

Jingran Yang

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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>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Researcher <i>Environmentally Applied Refrigerant Technology Hub (EARTH), NSF-funded interdisciplinary research project</i>	Jul. 2026 – Present <i>Lawrence, KS, USA</i>
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 microfoundations that drive political regime transitions, social stability, and economic efficiency. 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), Best Paper Award, IOEA
(Institutional and Organizational Economics Academy, France), 2025.

“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, Institutional and Organizational Economics Academy (IOEA), France 2025.

Grants

Walter Thompson Scholarship (\$3000), 2025, 2024.

Ketzel Student Support Fund (\$1000, \$800), 2026, 2025.

Graduate Student Travel Fund (\$750), 2024.

Fellowships

IPSR Doctoral Research Fellow, KU, 2025–2026.

CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDING SCHEDULED)

2026 Political Science Speaker Series (Invited), IPSR Doctoral Fellows Symposium, Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics (SIOE), American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (APSA)

2025 Institutional and Organizational Economics Academy (IOEA), Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference (MPSA), American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (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.