

JEFFREY WENG

Ph.D. Candidate
University of California, Berkeley
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Education

Ph.D. in Sociology (expected 2019), University of California, Berkeley.
Dissertation: *With One Voice: Unifying the Nation through Language Reform in Early Twentieth-Century China*
Dissertation committee: John Lie (chair), Mara Loveman, Wen-hsin Yeh, Pamela Crossley
Advanced to candidacy (August 2014)
Qualifying examinations passed (May 2014)

M.A. in Sociology (December 2013), University of California, Berkeley.
Thesis: “The Making of Modern Standard Chinese: A Critique of Bourdieu through the Lens of Language Reform and Nation-Building in Early Twentieth-Century China.”

B.A. in Political Science and International Studies (2008), Yale University

Research Interests

Political sociology, nationalism, comparative historical sociology, sociology of language, social theory, China

Publications*Peer-Reviewed Article*

Jeffrey Weng. 2018. “What is Mandarin? The Social Project of Language Standardization in Early Republican China,” *Journal of Asian Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021911818000487>
[The top Asian studies journal; acceptance rate 8%.]

Book Chapter

John Lie and Jeffrey Weng. (Forthcoming.) “East Asia.” *Blackwell Companion to Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism*. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons. [8,000 words.]

Book Review

Jeffrey Weng. 2017. “Review of ‘The Rural Modern: Reconstructing the Self and State in

Republican China,' by Kate Merkel-Hess." *The China Review* 17(3).
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/44371805>

Work in Progress

- Jeffrey Weng. "Stop the Presses! Character Simplification in China Under the Nationalists, 1935–1936." [Revise-and-resubmit to *Modern China*.]
 Jeffrey Weng. "The End of East Asian Cosmopolitanism: Language and Social Change in Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, ca. 1870–1950." [Submitted to the *Modern Asian Studies*.]
 Jeffrey Weng. "Who are You Calling Anomalous? Eurocentric Explanations of the Rise of National Standard Languages and the Chinese Case." [Submitted to *Sociological Theory*.]
 Jeffrey Weng. "Spreading the Word: National Language Education in China in the 1920s and 1930s." [In progress.]

Peer Reviewer

Sociology of Development

Conference Presentations

- Jeffrey Weng. 2018. "The Political Economy of Spelling: The Publishing Industry and Character Simplification in China under the Nationalists, 1935–1936." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Section on Comparative Historical Sociology, refereed roundtable. Philadelphia, PA.
 Jeffrey Weng. 2017. "The End of East Asian Linguistic Cosmopolitanism: Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, ca. 1850–1950." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Section on Asia and Asian America, refereed roundtable. Montreal, Canada.
 Jeffrey Weng. 2016. "What is Mandarin? The Invention of a National Standard Language in Early Republican China." *East Asia as Method: Culture, Knowledge, Space*, Institute of East Asian Studies Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates. Berkeley, CA.
 Jeffrey Weng. 2016. "Language, Class, and Nation: The Rise of a National Lingua Franca and the Problem of Equity." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Comparative-Historical Section, Refereed Roundtable. Seattle, WA.
 Jeffrey Weng. 2016. "What is Mandarin? Nationalism and Linguistic Modernity in Early Twentieth Century China." *Colloquium Talk*. Nanjing University, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Nanjing, China.
 Jeffrey Weng. 2016. "What is Mandarin? Evolving Notions of Language and Peoplehood in Early Twentieth-Century China." *Language, Power and Identity in Asia: Creating and Crossing Language Boundaries*, Leiden University, International Institute for Asian Studies. Leiden, Netherlands.
 Jeffrey Weng. 2015. "Linguistic Modernity: The Limits of Ideology and State Power in the Creation of Modern Standard Languages." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Theory Section regular session panel, "Theorizing Inequality." Chicago, IL.
 Jeffrey Weng. 2015. "Linguistic Modernity: The Limits of Ideology and State Power in the Creation of Modern Standard Languages." *Junior Theorists Symposium*. Panel, "The State and Globalization." Chicago, IL.

- Jeffrey Weng. 2015. “Linguistic Modernity: The Limits of Ideology and State Power in the Creation of Modern Standard Languages.” *Social Science History Association Annual Meeting*. Panel, “Fields and Disciplines.” Baltimore, MD.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2014. “Language and Nation-Building in Early Twentieth-Century China: A Critique of Bourdieu.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Theory Section, refereed roundtable. San Francisco, CA.

Fellowships and Grants

- Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 2017–2018
- National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, 2016–2017
- Finalist, Harvard Academy Scholars Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies (10 finalists chosen from 1,139 applicants), 2016
- Dr. C.F. Koo and Cecilia Koo Fellowship for Outstanding Graduate Student in East Asian Studies, UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies, 2017
- Long-Ling Hsiao Chu and Chao Chi Chu Fellowship in Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies, 2017
- UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies Dissertation Fellowship, 2016–2017
- Helen Gan and Richard Aston Fellowship, 2015–2016
- UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates, 2015–2016
- China Times Cultural Foundation Young Scholars Award, 2015
- Leo Lowenthal Fellowship, UC Berkeley Department of Sociology, 2015
- Republic of China East Asian Fellowship, UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies, 2015
- Taiwanese-American Foundation of Boston University Fellowship, 2015
- UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies Summer Research Grant, 2014
- UC Berkeley Department of Sociology Small Research Grant, 2013–2014
- Institute for Humane Studies, Bernard Marcus Fellowship, 2013–2014
- UC Berkeley Graduate Division Summer Grant, 2013
- Institute for Humane Studies, Baxter Fellowship, 2012–2013
- Yale-China Association Teaching Fellowship, 2008–2010

Research and Teaching

- Research assistant to Stanley Lubman, UC Berkeley School of Law (2012–2013): Research in Chinese legal studies; translation of Chinese materials into English
- Graduate student assistant to Faculty Working Group, “Borders, Flows, and Networks: Actors, Knowledge, and Publics in East Asia,” Penelope Edwards, John Lie, Aihwa Ong (convenors), UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies (fall 2013): Assisted with research and record-keeping to facilitate faculty discussions on current research projects in sociology, political science, anthropology, history, English, and ethnic studies
- Graduate Student Researcher (research assistant) to John Lie (summer 2013): Conducted archival research at the Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley, to investigate the inception of Korean-language instruction in the United States in 1941–1942
- Graduate student instructor (teaching assistant): “Politics and Social Change (Political Sociology),” Dr. Tiffany Page (fall 2014); “Modern Social Theory,” Professor John Lie

(fall 2013); “Introduction to Sociology,” Professor Ann Swidler (fall 2012), Professor Thomas Gold (spring 2013); Dr. Jill Bakehorn (spring 2014)
Reader (grading assistant): “Sociology of Culture,” Dr. Jill Bakehorn (spring 2015); “Sociology of Work,” Dr. Linus Huang (spring 2012); “Sociology of Sports,” Dr. Linus Huang (fall 2011)

Professional Experience

Co-convenor, Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates, Institute of East Asian Studies (IEAS), University of California, Berkeley (2015–2016): IEAS-funded biweekly doctoral candidates’ writing workshop and conference, “East Asia as Method” (October 7–8, 2016), with 22 presenters (selected from more than 150 applicants), 6 discussants, and 2 invited extramural faculty keynote speakers
Yale-China Teaching Fellow, Hunan University, China (2008–2010): Designed and taught undergraduate courses in history, literature, and English language
Yale-China Service Intern, The Zigen Fund, Beijing and Guizhou, China (2007): Translated and updated bilingual (Chinese/English) publicity materials; designed curriculum and taught classes for Zigen’s training program for teachers of English
Research and Translation Intern, Shanghai Yudan, Shanghai, China (2009): Translated (into Chinese) British LGBT antidiscrimination legislation; participated in Yudan’s scholarly conference on “Sexual Orientation in the Law and Society,” August 2009
Taiwan Tech Trek Intern, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan) (2006): Produced detailed report on revising the English-language version of the Ministry’s website; worked with the Chief of the E-Diplomacy Unit of the Department of Information and Cultural Affairs; First Place in the Humanities Award for presentation on internship work at the Taiwan Tech Trek Academic Conference

Languages

Mandarin Chinese (advanced fluency); Spanish (advanced)

Professional Affiliations

American Sociological Association
Association for Asian Studies
Yale-China Association

References

John Lie (dissertation chair)
C.K. Cho Professor
Department of Sociology
University of California, Berkeley
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Mara Loveman
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Pamela Crossley
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