

Dehua (Oliver) Sun

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Academic Appointments

University of Chicago

Assistant Instructional Professor, Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences, 2025-

Education

University of Rochester

Ph.D. in Political Science, 2025

Lafayette College

B.S. in Mathematics, 2017

Publications

Lee, Alexander, Weihong Qi, Dehua Sun. "State Mobilization and Political Attitudes: The Legacy of Maoist Rural Resettlement in Contemporary China." Forthcoming, *Political Science Research and Methods*.

Working Papers

"Outcome Bias in Policy Attitudes: Evidence from Beijing's License Plate Lottery."

"When an Authoritarian Audience Does Not Rally around the Flag: Evidence from the Hainan Island Incident."

"Does Intergroup Contact Reduce Affective Polarization? A Natural Experiment."

"Blame Attribution in Authoritarianism: The Public's Response to Three Safety Crises in China." *Conditionally Accepted at Political Science Research and Methods*.

"Contact Does Not Affect Immigration Attitudes on Campus: Evidence from College Housing Assignments." (with Jae-Eun Kim). *Revise and Resubmit at Politics, Groups, and Identities*.

Work in Progress

"The Inertia of Loyalty: An Identity Explanation of Co-optation."

"Zero-Sum Thinking, Nationalism, and Political Trust in China."

"Urban Layouts and Regime Types: A Quantitative Analysis."

Teaching

Instructor, University of Chicago

Perspectives in Social Science Analysis, Autumn 2025

Social Science Inquiry I, Autumn 2025

Chinese Politics, Spring 2026

Political Economy of the Global South, Spring 2026

Teaching Assistant, University of Rochester

Theories of Political Economy, Prof. Jim Johnson, Fall 2024

Senior Honors Program, Prof. Scott Abramson, Fall 2022 and Spring 2023

Introduction to Comparative Politics, Prof. Bonnie Meguid, Fall 2022

Introduction to Positive Political Theory, Prof. Stu Jordan, Fall 2021

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student, 2023

Department's Annual Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Award, 2023

Democracy Center Graduate Fellowship, 2022-2025

W. Allen Wallis Fellowship, 2021-2022

G. Bingham Powell and Lynda W. Powell Applied Research Grants: 2021

Lanni Summer Grants: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

Related Work

Research Assistant,

Prof. Jamie Druckman, Spring 2024

Prof. Gretchen Helmke, 2022-2025

Prof. Jidong Chen, Spring 2022

Prof. Bonnie Meguid, Summer 2023

Prof. Mayya Komisarchik, Spring 2022

Prof. Alexander Lee, 2019-2020

References

Alexander Lee

Professor

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Assistant Professor

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Jidong Chen

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Current as of 2026/05