

TIANJING LIAO

1008E McClung Tower
Knoxville TN 37996

tliao1@utk.edu
liaotianjing@gmail.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Teaching Assistant Professor	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	2025–present
Lecturer	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	2022–2024

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Political Science & M.S. Statistics	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	2022
M.A.	Political Science	University of Texas at Dallas	2015
LL.M.	Laws	Peking University	2012
B.S.	Physics	Zhejiang University	2009

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Hwang, Wonjae, Jeeseon Hwang, **Tianjing Liao**, and Dana Abu Haltam. 2026. “Does Health Aid Generate the Pacifying Effect on Interstate Hostility? In the cases of the U.S. and China.” *Asian Survey* 66(4): 597–632.
- Liao, Tianjing**. 2023. “State International Income Position, Trade Openness, and Mass Antigovernment Protests.” *International Area Studies Review* 26(4): 402–418.
- Liao, Tianjing** and Wonjae Hwang. 2022. “Political Protests and the Diversionary Use of Media. Evidence from China.” *International Interactions* 48(5): 1027–1055.

REVISE & RESUBMIT

- Hwang, Wonjae, **Tianjing Liao**, and Dana Abu Haltam. “A Mix of Foreign Aid and Sanctions: When and Why to Utilize Both?” *International Political Science Review*.

UNDER REVIEW

- Tianjing Liao. “China’s Model of AI Development.”
- Tianjing Liao. “China’s Foreign Policy toward the Russia–Ukraine War.”
- Tianjing Liao. “The Effectiveness of Sanctions’

COURSES TAUGHT

POLS 249 Intro/Comparative Politics	F19; S20; F22; S23; F23 (Online); S24(Online); S25(Online); F25(Online); S26; F26(Online)
POLS 265 Intro/International Relations	F20; S21; F21; S22; F22; S23; F23; S24; S25; S26
POLS 301 Research Methods I	S23; F23; S24; S26; F26
POLS 352 Political Challenges to Globalization	F25; F26
POLS 370 Contemporary International Problems	F24; F25; S26
POLS 454 Politics in China and Japan	F22; S23; F24; S25; F25
POLS 471 International Political Economy	F22; F23; S24; F24; S25

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Political Economy of China’s AI Strategy,” American Political Science Association (APSA) 122nd Annual Convention, Boston, MA, September 3, 2026. Scheduled.
- “China’s Policy Regarding the Russia–Ukraine War,” International Studies Association (ISA) 67th Annual Convention, Columbus, OH, March 25, 2026.
- “Sanction Peers’ Trade Substitution Capacity and the Compliance from the Target,” 82nd Annual Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference, Chicago, IL, April 5, 2025.
- “A Sanction Network’s Trade Substitution Capacity Matters for Bilateral-Level Compliance from the Target,” 95th Southern Political Science Association (SPSA) Conference, New Orleans, LA, January 14, 2024.
- “Homogeneity of Trade with Peers and with the Target,” Center for National Security & Foreign Affairs (NSFA) Workshop, Baker Center, Knoxville, TN, September 15, 2023.
- “State Technological Power and Trade Sanctions,” Southern Political Science Association (SPSA) Summer Virtual Conference, June 15, 2023.
- “State Tech Power Position and Trade Conflict,” Frances McCall Rosenbluth Workshop for the APSA Annual Meeting, Montréal, Canada, September 14, 2022.
- “Trade Dependence and Technological Structure Transition,” 79th Annual Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference, Chicago, IL, April 8, 2022.
- “Who are the Right Targets of Engagement Policies,” International Studies Association (ISA) 2022 Annual Convention, Nashville, TN, March 30, 2022.
- “Interstate Trade and Technological Capacity Structure Transition,” International Studies Association (ISA) Pre-Conference Workshop for Underrepresented Scholars in IPE, Nashville, TN, March 29, 2022.
- “International Trade and Technological Competition,” UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation (IGCC) Hybrid Training Course on Great Power Dynamics, UC San Diego, La Jolla, CA, February 2022.
- “International Relative Deprivation, Trade, and Mass Protests,” 93rd Annual Southern Political Science Association (SPSA) Conference, San Antonio, TX, January 13, 2022.
- “Public Protests and The Diversionary Use of Mass Media: Evidence from China,” 53rd Annual Northeastern Political Science Association (NPSA) Conference, Boston, MA, November 12, 2021.
- “State Location in Its Regional Politico-Economic Structure, Trade Openness, and Antigovernment Movements,” Australian Political Studies Association (APSA) Annual Conference, September 20, 2021.

SKILLS

Language: Mandarin (Native), English (Proficient)

Software: Stata, R, MATLAB, Python, ArcMap, L^AT_EX

ACADEMIC AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Best Conference Paper Award, UT, Department of Political Science	2022
Excellence in Graduate Research, UT	2021-2022
Graduate School Award, UT	2021-2022
Global Security Graduate Fellowship, Baker Center of Public Policy	2020-2022
Chancellor's Fellowship, UT	2017-2021
University-Level Award for Excellence, Peking University	2012
College-Level Scholarship for Excellence, Law School, Peking University	2011
University-Level Scholarship for Study Abroad, Peking University	2010
Best Bachelor Thesis Award, Zhejiang University	2009
Third Prize for College Student Modeling Competition, Zhejiang University	2007
Academic Scholarship, Zhejiang University	2006, 2008

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Member of Executive Advisory Committee, 2025–2027

PEER REVIEW SERVICE

International Studies Quarterly

Democratization

European Journal of Political Research

Political Research Quarterly

International Area Studies Review

Pacific Focus

CONFERENCE SERVICE

SPSA 2026: Panel Chair–Information Technology and Conflict Narratives.

MPSA 2025: Panel Chair–Institutions and Investor Behavior in Cross-Border Finance.

SPSA 2024: Panel Chair–Institutions and Political Attitudes in China.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association (APSA)

International Studies Association (ISA)

Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)

REFERENCES

Wonjae Hwang, Ph.D. (Professor)

Department of Political Science,

University of Tennessee

1001 McClung Tower, Knoxville TN 37996

whwang@utk.edu

Brandon C. Prins, Ph.D. (Professor)

Department of Political Science,

University of Tennessee

1001 McClung Tower, Knoxville TN 37996

bprins@utk.edu