
ZHI LI

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: zhili@nju.edu.cn

Address: Room 355, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Nanjing University (Xianlin Campus), Nanjing, China

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Stratification, Sociology of Finance, Sociology of AI, Computational Social Science

EMPLOYMENT

2026 Nanjing University, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Research Assistant Professor

EDUCATION

2026 Ph.D. in Sociology, New York University
Dissertation title: Three Essays on Wealth Inequality in the Era of Financialization
Committee members: Xiaogang Wu (co-chair), Siwei Cheng (co-chair), Michael Hout, Carly Knight, Fabian Pfeffer

2019 M.A. in Sociology, The Pennsylvania State University

2017 M.A. in Sociology, Nanjing University

2013 B.L. in Sociology, Wuhan University

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES (142 citations on [Google Scholar](#))

Zhang, Yongjun, Siwei Cheng, **Zhi Li**, and Wenhao Jiang. “**Human mobility patterns are associated with experienced partisan segregation in US metropolitan areas.**” *Scientific Reports* 13, no. 1 (2023): 9768.

Chen, Xinguang, Yang Sun, **Zhi Li**, Bin Yu, Ge Gao, and Peigang Wang. “**Historical trends in suicide risk for the residents of mainland China: APC modeling of the archived national suicide mortality rates during 1987–2012.**” *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology* 54 (2019): 99-110.

Li, Zhi, Peigang Wang, Ge Gao, Chunling Xu, and Xinguang Chen. “**Age-period-cohort analysis of infectious disease mortality in urban-rural China, 1990–2010.**” *International Journal for Equity in Health* 15 (2016): 1-9.

Li, Zhi, and Peigang Wang. “**Comprehensive evaluation of the objective quality of life of Chinese residents: 2006 to 2009.**” *Social Indicators Research* 113 (2013): 1075-1090.

UNDER REVIEW

Li, Zhi. “Educational differences in stock-linked wealth trajectories and wealth accumulation across generations in the United States.” R&R at *Demography*.

Robert D. Mare Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association’s Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility, 2025

Travel Award, Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility, International Sociological Association, 2025

Wu, Xiaogang, **Zhi Li**, and Mike Hout. “Politics and viruses: Partisanship and COVID-19 infections in the United States.” R&R at *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*.

DRAFTS IN PREPARATION FOR SUBMISSION

Li, Zhi. “Educational differences in housing wealth trajectories and wealth accumulation across generations in Urban China.”

Li, Zhi. “Housing finance, house value appreciation, and wealth inequality in transitional China.”

Li, Zhi. “Inter-county connected partisanship and vaccination rates during COVID-19.”

Travel Award, International Chinese Sociological Association, 2025.

Wu, Xiaogang, **Zhi Li**, and Mike Hout. “COVID-19, Hong Kong, and Americans’ attitude toward China.”

Li, Zhi, Wenpin Tsai, Martin Kilduff, and David Krackhardt. “Perceived structural holes and reputational power in organizations.”

Best oral presentation, Post-Doctoral and Doctoral Research Assembly, NYU Shanghai, 2024

WORK IN PROGRESS

Qu, Yue, and **Zhi Li**. “Cohort and life-course changes in returns to college major.”

Li, Zhi. “How artificial intelligence reshapes returns to college major.”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Chinese Sociological Association Annual Meeting	2012, 2015, 2026
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting	2019, 2023-2025
Population Association of America Annual Meeting	2023, 2025
International Sociological Association, RC28	2024-2025
International Chinese Sociological Association Annual Conference	2022-2025

INVITED TALKS

Educational differences in housing wealth trajectories and wealth accumulation across generations in Urban China

2025 International Chinese Sociological Association Research Webinar

Educational differences in stock-linked wealth trajectories and wealth accumulation across generations in the United States

2025 CASER Baldwin S. Sociology Workshop, NYU Shanghai

Perceived structural holes and reputational power in organizations

2024 Introduction of Social Network Analysis (Taught by Zixi Chen), NYU Shanghai

2024 Summer Foreign Language Training in Sociology, Department of Sociology, Tsinghua University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Upcoming AI and Society, Nanjing University

Upcoming Data Ethics and Algorithmic Governance, Nanjing University

Teaching Assistant

2024, 25 Introduction of Social Network Analysis (Taught by Zixi Chen), Center for Applied Social and Economic Research, NYU Shanghai

2023, 25 Summer Institute in Computational Social Sciences, Center for Applied Social and Economic Research, NYU Shanghai

2021 Introduction to Computational Social Science (Taught by Yongren Shi), Center for Applied Social and Economic Research, NYU Shanghai

Guest Lecturer

2024 Introduction to Social Network Analysis, Introduction to the Computational Social Science Methods (Taught by Zixi Chen), NYU Shanghai

2019 Topic: Class Conflict, Social Conflict (Taught by Daniel DellaPosta), Department of Sociology and Criminology, The Pennsylvania State University

Pedagogical Development

2019 Teaching Sociology, Department of Sociology and Criminology, The Pennsylvania State University

AWARDS AND HONORS

2025 Robert D. Mare Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association's Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility

2025 Travel Award (\$1200), Research Committee 28 on Social Stratification and Mobility, International Sociological Association

2025 Travel Award (\$500), International Chinese Sociological Association

2024 Best Oral Presentation (¥2000), Post-Doctoral and Doctoral Research Assembly,

	NYU Shanghai
2023-24	GSAS Dean's Conference Fund (\$500*2), New York University
2019	Huber/Form Scholarship (\$9426), The Pennsylvania State University
2019	Travel Funding (\$1000), The Pennsylvania State University
2017	Huber/Form Scholarship (\$2000), The Pennsylvania State University
2017-19	Full Scholarship, The Pennsylvania State University
2015	National Scholarship for Graduate Students (¥20000), Chinese Ministry of Education
2012	The 1st Prize for University Students' Scientific Research Achievements, Hubei Provincial Department of Education

OCCASIONAL REVIEWER

Chinese Sociological Review, Sociological Forum

ACADEMIC OR COMMUNITY SERVICE

2019-2026	Founder, The North American Chinese Sociology WeChat Group (545 members)
2024	Member, PhD Crossing Committee, NYU Shanghai
2022	Member, Departmental Climate Committee, Graduate Students Association, New York University

SOFTWARE

STATA, R, Python, VS Code, Claude Code, Codex

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Chinese Sociological Association; American Sociological Association (ASA); Population Association of America (PAA); International Sociological Association (ISA), RC28; International Chinese Sociological Association (ICSA)