

Shiyi (Winnie) Xia

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Appointments

2024-2026 Aarhus University
Department of Political Science
Postdoctoral research fellow

2023-2024 University of Edinburgh
School of Law and College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Postdoctoral research fellow at Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Education

2020-2024 University of Essex
Department of Government
PhD in Government
Dissertation: The problem of violence in popular mobilisation
Committee: Kristian Gleditsch, Sara Polo, Reed Wood, Howard Liu

2018-2019 University College London
Department of Political Science
Master of Science in Security Studies
Supervisor: Manuel Vogt

2015-2016 University of Bristol
School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies
Master of Science in Ethnicity and Multiculturalism
Supervisor: Jon Fox

Research Interests

International Relations, political violence, computational social science, survey experiment.

Publication

Other

Winnie Xia, et al. (2024). "Peace agreements in 2023: insights from the PA-X database". PeaceRep, University of Edinburgh.

Winnie Xia. (2018). "The belt and road initiative, and marshal plan: a comparative perspective". *China Market*. (2): 106-107.

Under Review

"Exploring gender dynamics in anti-government movements: shaping the choice between violent and civil resistance".

"Precision in chaos: unraveling the art of targeted protest violence and state repression".

Working Papers

“Double-standard support and strategic choice of women in protests”, with [Sergio Ascencio](#) and [Han Il Chang](#).

“A well disciplined nonviolent militia? Mobilisation experience and protester violence”.

“Legitimizing or de-legitimizing: media framing of violence in protests”.

“Burning flames in young eyes: protest events organised by youth wings of political parties”.

Work in Progress

“Global comparisons: investigating citizen responses to politicians’ benchmarking cues” with [Roman Senninger](#) and [Muzhou Zhang](#) .

“Motivations from politicians to send benchmarking cues” with [Roman Senninger](#).

“Conscience or personal interest? Motivation disputes for political participation in environmental movements”, with [Dafni Kalatzi Pantera](#).

Method Training

2023 **Large Language Models in Social Sciences**
Nuffield College, University of Oxford

2023 **Introduction to Supervised Text Classification in R**
Instructor: Marius Sältzer

2023 **Introduction to Game Theory**
Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis
Instructor: Sergio Ascencio

2021-2022 **Spatial Econometrics**
Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis
Instructor: Scott Cook; Martin C. Steinwand

2021 **Text as Data: Theory and Application**
EITM
Instructor: Kenneth Benoit, Nicole Baerg, Thomas Bräuninger, James Lo

2020 **Workshop on Machine Learning and Conflict Prediction**
University of Essex
Instructor: Michael Colaresi

Teaching

Substantive

2025 **Aarhus University, Department of Political Science**
Lecturer
Politics of Protest (Postgraduate)

2025 **Aarhus University, Department of Political Science**
Assistant Lecturer
Political Institute (Undergraduate)

2021-2023 University of Essex, Department of Government
Assistant Lecturer
Corruption (Undergraduate)
Conflict Analysis (Undergraduate)
Violent Non State Actors: Violence Crime and Conflict (Undergraduate)

Research Method

2022-2023 Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis
Instructor
Introduction to R
Teaching Assistant
Advanced Survey Data Analysis and Survey Experiments, with Yanna Krupnikov
Web Scrapping and Data Management for Social Scientists, with Matt Loftis
Advanced Methods for Text as Data: Natural Language Process, with Douglas Rice

2021-2023 University of Essex, Department of Government
Assistant Lecturer
Advanced Research Methods (Postgraduate)
Political Explanation (Postgraduate)

2021-2023 UCL, Department of Political Science/Q-step Center
Assistant Lecturer
Data Analysis/Spatial Analysis (Q-Step)
Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods (Q-Step)

Data Project

2022 Protest Violence and Targets Historical Dataset (PVHS)
A event dataset on various forms of protester violence in social conflicts across 40 African countries (2000 - 2017). It serves as a complementary dataset to SCAD.

Research Experience

University of Florida/University of Oxford

2023 *Research Assistant*
Conjoint and Endorsement Experiments in Support for Uncivil Groups
For Lenka Buřtíková Siroky, David Siroky

University of Essex

2022 *Research Assistant*
Political Trust in Challenging Places: Survey in Haiti
For Zorzeta Bakaki, Han Dorussen

2022 *Research Assistant*
Extreme Violence against Women
For Ismene Gizelis, Sara Polo and Brian Phillips

2021 *Research Assistant*
People Power and Foreign Policy in Sub-Saharan Africa
For Florian Kern, Martin Steinwand

2021 *Research Assistant*
Uptake of Public Health Practices For Prevention of COVID 19 in Uganda
For Han Dorussen

Workshops, and Conferences

How Image-As-Data Approaches Can Help Analysing Protest : Methods and Applications (2024)
European Political Science Association (2022, 2023, 2024)
American Political Science Association (2023)
Conflict Dynamics Workshop, University of Konstanz & University of York (2023)
Women in Political Science Workshop, University of Mannheim (2023)
Conflict & Change Workshop, UCL (2023)
Conflict Research Society Conference (2021, 2022)
International Studies Association (2022)
Midwest Political Science Association (2022)

Service

Service to Department

- 2023** **Organiser, PhD workshop on political challenges**
University of Essex
- 2022** **Organiser, workshop on trust in challenging contexts**
Michael Nicholson Centre for Conflict and Cooperation
- 2018-2019** **Editorial Board Member, International Public Policy Review**
UCL

Other

- 2016-2018** **Strategy Associate**
Diplomatic Protocol Service Center, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China

Grants and Awards

- 2024** Aarhus University. Research Grant: 32,000 DKK
- 2023** American Political Science Association. Travel Grant: \$400
- 2023** University of Essex. Conference Travel fund (EPSA): £900
- 2023** University of Essex. PhD Cohort Building Grant: £600
- 2021** University of Essex. Graduate Fund for Essex Summer School Attendance: £1,000

Referees

Kristian Gledistch
Regius Professor
Department of Government
University of Essex
ksg@essex.ac.uk

Sara Polo
Senior Lecturer
Department of Government
University of Essex
sara.polo@essex.ac.uk

Roman Senninger
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
Aarhus University
rsenninger@ps.au.dk

Technical Skills

Data Science and Statistics
Markup
Version Control
Web-based survey platforms

R, Python, Stata
L^AT_EX, Markdown
Git, GitHub
Qualtrics, SurveyMonkey