

Harry Yaojun Yan
CURRICULUM VITAE

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PROFESSIONAL POSITION

- 2024 - Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI) Cyber Policy Center & Social Media Lab (SML), Stanford University
- 2025 - Assistant professor, Department of Communication & Journalism, Texas A&M University
- 2023 - 2024 Visiting assistant professor, Department of Communication & Journalism, Texas A&M University

EDUCATION

- *Ph.D. 2018-2023 Double Major in Media Arts & Sciences and Informatics with a Complex Networks & Systems track
*[National Science Foundation Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Trainee](#) (NSF-NRT).
The Media School & Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering, Indiana University-Bloomington (IU-B)
Dissertation: Opinion formation of partisan media users in the changing media environment.
Co-Chairs: James Shanahan, Filippo Menczer
Committee: Robert F. Potter, Johan Bollen
- M.A. 2014-2017 Media Studies/Mass Communication
S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University
Master's thesis: "The Rippled Perceptions"—The effects of LGBT-inclusive TV on own attitudes and perceived attitudes of peers towards lesbians and gays. *Pass without revision*
Chair: Carol Liebler
Committee: T. Makana Chock, Frank Biocca
- B.A. 2009-2013 Chinese Language and Literature
Nankai University, Tianjin, PRC & University of Macau, Macau

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2019-2023 [Knight Foundation Research Fellow](#), in affiliation with [Observatory on Social Media \(OSoMe\)](#)
- 2018-2023 Researcher affiliated with [Center for Complex Networks and System Research \(CNetS\)](#)
- 2017-2023 Researcher affiliated with [Institute of Communication Research](#) (ICR)
- 2017-2018 Graduate Associate Instructors, The Media School, IU-B
- 2014-2016 Research Assistant, S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University

GRANT APPLICATION UNDER REVIEW

1. National Science Foundation (PD 22-1332)

Proposal: *Video Interpretation Bias—When “Objective” Evidence Leads to Racial Bias*

Role: Co-Principle Investigator (PI) Dr. Glenna Read (University of Georgia) and Dr. Rachel Bailey (Florida State University)

2. Stanford Responsible AI for Safe and Equitable Health (RAISE) Seed Grants

Proposal: *Bridging the Trust Gap—Developing Culturally Responsive AI for Primary Care in Marginalized Communities of Color*

Role: Key researcher with Angela Y. Lee (Ph.D. candidate Stanford University), Dr. Sunny X. Liu (Stanford University), Dr. Jeffrey T. Hancock (Co-PI, Stanford University), and Lee Sanders, MD, MPH (Co-PI, Stanford University)

3. Stanford Institute for Human-AI Interaction Seed Grant

Proposal: *Empowering All with AI—Towards Equitable Knowledge Acquisition with Large Language Models*

Role: Key researcher with Dr. Sunny X. Liu (Stanford University), Dr. Jeffrey T. Hancock (Co-PI, Stanford University), and Dr. Nate Persily (Co-PI, Stanford University)

AWARDS & GRANTS

2023-	Civic Health Project Seed Grant
2022-2023	John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Research Fellowship
2020-2021	John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Research Fellowship
2018-2019	University Graduate School (UGS) Diversity and Excellence Fellowship
2019	International Communication Association, Mass Communication Division. Student travel award
2017-	Various travel scholarships
2014-2015	Liu Foundation Multicultural Scholarship, S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University
2011-2013	Dual Degree-exchange Student Scholarship by Macau Foundation
2010-2011	University second-to-top-student scholarship in Nankai University
2009-2010	University top-student scholarship in Nankai University

RESEARCH TOPICAL INTERESTS

Responsible and equitable artificial intelligence
Emerging media technologies
Public opinion and political communication
Social movement
Digital inequality

METHODOLOGY INTERESTS

Computational methods:

Natural language processing

Network analysis

Agent-based modeling

Advanced statistical methods:

Time series analysis

Multilevel modeling

Structural Equation modeling

Complex survey and quasi-experimental design

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Yan, H.Y., Shanahan J., & Menczer, F. (Under Review). Mainstreaming revisited: effects of mass media on partisan opinion dynamics in an evolving media landscape. *Journal of Communication*

Yan, H.Y., Read, G., & Bailey, R. (Under Review). Understanding bipartisan public support for body-worn cameras in policing. *Public Opinion Quarterly*

Yan, H. Y., Morrow, G.; Yang, K. C., & Wihbey, J. (Forthcoming). The origins of public concerns over AI-supercharging misinformation in the US presidential election. *Harvard Kennedy School Misinformation Review*

DeVerna, M. R., **Yan, H. Y.**, Yang, K. C., & Menczer, F. (Forthcoming). Artificial intelligence is ineffective and potentially harmful for fact-checking. *Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences*.

Yan, H. Y., Yang, K. C., Shanahan, J., & Menczer, F. (2023). Exposure to social bots amplifies perceptual biases and regulation propensity. *Scientific Reports*, 13(1), 20707. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-46630-x>

Li, W., **Yan, H. Y.**, & Shanahan, J. (2023). The moderating role of partisanship in the relationship between perceptions of media bias and COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in the US. *Communication Research Reports*, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08824096.2023.2279964>

Read, G. L., **Yan, H. Y.**, & Bailey, R. L. (2023). Viewing violent policing videos contributes to trauma symptoms for Black Americans. *Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority Psychology*.

Bailey, R. L., **Yan, H. Y.**, & Read, G. L. (2023). Camera perspective and skin color: Biased reactions to viral body worn camera videos of police violence. *Communication Monographs*, 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03637751.2023.2202722>

- Hermann, E., Morgan, M., Shanahan, J & **Yan, H.Y.** (2023). Television, authoritarianism, and support for Trump: A replication. *Public Opinion Quarterly*.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/poq/nfad015>
- Dunivin, Z. O., **Yan, H.Y.**, Ince, J., & Rojas, F. (2022). Black Lives Matter protests shift public discourse. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 119(10),
<https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2117320119>
- Zheng, X., Lang, A., Almond, A., & **Yan, H.Y.** (2022). It takes guts to be a rebel!: A dynamic coordination account of the relationship between motivational reactivity, social morality, and political ideology. *Politics and the Life Sciences*, 1-10.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/pls.2022.5>
- Yan, H.Y.**, Yang, K.-C., Menczer, F., & Shanahan, J. (2021). Asymmetrical perceptions of partisan political bots. *New Media & Society*, 23(10), 3016–3037.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444820942744>
- Read, G., **Yan, H.Y.**, Gonzales, A., Anderson, P., Partain, L., Vaughn, Z., Semivolos, A., & Kim., Y. (2021). Making stability dependable: stable cellphone access leads to better health outcomes for those experiencing poverty. *Information, Communication and Society*, 1-18
<https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2021.1928263>
- Bailey, R., Read, G., **Yan, H.Y.**, Liu, J., Makin, D., & Willits, D. (2021). Camera point-of-view exacerbates racial bias in viewers of police use of force videos. *Journal of Communication*, 71(2), 246-275. <https://doi.org/10.1093/joc/jqab002>
- Zhou, Y., Liu, T., **Yan, H.Y.**, & Paul, B. (2021) A relational equality bias: Women’s narrative engagement in reading Chinese BL. *International Journal of Communication*, 15, 22.
<https://doi.org/1932.8036/20210005>
- Zhou, Y., Liu, T., **Yan, H.Y.**, & Paul, B. (2021). Pornography use, two forms of dehumanization, and sexual aggression: Attitudes vs. behaviors. *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy*, 1-20.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/0092623X.2021.1923598>
- Yan, H.Y.** (2019). “The Rippled Perceptions”: The effects of LGBT-inclusive TV on own attitudes and perceived attitudes of peers towards lesbians and gays. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 96(3), 848-871. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1077699018821327>

BOOK CHAPTERS & CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- Yan, H.Y.** & Yang, K-C. (2023). “The landscape of social bot research: a critical appraisal.” In Lindgren, S. (Ed.). *Handbook of Critical Studies of Artificial Intelligence*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Gonzales, A.L., **Yan, H.Y.**, Read, G., & Brown, A. (2021). What's missing? How technology maintenance is overlooked in representative surveys of digital inequalities. In E. Hargittai (Ed). *Handbook of Digital Inequalities*. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing. pp.9-30. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781788116572.00008>

Gonzales, A.L., & **Yan, H.Y.** (2020). Non-Profit Reuse as a Solution to Reducing Digital Divides and Technology Maintenance Inequalities. In M.L. Doerfel & J.L. Gibbs (Eds.), *Organizing Inclusion: Moving Diversity from Demographics to Communication Processes*. Abingdon, U.K.: Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429450495>
(NCA Outstanding Contributed Chapters Award)

Han, J., Shi, Y., **Yan, H. Y.**, Roberson, G. C., Zou, L., Chae, S., Lang, A. (2019). Message valence and arousal influence skin conductance synchrony in dyads of friends and strangers: A comparison of linear and nonlinear analyses. *Psychophysiology*, 55.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Yan, H.Y., Read, G., & Bailey, R. (In preparation). The amplification effects of camera point-of-view (POV) revisited—racial disparity in evaluations of police use of force videos in the post-George Floyd era.

Yan, H.Y.⁺, Han, J.⁺, Chen, D., Tang, Y., Sun, S., & Potter, R. F., (In preparation) The Knowledge Gap hypothesis with ChatGPT: AI-skills as the new frontier of the global digital divide.

⁺ *Equal Contribution*

Yan, H.Y., Marijn. T., Barron, A., Rocha, L. & Bollen., J. (In preparation). Structural unhappiness: The prevalence and prediction of the happiness paradox on social media.

RESEARCH REPORTS:

Yan, H.Y., Shanahan, J. Betsi, G., Gruszczynski, M, & Haley, P., (2020). Tracking public opinion about unsupported narratives in the 2020 Presidential election,” Observatory on Social Media (OSoMe), Indiana University, Bloomington

CONFERENCES PRESENTATIONS

Yan, H.Y., Shanahan J., & Menzcer. F, (2024). Effects of Mass Media on Partisan Opinion Dynamics in an Evolving Media Landscape. *International Communication Association*, Computational Methods Division. Gold Coast. Australia

DeVerna, M. R., **Yan, H. Y.**, Yang, K. C., & Menzcer, F. (2023). Artificial intelligence is ineffective and potentially harmful for fact checking. *Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) conference*, University of California, Los Angeles

- Read, G. L., **Yan, H. Y.**, & Bailey, R. L. (2023). Viewing violent policing videos contributes to trauma symptoms for Black Americans. *International Communication Association*, Mass Communication Division. Toronto
- Yan, H. Y.**, Yang, K. C., Shanahan, J., & Menczer, F. (2023). Exposure to social bots amplifies perceptual biases and regulation propensity. *International Communication Association*, Communication Technology Division. Toronto
- Yan, H.Y.**, Read, G., & Bailey, R. (2022). The amplification effects of camera point-of-view (POV) revisited—racial disparity in evaluations of police use of force videos in the post-George Floyd era, *Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC)*, Detroit
- Gruszczynski, M., Geiger, N., & **Yan, H.Y.** (2022). Topical convergence and sentiment divergence of climate change policies: The US congressional hearings 1998-2018. *International Communication Association*, Pre-conference workshop. Paris.
- Yan, H.Y.**, Gruszczynski, M., Grabe, B., Shanahan, J., & Pierce, H. (2022). In the absence of gatekeeping: How social media use predicts belief in popular false information during the 2020 presidential election. *International Communication Association*, Political Communication Division. Paris.
- Yan, H.Y.**, Bollen., J. Marijn. T., Barron, A., & Rocha, L. (2021). Prevalence and Demographic Differences of Happiness Paradox., *International Communication Association*, Computational Methods Division. Virtual Conference
- Yan, H.Y.**, Chae., S.W., & Shanahan, J. (2021). Visibility and Representation of Women in Prime-Time Network TV: 1967-2015. *International Communication Association*, Mass Communication Division. Virtual Conference.
- Bailey, R., Read, G., **Yan, H.Y.**, Khan, T., Liu, J., Dolorit, A., & Burgos, E. (2021). How Camera Perspective Contributes to Normative Judgments of Officers and Citizens in Police Use of Force Videos. *International Communication Association*, Information System Division. Virtual Conference.
- Yan, H.Y.**, & Shanahan, J. (2020). ‘Welcome to the Matrix’: Context and Anchoring Effects of Bot Recognition Tasks on Third-Person Perceptions of Social and Political Bots, *National Communication Association*, Communication and Technology Division. Virtual Conference.
- Yan, H.Y.**, Gonzales, A., Read, G. (2020) Making Stability Dependable: Stable Cellphone Access Leads to Better Health Outcomes for Those Experiencing Poverty, *National Communication Association*, Communication and Technology Division. Virtual Conference.

- Sarría, L. C., Hale, B., Rosenberg, K., **Yan, H.Y.**, & Lang, A. (2020). Danger, sex and everything else: A comparison of camera angle and camera distance effects across pictures of varied emotional content. *National Communication Association, Communication and Social Cognition Division*. Virtual Conference.
- Han, J., Shi, Y., **Yan, H.Y.**, Roberson, G. C., Zou, L., Chae, S., Lang, A. (2019). Message valence and arousal influence skin conductance synchrony in dyads of friends and strangers: A comparison of linear and nonlinear analyses. *Society for Psychophysiological Research*. Washington D.C.
- Yan, H.Y.**, Lang, A., & Shanahan, J. (2019). From the body, to the mind, to the public: An agent-based model of media effects on public opinion dynamics. *International Communication Association, Computational Methods Division*. Washington, D.C.
- Gonzales, A., **Yan, H.Y.**, Read, G., & Brown, A. (2019). What is missing? How technology maintenance is overlooked in representative surveys of digital inequalities. *International Communication Association, Communication and Technology Division*. Washington, D.C.
- van Driel, I., Gantz, W., & **Yan, H.Y.** (2019). Growing older and growing out of love with watching sports? An emotion-regulatory perspective. *International Communication Association, Sports Communication Division*. Washington, D.C.
- Comfort, R., Geiger, N., **Yan, H.Y.** & Shanahan, J. (2019). Seeing Native American scientists: Implicit and explicit attitudes towards Native American sources in science news. *International Communication Association, Environmental Communication Division*. Washington, D.C.
- Sarría, L. C., Hale, B., Rosenberg, K., **Yan, H.Y.**, Lang, A. (2019). An embodied motivated approach to the perception of camera framing: Affective effects of camera angle and distance when looking at pictures. *International Communication Association, Information System Division*. Washington, D.C.
- Yan, H.Y.** (2018). The network of preferences: mainstreaming homosexuality in the age of personalized TV. *International Communication Association, Mass Communication Division*. Prague, Czech Republic
- Zheng, X., Almond, A., **Yan, H.Y.** (2018). Trait motivational reactivity modulates moral motives and political orientations, *International Communication Association annual conference, Information System Division*. Prague, Czech Republic
- Yan, H.Y.** (2017). “A gay bandwagon”—effects of self-other differential perceptions of perceived media influence on attitudes towards homosexuality. *International Communication Association, Intergroup Communication Division*. San Diego.

Liebler, C., Yan, H.Y., & Birkhead, H. (2016). How WEIRD are we? Sample diversity in premier mass communications journals, *International Communication Association*, Communication Methods Division. Fukuoka, Japan

Yan, H.Y. (2016). When we put “sex” back into “homosexual”—effects of explicit gay sex in mainstream TV, *Popular Culture Association*. Seattle

Yan, H.Y., Long, P., Vickers, J. & Birkhead, H. (2015). “Power Women”: Exploring the effects of political women on television. *Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication*. San Francisco

Birkhead, H., Corna, A., Haddix, P., Long, P., Peña, L. & Yan, H.Y. (2015). Under scrutiny: How negative news stories of high-profile black men affect the identities and representations of everyday black men. *National Communication Association*, Denver

OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Promoting communication scholarship of BIPOC authors

Summer paid research assistantship with Prof. Rob Potter to develop a database that includes journal articles of which the first authors were Black, Indigenous people, and people of color.

Center for Community and Health Evaluation Project

Funded with an independent contractor with Prof. Fiona Chew, S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University.

Communities Creating Healthy Environments Project

Social campaign assessment, funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation at Newhouse in collaboration with Loyola Marymount University, assistantship with Prof. Charisse L’Pree.

Setting a New Agenda for Student Engagement and Retention in Historically Black Colleges and Universities

A book edited by Howard University Prof. Charles Prince and Newhouse Prof. Rochelle Ford. Assistantship with Prof. Ford.

Examinations of Communication Technology for Supporting Community Policing

National Science Foundation (NSF) Project, Full-time Research Assistant with Prof. Yun Huang from Social Computing Systems Lab, School of Information Studies (iSchool), Syracuse University.

Expressing Hatred or Empowerment Using the N-word in Social TV about a Popular TV Series

The first part of the paper was presented at the Broadcasting Education Association (BEA) annual conference, in 2015, in Las Vegas as a research assistant with Prof. Fiona Chew.

Battles of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) on Twitter

Social media content and user profile analysis of GMO discussion, a consultancy with Cornell Alliance for Science (CAS).

TEACHING

Instructor of Record at Texas A&M

COMM 308 Communication Research Methods, 150+ students

COMM 303 Big Data Application in Communication, 16 students

Associate Instructor at IU-B

MSCH 348 Audience analysis, 40+ students.

MSCH 207 Introduction to media business and industry 200+ students.

Guest Lectures at IU-B

MSCH 207 Introduction to Media Business and Industry:

Topic I: Interruption of technological updates of delivery methods

Topic II: Business models of content

MSCH 315 Media Processes and Effects

MSCH 410 Sex in the Media

Topic: Hetero- and homonormativity

MSCH 401 History and Effects of Social Media

Topic: Political Effects of Social Media

CLLC 400 Film and Cognition:

Topic: Narrative Persuasion and attitudes changes

SERVICE

Institutional Development

Founder of *Indiana University of Computational Communication Research* (IUCCR) group

Organized workshops

Time Series (Invited speaker: Mike Gruszczynski)

Multilevel Modeling (Invited speaker: Nathan Geiger)

Information theory (Invited speaker: Thomas Varley)

Community Outreach

Invited talk about social media and beliefs in misinformation during the 2020 election for the former president of the Dominican Republic, Leonel Fernández, and visitors at Observatory on Social Media (OSoMe)

Interviews with *The Conversation*, Expert Contact about social media policies

Journal Reviewer

Computers in Human Behavior, New Media & Society, Social Media + Society, Communication Studies.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

International Communication Association (ICA)

Computational Methods, Mass Communication, Political Communication, Information Systems, Communication and Technology

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC)

Mass Communication