

Xiaoming Zhang

Department of Sociology

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Zhejiang University

2022

EDUCATION

The University of Hong Kong

Ph.D., Management and Strategy

2018-2022

Zhejiang University

Ph.D. study, Economics

2014-2018

Xiangtan University

B.A., Economics

2010-2014

FIELD OF INTEREST

Historical Political Economy, Quantitative History

RESEARCH

Peer Reviewed Articles

“Awakening Latent Human Capital: Opening-up and Entrepreneurship in Modern China” (with Li Duan).

Journal of Development Economics, forthcoming.

“Information Foundations of State Capacity: Evidence from the Imperial Bureaucracy of China”. *Social Forces*, (2025)

“Does Anti-Corruption Enforcement Trigger Bureaucratic Slack in China? The Moderating Effect of an Administrative Reform.” (with Tu, Wenyan and Xiangyi Zheng.) *Problems of Post-Communism* (2025): 1-13.

“From Powerholder to Stakeholder: State-Building with Elite Compensation in Early Medieval China”, (with Joy Chen and Erik. H. Wang). *American Journal of Political Science*, 69.2 (2025): 607-623.

“Discretion, Talent Allocation, and Governance Performance: Evidence from China’s Imperial Bureaucracy” (with Kevin Zhengcheng Liu). *Journal of Development Economics*, 172 (2025): 103391.

“Hedging Desperation: How the Confucian Clan as an Internal Financial Market Reduced Cannibalism in Historical China” (with Zhiwu Chen and Zhan Lin). *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 2024, 52(2): 361-382. (Leading article)

“Centralization and Decentralization of Public Goods Provision in China: The Relations with State Governance” (with Zhenghan Cao and Nie Jing) (in Chinese) *Academic Monthly*(学术月刊), 2020, No.4

“Structure Hypothesis of Authoritarian Rule: Evidence from the Lifespans of China’s Dynasties” (with Zhenghan Cao) *Journal of Chinese Governance*, 2018, No.3(1), 1-24

“The Logic of Social Governance in a Prefectures-and-Counties State: On the Origins of Dual-Track-System of Regulation and Autonomy in Qing Dynasty” (with Zhenghan Cao) (in Chinese) *Academics* (学术界), 2017, No.10

“From Manipulation to Integration: the Strategic Transformation of Grassroots Control in China” (with Zhenghan Cao) *Journal of Chinese Governance*, 2016, No.2(1)

Book Chapters

“Discover History in Numbers: Historical Sociology and Quantitative Methods”. in *History and Change*, edited by Zhao Dingxin and Li Jin, CITIC Press, 2022 (In Chinese)

“Comments: The Structure Hypothesis of Authoritarian Resilience and its Internal Tension”. in *Research of Economic Sociology*, edited by Liu Shiding, Social Sciences Academic Press, 2018 (In Chinese)

Working Papers

“Meritocracy and Government Performance: Evidence from Random Assignment in China’s Imperial Bureaucracy” (joint with James Kung, Kevin Zhengcheng Liu)

“The More You Know, the Less You Learn: Information Monitoring and Political Decision-Making Bias within China’s Imperial Bureaucracy” (with Xianqi Cao)

“How Ideas Shape Social Structure: Neo-Confucianism and Elite Localization” (with Xiao LEI)(in Chinese)

“Quantitative Archaeological Evidence on the Origin of the First Chinese State” (with Zhiwu Chen)

Non-Peer Reviewed Articles

“The Rise of the West: Controversies and Consensus” *The Economic Observer*, 04/20/2018 (In Chinese)

“War: the ‘Catalyzer’ of Modern Civilizations” *The Economic Observer*, 09/19/2017 (In Chinese)

“The Weakness of the Great Qing Empire”, *The Economic Observer*, 07/03/2017 (In Chinese)

“Financial Consequences of Glorious Revolution”, *The Economic Observer*, 04/15/2017 (In Chinese)

RESEARCH AWARDS

Honorable Mention for the Charles Tilly Best Article Award in Comparative and Historical Sociology given by the American Sociological Association (ASA).

the 8th Narada (Nandu) Quantitative History Research Best Paper Awards given by the Centre for Quantitative History.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

The Wang Yanan Institute for Studies in Economics, Xiamen University, 2025

Department of Economics, The Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, 2025

School of Social Sciences, Tsinghua University, 2025

The National School of Development (NSD), Peking University, 2025

Department of Economics, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, 2024

School of Government, East China University of Political Science and Law, 2024

Department of Economics, Peking University, 2022

Department of Economics, Renmin University of China, 2022

Jinhe Center for Economic Research, Xi'an Jiaotong University, 2022

Department of Economics, Fudan University, 2022

Business School, Sun Yat-sen University, 2022

School of Government, Sun Yat-sen University, 2022

Conferences

the Eighth Asian Historical Economics Conference, The University of Hong Kong, 2024

“Chinese Economic History from a Comparative Perspective”, Oxford University, 2024

”China’s Development and Governance Conference at 75 years”, School of Humanities and Social Science, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen, 2024

Xiangzhang Economic History Conference, Nanjing University, 2023

“When Big Data Meets Sociological Imagination”, the Digital Society research cluster online symposium, Hong Kong, Jun 2022

HKU Bloomberg Seminar, The University of Hong Kong, 2019; 2021

International Symposium on Quantitative History, 2016-2024

The Symposium on China Government Employee Database, Renmin University of China, 2018

The International Symposium on “Market, Politics and Society”, Zhejiang University, 2017

The History and Institutional Innovation Symposium, Unirule Institute of Economics, 2016

The Annual Meeting of New Institutional Economics, Zhejiang University, 2016

Doctoral Forum of Chinese Governance, Zhejiang University, 2015

Doctoral Forum of Luojia, Wuhan University, 2015

The 2th Summer School for Applied Microeconometrics, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics, 2014

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Historical Political Economy. Undergraduate-level. Zhejiang University. 2024

Social Statistics. Graduate-level. Zhejiang University. 2023, 2024

Social Investigation and Research Methods. Undergraduate-level. Zhejiang University, 2023

Teaching Assistant, Economic Logic of Civilizations: How Human Societies Have Innovated to Deal with Risk? The University of Hong Kong, 2020

Teaching Assistant, Social Change, Zhejiang University, 2017

Teaching Assistant, New Institutional Economics, Zhejiang University, 2015