YING CHI

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Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, Duke University, 2022 to present
Fields: Political Institutions, Political Methodology
Dissertation: "Translating Information into Security: The Information Dynamic between Authoritarian States and Society"
Committee: Melanie Manion (chair), Timur Kuran, Edmund Malesky, and Francisco Garfias Royo

M.A. in Political Science, Duke University, 2021
Fields: Political Institutions; Behavior and Identities
Thesis: "Addressing the Elephant in the Room: Rumor Rebuttal in China during the COVID-19 Outbreak"

B.A. in International Relations and English Literature, Beijing Foreign Studies University, 2019
Graduated with distinction

Visiting International Student in Political Science, Barnard College, 2017

Research Areas

Information Politics, Authoritarian Institutions, Political Communication, State–Society Relations, and China.

Job Market Paper

"Politicizing Information-Seeking under State Repression in China"

Papers in Progress

"Inference vs. Coordination: Newspapers, the Postal System, and Local Revolts in Late Qing China"
"To Censor, or To Refute, That Is the Question: Theory and Evidence of COVID-19 Rumor Communication from China" With Linchuan Xu

Awards, Grants, and Fellowships

Awards

The Laura Bassi Scholarship, 2026
Best Preliminary Paper in Political Science, Duke University, 2025
University Scholarship, Beijing Foreign Studies University, 2015, 2016, 2017

Grants

Janet B. Chiang Grant, Duke University, 2026
Departmental Conference Travel Fund, Duke University, 2025, 2026
Institute for Humane Studies Expense Support Grant, 2025
Democracy, Institutions, and Political Economy Fund, Duke University, 2025
Political Science Departmental Research Grant, Duke University, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
Graduate School Conference Travel Award, Duke University, 2023, 2024, 2025
Asian-Pacific Institute Conference Travel Grant, Duke University, 2023, 2026

Fellowships

Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies, 2026
Ronald Coase Institute Fellowship, 2025
Political Science Department Summer Research Fellowship, Duke University, 2025, 2026
Graduate School Summer Fellowship, Duke University, 2022, 2023, 2024

Invited Workshop Presentations

14th China Development and Governance Workshop, Boston, September 2026
Ronald Coase Institute Workshop on Institutional Analysis, Perugia and Florence, December 2025

Conference Presentations

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2026
Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2026
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2025, 2022
Behavioral Models of Politics Conference, 2026
Duke University Political Science End-of-Year Conference, 2026, 2025

Teaching Assistantship

Intro to Comparative Politics, David Siegel, Fall 2026
China in the World, Melanie Manion, Spring 2026
International Security, Rachel Myrick, Fall 2025
Chinese Politics, Melanie Manion, Spring 2025
Discovering Game Theory, Georg Vanberg, Fall 2024

Other Professional Expertise

languages: Mandarin Chinese (native), English (Fluent), French (Basic)
Software: R, Stata, Qualtrics, and LaTeX

References

Melanie Manion
Vor Broker Family Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Duke University
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Professor of Economics and Political Science, Gorter Family Professor of Islamic Studies, Duke University
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Edmund Malesky
Oscar L. Tang Family Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Duke University
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Francisco Garfias Royo
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