (+1) 212-772-5682
Web: www.zhihangruan.com

EMPLOYMENT

Hunter College, City University of New York Assistant Professor of Political Science, August 2023 –

EDUCATION

Northwestern University Ph.D. in Political Science & M.S. in Statistics, Sept. 2023;
Evanston, IL M.A. in Political Science, 2018.

- Fields: Comparative Politics (major), Methodology, Political Theory (minor)

The Pennsylvania State University M.P.S. in Labor and Global Workers' Rights, 2015.
University Park, PA

Sun Yat-sen University Master's Degree in Politics, 2014.
Guangzhou, China

China Agricultural University Bachelor's Degree in Rural Development (with Distinction),
Beijing, China 2012.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative Political Economy, International Development, Inequality, Labor, Land, Welfare State, China, Vietnam, East and Southeast Asia

DISSERTATION/BOOK PROJECT

Land Regimes and the Welfare of Migrant Workers: A Comparison of China and Vietnam

- Dissertation Committee: William Hurst (chair), Jeffrey Winters, Monica Prasad, Sirius Bouchat.
- **Best Dissertation Award**, Class and Inequality Section, American Political Science Association, 2024.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Ruan, Zhihang. “Dualist Land Regime, the *Hukou* System and the Welfare of Migrant Workers in Chinese Cities.” *The China Quarterly*, March 15, 2024, 1–16.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0305741024000304>.

WORKING PAPERS

Ruan, Zhihang. “State-Building, Change of Land Institution, and Extractive Capacity in China and Vietnam.”

- Graduate Paper Prize (Honorable Mention), Vietnam Studies Group, *Association of Asian Studies* (AAS), 2023.

Ruan, Zhihang. “Framing and Support for Foreign Aid Among Chinese Nationals.”

Truong, Mai and Zhihang Ruan. “How Autocrats’ Blame Avoidance Strategies Backfire: The Cases of Vietnam & China.”

BOOK CHAPTERS

Ruan, Zhihang and Qiyun Luo. “*Jifenzhi ruxue de zhengce zhengyi yu bianqian: yi zhushanjiangao weili* [Policy controversies and changes regarding the points-based admission system: a case study of the Pearl River Delta region].” In *Zhongguo liudong ertong jiaoyu fazhan baogao (2021–2022)* [Annual report on education for migrant children in China: 2021–2022], edited by Han Jialing, 132–50. Beijing: Social Sciences Academic Press, 2023.

Ruan, Zhihang. “Hypothesis Testing.” *Empirical Methods in Political Science: An Introduction*, edited by Jean Clipperton, 44–56. Northwestern University Libraries, 2022.

BOOK REVIEW

Ruan, Zhihang. [Review of *The Idea of Governance and the Spirit of Chinese Neoliberalism*](#) by Quan Li. *Fudan Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences* 12, no. 4 (2019): 679–82.

INVITED TALKS

“State-Building and Land Institutions in China and Vietnam.”

- Department of Political Science, Hunter College, CUNY, March 2023.
- Department of Political Science, Marquette University, April 2023.

“State-Building and Land Ownership in China and Vietnam: The Critical Juncture of Constitution-Making in the 1970s and 1980s.”

- Comparative Historical Social Science Workshop, Department of Sociology and

Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, January 2023.
- Comparative Politics Workshop, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, November 2022.

“Land Institutions, Urbanization, and Migrant Workers in China and Vietnam,” Department of Urban Studies, University of Social Sciences and Humanities - Ho Chi Minh City, August 2022.

“The Right to Strike Without the Freedom of Association: Workers and Unions in Auto Parts Manufacturers in Southern China, 2010–2016,” Equality Development and Globalization Studies (EDGS) Graduate Lecture Series, Northwestern University, January 2018.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

2024: Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) annual meeting, American Political Science Association (APSA) annual meeting (scheduled).

2023: APSA annual meeting, MPSA annual meeting, Urban Affairs Association annual conference, Harvard MIT UBC Urban China Conference, Southeast Asia Research Group conference, Social Science History Association annual conference.

2022: APSA Asia Pacific Political Science Research and Publication Conference, MPSA annual meeting, Association of Chinese Political Studies annual conference.

2021: International Studies Association annual convention, MPSA annual meeting.

2019: MPSA annual meeting.

2018: World Interdisciplinary Network of Institutional Research annual conference, Association of Chinese Political Studies annual conference.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate courses

POLSC 25700 Government and Politics of China, Hunter College, *Instructor*

POLSC 25000 Comparing Countries, Hunter College, *Instructor*

POLSC 37210 China in the World, Hunter College, *Instructor*

Institutions, Rules, & Models in Social Science, Northwestern University (Instructor: Jean Clipperton), *Teaching Assistant*

Introduction to Empirical Methods, Northwestern University (Instructor: Jason Seawright), *Teaching Assistant*

U.S. Foreign Policy, Northwestern University (Instructor: Daniel Krmaric), *Teaching Assistant*

Introduction to International Relations, Northwestern University (Instructor: Hendrik Spruyt), *Teaching Assistant*

Introduction to Labor Politics, Sun Yat-sen University (Instructor: He Gaochao), *Teaching Assistant*

Graduate courses

Linear Models, Northwestern University (Instructor: Mary McGrath), *Teaching Assistant*

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Best Dissertation Award, Class and Inequality Section, APSA 2024
- Hunter College Research Foundation Faculty Travel Award 2024
- China at CUNY Initiative Faculty Fellow 2024
- Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG) Fellow 2023
- APSA Travel Grant 2023
- Graduate Paper Prize (Honorable Mention), Vietnam Studies Group, AAS 2023
- Global Impacts Graduate Fellow, Buffett Institute for Global Affairs, Northwestern University 2022-2023
- Global Poverty Research Lab China Cluster Award, Northwestern University 2018-2019
- Vietnamese Language Tuition Scholarship, Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI), University of Wisconsin-Madison 2018
- Summer Language Grant, The Graduate School, Northwestern University 2018
- David Minar Memorial Summer Awards, Northwestern University 2018
- Graduate Student Dissertation Research Award, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University 2017
- Outstanding Graduate of Beijing Municipality 2012
- Undergraduate Research and Innovation Project, Ministry of Education, China 2010

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Graduate Assistant 2020-2021
Buffett Institute for Global Affairs, Northwestern University
- Graduate Intern Summer 2015
Training and Employment Fund, Local 1199 Service Employees
International Union (SEIU), New York City
- Graduate Assistant 2014-2015
Center for Global Workers' Rights, Pennsylvania State University
- Research and Administrative Assistant 2013-2014
Sun Yat-sen University - UC Berkeley International Center for Joint
Labor Research, Guangzhou, China
- Intern Summer 2011
Foreign Economic Cooperation Center, Ministry of Agriculture, China

SERVICE

Panel organizer, "Central-Local and State-Society Relations in China and Vietnam,"
Chair and discussant, "Political Participation and Policy Making in China,"
Discussant, "From Tech to Informality: Challenges to Traditional Urban Governance," APSA
Annual Meeting, 2024

Co-organizer, National Committee on U.S.-China Relations China Town Hall event at Hunter
College.

Ad hoc reviewer for *Perspectives on Politics*, *Global Political Economy*, *Global Labour Journal*, and *International Journal of Communication*.

FIELDWORK ABROAD (last seven years)

Fieldwork in China June to August and December 2017 in Guangdong,
December 2020 to January 2022 in Guangdong and Beijing.

Fieldwork in Vietnam June to December 2019 in Ho Chi Minh City,
May to September 2022 in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi.

LANGUAGES

Cantonese and Mandarin Chinese (Native), English (Fluent), Vietnamese (Intermediate)

SOFTWARE

R, NVivo, Stata, SPSS, LaTeX