

Jingran Yang

785-727-3216 | kryang@ku.edu | jingranyang.com

Last updated: March 6, 2026

EDUCATION

University of Kansas <i>Doctoral student in political science (Advisor: John James Kennedy)</i>	Lawrence, KS, USA <i>Aug. 2023 – Present</i>
Renmin University of China <i>Ph.D. in Economics (Advisor: Qijing Yang)</i>	Beijing, CN <i>Sept. 2014 – Jun. 2020</i>
University of Wisconsin-Madison <i>Visiting Student (Supervised by: Scott Gehlbach)</i>	Madison, WI, USA <i>Sept. 2016 – Aug. 2017</i>
Chongqing Technology and Business University <i>M.A. in Management (Advisor: Jirong Cai)</i>	Chongqing, CN <i>Sept. 2012 – Jun. 2014</i>
Jiangnan University <i>B.A. in Arts (Advisor: Bo Jiang)</i>	Wuxi, CN <i>Sept. 2007 – Jun. 2011</i>

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Affiliated Researcher <i>Research Center for Carbon-neutrality and Finance, CUFU</i>	Apr. 2022 – Apr. 2023 <i>Beijing, CN</i>
---	---

RESEARCH INTERESTS

I study the social, political, and economic micro-foundations driving political regime transitions and social stability. I am also interested in experimental studies on the causes of political polarization.

WORKING PAPERS

“Misreading Social Identity Theory: Why Affective Polarisation Research Got It Wrong”
Revise & Resubmit at Political Studies Review.

“Competitive Dynamics in Organizations” (With Qijing Yang).

“The Strategic Erosion of Competitive Elections in Rural China” (with John James Kennedy).

WORK IN PROGRESS

The Nature and Origins of Affective Polarization (with Ingles Nguyen Kristy)

Social Ties and Political Regime Transitions

AWARDS / GRANTS / FELLOWSHIPS

Awards

Best Paper Award, IOEA (Institutional and Organizational Economics Academy, France), 2025.

Grants

Walter Thompson Scholarship, Department of Political Science, KU, 2025, 2024.

Fellowships

IPSR Doctoral Research Fellow, KU, 2025–2026.

CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDING SCHEDULED)

2026 Political Science Speaker Series (Invited); IPSR Doctoral Fellows Symposium

2025 The 22nd Session of the Institutional and Organizational Economics Academy (IOEA), The 82nd Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference (MPSA), The 121st American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition (APSA) (poster).

2017 Chinese Economics Society Australia (CESA), UW–Madison.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Kansas

- POLS 301 Introduction to Political Theory (Undergraduate, TA, Spring 2026)
- POLS 206 Political Science Methods of Inquiry (Undergraduate, TA, Spring 2025, Fall 2025)
- POLS 110 Introduction to American Politics (Undergraduate, TA, Fall 2024)
- POLS 150 Introduction to Comparative Politics (Undergraduate, TA, Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Undergraduate Research Mentoring

- Kristy Ingles Nguyen, Undergraduate Research Assistant, 2024–present.