Yuan Hsiao

493 College St, New Haven, CT 06511 Email: yuan.hsiao@yale.edu

Professional appointments

2024-present Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Yale University
Department of Statistics & Data Science (Secondary appointment)
Institution for Social and Policy Studies (Secondary appointment)
Faculty Member, Yale Institute for Foundations of Data Science

2021-2024 Assistant professor, Department of Communication, University of Washington
Faculty affiliate, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology
Faculty affiliate, Center For Statistics And The Social Sciences
Faculty affiliate, Taiwan Studies Program
Faculty affiliate, eScience Institute
Faculty member, Center for an Informed Public
Faculty affiliate, Research Center for Humaniites and Social Sciences, Academia Sinica

Education

Ph.D., Sociology, University of Washington, 2021
M.S., Statistics, University of Washington, 2021
M.A., Sociology, University of Washington, 2015
B.A., Sociology, National Taiwan University, 2010

Research Interests

Social networks, Digital media, Collective action, Migration, Mixed Methods

Scholarly Publications

Hsiao, Yuan and Nicholas Christakis. 2026. "The influence 'paradox' of social networks: when more ties lead to less change." *American Sociological Review* 91 (3), 464-489.

Hsiao, Yuan, Ching-Ching Chang, You-Jian Wu and Hao-Hsuan Wang. 2026. "Toxicity and Moral Rhetoric in Video- and Text-Based Digital Platforms: A Multimethod Study of Political Talk Shows and News Articles in Taiwan." *Political Communication* 43(2): 242-264.

Lui, Lake and **Yuan Hsiao**. 2026. "Exit-voice dynamics: How do Hong Kong people respond to democratic backsliding?" *International Migration Review* 60 (2), 1148-1177

Hsiao, Yuan and Lake Lui. 2026. "Why people perceive protest violence differently: A cross-national survey experiment in the US, Taiwan, and Hong Kong." *Social Science Research* 135: 103326.

Becker, Sascha*, **Yuan Hsiao***, Steven Pfaff* and Jared Rubin.* 2026. "Competing Social Influence in Contested Diffusion: Contention and the Spread of the Early Reformation." *Social Forces* 104(3), 1096-1116.

Hsiao, Yuan and Matthew Hindman. 2026. "Network Agenda Setting, or Networked Framing?: (non)Correspondence between User and Right-Wing Media Semantic Networks on YouTube." *Communication Research* 53(1), 61-9.

Ching-Ching Chang, **Yuan Hsiao**, and Ying-Ju Chiu. 2025 (Online First available). "Dynamic Public Perceptions of and Media Influences on Military Threats to Taiwan: A Method Triangulation Approach." Communication Research." *Communication Research* 00936502251339692.

Hsiao, Yuan and Lake Lui. 2025. "How Heterogeneous Social Influences Affect Tolerance of "Violent" Tactics: The Case of Hong Kong's Anti-Extradition Bill Movement." *Communication and the Public* 20570473251327236.

Radnitz, Scott and **Yuan Hsiao**. 2025. "Responses to Contested Information amid Polarized Politics: Evidence from the U.S. and Taiwan." *Information, Communication & Society* 28(13), 2248-2267.

Radnitz, Scott, Steven Karceski and **Yuan Hsiao**. 2025. "Disinformation Claims and Public Opinion: Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Georgia." *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties*

Hsiao, Yuan, Lee Fiorio, Jon Wakefield and Emilio Zagheni. 2024. "Modeling the Bias of Digital Data: An Approach to Combining Digital With Official Statistics to Estimate and Predict Migration Trends" *Sociological Methods and Research* 53 (4), 1905-1943

Doten-Snitker, Kerice, Steve Pfaff and **Yuan Hsiao**. 2024. "Ideational Diffusion and the Great Witch Craze in Early Modern Europe." *Theory and Society* 53 (6), 1291-1319

Hsiao, **Yuan***, John Leverso* and Andrew Papachristos. 2023. "The Corner, the Crew, and the Digital Street: Multiplex networks of gang online-offline conflict dynamics in the digital age." *American Sociological Review* 88(4): 709-741

Hsiao, Yuan*, Fang-Yu Lin*, Greg Chih-Hsin Sheen* and Ching-Hsing Wang*. 2023. "Politics matters for individual attitudes toward vaccine donation: cross-national evidence from the United States and Taiwan" *Globalization and Health* 19(1), 40

Hsiao, Yuan and Steven Pfaff. 2023. "The Rationality of Oaths in Armed Struggle: A Dynamic Model of Commitment and the Mau Mau Insurgency (1952-1956)." *Journal of Economics, Management and Religion* 4 (01), 2350004

Hsiao, Yuan and Steven Pfaff. 2022. "The Diffusion of Radical Ideas." *Sociology Compass* 16(10): e1302

Hsiao, Yuan. 2022. "Network Diffusion of competing behavior." *Journal of Computational Social Science 1-14*.

Kai-Ping Leung, **Yuan Hsiao**, and Kiran Garimella. 2022. "Solidarity in digital movements: Combining social media data and offline protest events in the Hong Kong Movement." *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media 2*

Powell, Tara, Jennifer Scott, Paula Yuma and **Yuan Hsiao**. 2022. "Surviving the Storm: Intervening to reduce psychological distress for health and social care providers post-disaster." *Health & Social Care in the Community* 30(6): e6217-e6227

Lui, Lake, Ken Chih-Yan Sun and **Yuan Hsiao**. 2022. "How Families Affect Aspirational Emigration Amidst Political Insecurity: The Case of Hong Kong." *Population, Space and Place 28(4): e2528*.

Hsiao, Yuan and Scott Radnitz. 2021. "Allies or Agitators? How Partisan Identity Shapes Public Opinion about Violent or Nonviolent Protests." *Political Communication* 38 (4), 479-497.

Hsiao, Yuan. 2021. "Evaluating the Mobilization Effect of Online Political Network Structures: A Comparison between the Black Lives Matter Network and Ideal Type Network Configurations." *Social Forces* 99(4): 1547-1574.

Leverso, John and **Yuan Hsiao**. 2021. "Gangbangin On The [Face]Book: Understanding Online Interactions of Chicago Latina/o Gangs." *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 58 (3), 239-268.

Powell, Tara, Shang-Ju Li and **Yuan Hsiao**, Michelle Thompson, Aseel Farraj, Mariam Abdoh and Rami Farraj. 2021. "An evaluation of physical versus combined mental health interventions for Syrian refugees in Jordan." *Preventive Medicine Reports* 21: 101310

Becker, Sascha*, **Yuan Hsiao***, Steven Pfaff* and Jared Rubin*. 2020. "Multiplex Network Ties and the Spatial Diffusion of Radical Innovations: Martin Luther's Leadership in the Early Reformation." *American*

Sociological Review 85(5): 857-894.

Powell, Tara, Oe Jin Shin, Shang-Ju Li, and **Yuan Hsiao**. 2020. "Post-traumatic stress, social, and physical health: A mediation and moderation analysis of Syrian refugees and Jordanians in a border community." *PloS One*

Hsiao, Yuan, Ching-Ling Cheng and Ya-Wen Chiu. 2019. "Gender Network Dynamics in Prosocial and Aggressive Behavior of Early Adolescents." *Social Networks* 58: 12-23.

Powell, Tara, Shang-Ju Li, **Yuan Hsiao**, Chloe Ettari, Anish Bhandari, Anne Peterson and Niva Shakya. 2019. "Investigating the aftershock of a disaster: A study of health service utilization and mental health symptoms in post-earthquake Nepal." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 16(8): 1369.

Li, Zehang, **Yuan Hsiao**, Jessica Godwin, Bryan Martin, Jon Wakefield and Samuel Clark. 2019. "Changes in the Spatial Distribution of the Under Five Mortality Rate: Small-area Analysis of 136 DHS Surveys in 33 Countries in Africa and Asia." *PLoS One* 14(1).

Hsiao, Yuan. 2018. "Understanding digital natives in contentious politics: explaining the effect of social media on protest participation through psychological incentives." *New Media & Society* 20(9): 3457–3478.

Hsiao, Yuan* and Yunkang Yang*. 2018. "Activists on the cloud? An empirical test on commitment for online and offline protest participants." *Information, Communication & Society* 21(7): 996-1013.

Hsiao, Yuan. 2017. "Virtual ecologies, mobilization, and democratic groups without leaders: Impacts of internet media on the Wild Strawberry Movement." In Dafydd Fell (Ed.) *Taiwan's Social Movements under Ma Ying-jeou: From the Wild Strawberries to the Sunflowers* (pp. 34-53). New York: Routledge.

Hsiao, Yuan. 2011. "How the Internet Impacts Social Movements: A Case Study of the Taiwan Wild Strawberry Movement." *Taiwan Democracy Quarterly* 8 (3): 45-85.

Note: * signifies equal contribution

Selected research under review

Chang, Ching-Ching, **Yuan Hsiao**, Mu-Jung Cho, Hen-Hsen Huang; Chieh-Ching Chen and An-Ting Hsieh. "How Linguistic, Visual, and Audio Styles Perform Populism: A Multimodal, Computational Analysis of Campaign Videos on Instagram." *Revise and Resubmit* at *Social Science Computer Review*

Hsiao, Yuan. "Joint Network Diffusion of Emotions and Behavior in Collective Action" *Under Review*

Hsiao, Yuan, Greg Chih-Hsin Sheen and Ching-Hsing Wang. "Why spreaders of (mis)information correct their behavior: a cross-national survey experiment" *Under review*

Note: * signifies equal contribution

Grants, Fellowships, Honors

2025 Taiwanese Overseas Pioneers Grants ($19,060)

2023 Early Career Scholar of Taiwan Studies, National Science and Technology Council of Taiwan ($423,757)

2023-2024 [co-PI] *Online Social and Political Climates and Trust: A Method Triangulation*

Approach. Academia Sinica Grand Challenge Program Seed Grant ($143,190)

2022 [co-PI] *How Domestic Divisions Shape Perceptions of Foreign Disinformation*. Center for an Informed Public Innovation Fund. Center for an Informed Public, University of Washington ($18,265)

2021 Research Fellow. The Institute for Data, Democracy & Politics, The George Washington University ($13,000)

2019 Presidential Dissertation Fellowship Award. UW Graduate School

2019 Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology Service Grant, Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology, University of Washington ($500)

2018 Research fellow, Laboratory of digital and computational demography, The Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock, Germany

2018 Herbert Costner Award Research Fund. University of Washington, USA ($5,000)

2017 UW Population Health Travel Award ($1,500)

2016 University of Washington Graduate School Distinguished Thesis Award ($500)

2015 Research Grant. Department of Sociology, University of Washington, USA. "Social media and collective action participation: A socio-psychological investigation." ($1,000)

2013-2014 Studying Abroad Scholarship, Ministry of Education, Taiwan ($32,000)

2009-2010 [PI] *How the Internet affects Social Movements*. National Science Council Research Project Grants for Outstanding Undergraduate Students, Taiwan. ($1,567)

Statistical and programming consulting

2018-2021 Statistical and programming consultant, The Center for Social Science Computation and Research, University of Washington

2018 Statistical consultant, Departments of Biostatistics and Statistics consulting services, University of Washington

2017 Statistical Consultant, Americares Foundation: Disaster Relief & Global Health Organization, CT, USA

Selected Teaching Experience

Substantive courses

As Instructor

SOCY 250: Digital Technology and Politics

COM 407: Communication Technology and Politics

COM 551/POL S 551: Political Communication

As Teaching Assistant

SOC 110: Survey of Sociology

SOC 222: Sociology of Sport

SOC 292: Public Schools in America

SOC 316: Introduction to Sociological Theory

SOC 331: Population and Society

SOC 371: Criminology

Methods courses

As Instructor

SOCY 269: Social Networks and Data Science

COM 382: Social Scientific Approaches to Communication Research

CSSS 505: Review of Math for Social Scientists

COM 501: Methods of Inquiry

As Teaching Assistant

SOC 504: Social Statistics II

SOC 505: Social Statistics I

CSSS 507/SOC 506: Methodology: Quantitative Techniques in Sociology

Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences Math Camp (In charge of section on statistical programming)

Invited Talks and Organized Workshops

2025 "Popular Demand: A Private Meeting. Perspectives on the Future of Digital Media Research: Gaps, Opportunities, and Priorities" Organized by the MacAuthor Foundation and Harvard University. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA

2025 "Invite Roundtable on AI, Misinformation and Global Security." Organized by North American Taiwan Studies Association and Stanford University. Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, USA

2025 "Panel on Global Media and Politics." American Sociological Association Culture Section. Online.

2024 "Multiplex Networks of Gang Online-Offline Conflict Dynamics in the Digital Age: A Mixed-Methods Abductive Approach." Center for Information Networks and Democracy, Annenberg School for Communication, Univeristy of Pennsylvania, PA, USA

2024 Discussant of "Advances in Social Network Analysis Session." CSSS 25th Anniversary Conference, Seattle, WA, USA

2024 "Multiplex Networks of Gang Online-Offline Conflict Dynamics in the Digital Age: A Mixed-Methods Abductive Approach." Computing Society Workshop, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan.

2023 "The spread of extreme information online: cross-national cases from Taiwan and the US." Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan.

2022 Panel organizer of "Complementing Digital Text Data: Design Goals of Multi-modal and Multi-method Approaches." International Conference on Method Triangulation. Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

2022 "Leading or Following?: (dis)Correspondence of Media and User Frame Networks on YouTube channels of Right-Wing News Organization." City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
2022 "Social media and protest mobilization." National Cheng-Chi University, Taipei, Taiwan

2022 "Social media, radicalization, and mis/disinformation." National Cheng-Chi University, Taipei, Taiwan

2021 Referee of Hackathon contest "Social science simulation research reproduction challenge." Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan.

2021 "Multiplex networks of online and offline gang conflict: a mixed-methods abductive study of Chicago Latinx gangs." Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong.

2021 "How to publish social movement research in interdisciplinary fields." Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto, Japan.

2021 "The strengths and limitations of big data research in political movements: exemplary cases from Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the US." National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

2021 "The strengths and limitations of big data research in political movements: exemplary cases from Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the US." National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

2021 "Evaluating the mobilization effect of online political network structures." Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

2020 "How Useful is Big Data in Understanding Digital Activism?: Diverse Approaches Using Cross-National Cases." School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, London, United Kingdom.

2019 Organizer of ASA preconference "Migration data and models for a better world: Perspectives from

social scientists, data scientists and international organizations." American Sociological Association, New York, USA

2018 "Combining Twitter data with official estimates to predict state-to-state migration rates in the US." The Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock, Germany

2018 "Social Media, Social Networks, and Social Movements: a network perspective on connective action." Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

2018 "Network analysis and RSiena – an example-motivated introduction." College of Education, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

Selected Conference Papers and Presentations

2025 "Joint diffusion of Emotions and Behavior." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting Conference. Chicago, IL, USA

2025 "How do Repressors Target Social Structures? A Structural Network Analysis of the Forced Migration of Indigenous Communities in Colonial Taiwan." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting Conference. Chicago, IL, USA

2023 "Participatory propaganda: The role of super commenters on Breitbart News." International Communication Association annual meeting, Toronto, Canada.

2023 "Do Claims about Disinformation Decrease Belief in Factual Information?" American Political Science Association annual meeting, Los Angeles, CA, US.

2023 "Participatory propaganda: The role of super commenters on Breitbart News." Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting, Chicago, IL, USA.

2023 "The spread of extreme information online: cross-national cases from Taiwan and the US." Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

2022 "How early-stage spreader behavior changes in the face of refutation: A cross- national survey experiment in the U.S. and Taiwan." American Political Science Association annual meeting, Montreal, Canada.

2022 "Participatory propaganda: The role of super commenters in producing propaganda on Breitbart News." International Conference on Social Media and Society. Virtually held.
2022 "How Domestic Divisions Shape Perceptions of Foreign Disinformation." World Congress of Taiwan Studies. Seattle, WA, USA.
2022 "Leading or following?: A Network Agenda Setting Study of User Comments on Right-wing YouTube channels." Political Communication Division, International Communication Association Annual Meeting Conference, Paris, France

2020 "Evaluating the mobilization effect of online political network structures:
a comparison between the Black Lives Matter Sacramento network and ideal type network configurations" International Network for Social Network Analysis Sunbelt conference.

2020 "Reducing Noncommunicable Diseases Among Syrian Refugees in Jordan: Combining Physical and Mental Health Treatments" Population Association of American annual meeting.

2019 "Law and Disorder? Survey Experiment on Perceptions of Protest and Nonviolence." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting Conference. New York, USA

2019 "Estimating US Internal Emigration Flows in a timely way by complementing the American Community Survey with geolocated Twitter Data." Population Association of American annual meeting, Austin, TX, USA

2018 "Collective versus connective action in Black Lives Matter Sacramento: The interaction between network structures, strong/weak ties, and forms of activism." Young Scholars in Social Movements Conference, Center for the Study of Social Movements, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN, USA

2017 "Gendered network dynamics of aggressive and prosocial behavior" Center for studies in Demography and Ecology Poster Session, University of Washington

2017 "Commitment in the Cloud? Social Media Participation in the Sunflower Movement." Digital media, political polarization and challenges to democracy: an international symposium, Vienna, Austria

2017 "Networks of aggressive and prosocial behavior: Alternative evidence from a Chinese society." 18th European Conference on Developmental Psychology, Utrecht, Netherlands

2017 "Is Commitment Possible in the Cloud? Social Media Participation in the Sunflower Student Movement." International Communication Association Annual Meeting Conference, San Diego, CA, USA

2016 "Social media and collective action: a test of a new structural-cognitive model". American Sociological Association Annual Meeting Conference. Seattle, WA, USA

2015 "Oaths, commitment problems, and insurgent strategy: The case of the Mau Mau Rebellion." Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture Conference, Orange City, CA, USA

2015 "Oaths, commitment problems, and insurgent strategy: The case of the Mau Mau Rebellion." Seminar on Cultural, Organizational, Political and Economic Sociology, University of Washington

Reviewer Experience

American Journal of Sociology, American Sociological Review, American Journal of Political Science, Archives of Public Health, Communication and The Public, Communication Research, Communication Theory, Criminology, Demography, EPJ Data Science, Government and Opposition, Human Communication Research, Information, Communication and Society, International Journal of Communication, International Journal of Press/Politics, International Migration Review, International Sociology, Journal of Computational Social Science, Journal of Peace Research, Mass Communication and Society, Mobilization, New Media and Society, Plos One, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Public Opinion Quarterly, Regional Studies, Social Forces, Social Movement Studies, Social Science Computer Review, Socius, Taiwanese Sociology, Telematics and Informatics, The Social Science Journal, Third World Quarterly.

Last updated: June, 2026