

YINGJIAN LIANG

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025-present Postdoctoral Scholar, Poverty and Inequality Research Lab, Johns Hopkins University

EDUCATION

- 2018-25 PhD in Sociology, Indiana University Bloomington, Bloomington, IN, USA
- Dissertation Title: *Imagining Globally, Adapting Locally: How Highly Educated International Migrants Launch Careers in an Uncertain World*
 - Dissertation Committee: Dina Okamoto (Chair), Koji Chavez, Art Alderson, Jess Calarco (Wisconsin), Sameer Srivastava (Berkeley Haas)
- 2013-15 MA in Sociology, New School for Social Research, New York, NY, USA
- 2009-13 Bachelor of Management in Public Administration, Central University of Finance and Economics, Beijing, China

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2024 Liang, Yingjian. "Different Time Frames, Different Futures: How Disadvantaged Youth Project Realistic and Idealistic Futures." *Social Problems* 71(4): 1032 – 47. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/socpro/spac053>.
- 2021 John Seidler Graduate Student Paper Award, North Central Sociological Association

Works in Progress

Liang, Yingjian. "For the Money or the Work Itself: How Workers Approach Bad Jobs in China's Low-Wage Job Sector." (Revised and Resubmitted at *Journal of Social Issues*)

Liang, Yingjian. "Job Search as Cultural Adaptation." (In preparation for *American Journal of Sociology*)

- 2024 Edgar Schein Best Student Paper Award, Culture Connect Conference, UC Berkeley

Liang, Yingjian. “Chained or Direct Connections: How Immigrant Job Seekers Form and Activate New Ties for Job Referrals.” (In preparation for *Administrative Science Quarterly*)

Chavez, Koji, Kate Weisshaar, Yingjian Liang. “The Evaluations of Individuals and Corporate Diversity” (In preparations for *American Journal of Sociology*)

Liang, Yingjian. “Flexible Imagined Trajectories as Consent to Liminal Legality.” (In preparation for submission)

Research Reports

Mueller, Anna S., Sarah Diefendorf, Seth Abrutyn, Katie A. Beardall, Robert Gallagher, J’Mauri Jackson, Yingjian Liang, et al. 2021. “Strategies to Prevent Suicide in Schools and Communities.” SocArXiv. October 12. osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/znrjg.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 “Connecting Directly or Through Intermediaries: How Early-Career Job Seekers Form and Activate Tie for Referrals”
- European Group of Organizational Studies (EGOS) Annual Meeting
 - Academy of Management (AOM) Annual Meeting
 - American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting
- 2026 “Flexible Imagined Trajectories: How Highly Educated International Migrants Construct Migration Plans in the Face of Legal Status Uncertainty”
- Population Association of America Annual Meeting, St Louis, MI
 - American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
- 2026 “Now I Want to Go To School But I Can’t: Residential Mobility, Family Dynamics, and the Differential Socioeconomic Benefit for Children and Parents” (with Stefanie DuLuca and Angelica Qin)
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
- 2026 “Perceptions of Corporate Diversity Under Backlash” (with Koji Chavez and Kate Weisshaar)
- Population Association of America Annual Meeting, St Louis, MI
- 2024 “Connecting Directly or Via Brokers: The Network Process of Social Mobility”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada
- 2024 “Job Search as Cultural Adaptation”
- International Sociological Association, RC28 Annual Meeting, Providence, RI
 - European Group for Organizational Studies (EGOS) 60th Colloquium, Milan, Italy

- Culture Connect Conference, UC Berkeley
- 2023 “Job Search as Cultural Adaptation”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
 - World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, Australia
- 2023 “The Relational Origin of Organizational Resilience”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
- 2022 “Asian American Panethnicity and Social Comparison” (with Dina Okamoto and Shelley Rao)
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA
- 2021 “Making Bad Jobs Worthwhile: How Educational Experiences Shape Precarious Workers’ Identity Work Strategies.”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Online
 - Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, Online
- 2019 “Making Bad Jobs Worthwhile: How Educational Experiences Shape Precarious Workers’ Identity Work Strategies.”
- Tobias Center for Innovation in International Development Research Symposium, Indiana University
- 2019 “Career Plans and Job Search Strategies: International Students Navigating the Transition to Work.”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY
 - Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Meeting, New York, NY
 - Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society Symposium, Indiana University
- 2016 “Culture, Gender, and Social Transformation: Imagined Futures of Rural Youth in China.”
- American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA
 - Society for the Study of Social Problems, Seattle, WA

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Grants

- 2024 Research Seed Grant (\$5000, with Koji Chavez and Kate Weisshaar), Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society, Indiana University
- 2024 GPSG Travel Award (\$500), Graduate and Professional Student Government, Indiana University
- 2023 John Mohr Dissertation Improvement Grant (\$1250), ASA Culture Section

- 2023 Grant in Aid of Graduate Research (\$1000), University Graduate School, Indiana University
- 2022 Graduate Research Grant (\$2000), Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society, Indiana University
- 2022 Grant for Research (\$1423), Midwestern Sociological Society
- 2022 Grant in Aid of Graduate Research (\$1000), University Graduate School, Indiana University
- 2021 Graduate Research Grant (\$700), College Arts and Humanities Institute, Indiana University
- 2020 Graduate Research Grant (\$500), Asian American Studies Program, Indiana University
- 2020 GPSG Research Grant (\$1000), Indiana University Graduate & Professional Student Government
- 2019 Stryker Research Grant (\$700), Department of Sociology, Indiana University
- 2019 Graduate Research Grant (\$2000), Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society, Indiana University
- 2018 Graduate Research Grant (\$4789), Tobias Center for Innovation in International Development, Indiana University
- 2016 Summer Research Grant (\$250), Department of Sociology, The New School for Social Research
- 2016 Lee Student Support Fund (\$143.5), Society for the Study of Social Problems
- 2015 Summer Research Grant (\$250), The New School for Social Research

Awards and Fellowships

- 2024-25 Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$25,000), College of Arts and Sciences, Indiana University
- 2024 Edgar Schein Best Student Paper Award (\$2000), the 6th Culture Connect Conference, UC Berkeley
- 2022-23 Lindesmith-Mullins Fellowship (\$20,000), Department of Sociology, Indiana University (The most prestigious departmental prize in recognition of excellence in research)

- 2021 The Medici Summer School in Management Studies (A leading international institution in management doctoral education hosted annually, on a rotating basis, by MIT Sloan, HEC Paris, and University of Bologna Business School)
- 2020 Schuessler Scholarship for Study at Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR, \$3200), Department of Sociology, Indiana University
- 2021 John Seidler Graduate Student Paper Award, North Central Sociological Association
- 2015-16 The University Fellowship (full tuition), The New School for Social Research
- 2013-15 The NSSR Provost's Scholarship (half tuition), The New School for Social Research

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021-22 Research Assistant, "Asian American Boundary Comparison." PI: Dina Okamoto
- 2021-22 Research Assistant, "Social Worlds & Youth Wellbeing." PI: Anna Mueller
- 2019 Research Assistant, "Social Networks and Parenting." PI: Jessica Calarco

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

- 2022 Assistant Editor, *American Sociological Review*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

- 2021-23 SOC373 Research and Internship Experiences
- 2021 SOC315 Work in the New Economy
- 2020-21 SOC100 Introduction to Sociology

Teaching Assistant

- 2020 Race and Ethnic Relations, Prof. Hye Young Kwon
- 2019 Medicine in America, Prof. Elaine Hernandez
- 2019 Sociology of Childhood, Prof. Hye Young Kwon
- 2018 Introduction to Sociology, Dr. Christine Von Der Haar

SERVICE

External

- 2025-26 Membership Committee, ASA Section on Sociology of Education
- 2019 Presider, Roundtable on Sociology of Education, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

Reviewer for: *Social Problems, Socius, Poetics, Journal of Mathematical Sociology*

Internal

- 2021-22 Member, Personnel Committee, Department of Sociology, Indiana University
- 2019-20 Member, Social Committee, Department of Sociology, Indiana University
- 2019-20 Member, Conference Planning Committee, Conference on Bridging Academia and Activism, Department of Sociology, Indiana University (Cancelled due to Covid-19)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association (Sections: Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility; Organizations, Occupations, and Work; Economic Sociology; Sociology of Culture; Education)

International Sociological Association (Research Committees: Social Stratification; Organization)

Academy of Management (Divisions: Organization and Management Theory; Organizational Behavior; Careers; Human Resource Management; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion)

PRIOR PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- 2017-18 Research Associate, 21st Century Education Research Institute, Beijing, China