

Ran Wang

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EDUCATION

- May 2029 **Ph.D. in Sociology and Communication**, University of Pennsylvania | Philadelphia, PA
- May 2023 **Master in City Planning, University of Pennsylvania** | Philadelphia, PA
- May 2021 **BA in Sociology and Metropolitan Studies, New York University** | New York, NY
Summa cum laude with high honors in Sociology

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Sociology of culture, digital media, censorship, feminism

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2024 **Conference Paper: The Enduring Transience: Preserving Early Online Fandom Communities in China**
Association for Asian Studies 2024 Annual Conference
Drew from performance theory to conceptualize the preservation of early online communities as repertoires, and argued that what community members successfully preserved is more about the repertoires of doing preservation rather than materials.
- 2024 **Conference Paper: Reiteration of Parody: Chinese Political Jokes during the COVID Pandemic**
4th Lisbon Winter School for the Study of Communication: Media and Ambivalence
Conceptualized political jokes as performances through the critical discourse analysis of Chinese political jokes related to COVID-19, and showed how digital users transform normative narratives into parodies and amplify the liminal experience through digital sharing as repetitions.
- 2021 **Thesis: Censorship and Creative Communities: Fragility and Change of Fanfiction Writing in China**
Department of Sociology, New York University | New York, NY
Advisor: Iddo Tavory, Professor of Sociology
Showed how censorship discouraged writing by destabilizing interaction and interfering with gift exchanges by conducting 31 interviews with Chinese fanfiction writers who experienced a sudden intensification of censorship.
- 2020 **Capstone: Surveillance Through Public Health: the Health Code System in China**, New York University | New York, NY
Followed the critical conceptualization of disease surveillance as not neutral practices but as the medium that reveals essential insights into power dynamics and governing to explore the narrative created around the Chinese Health Code System that justifies surveillance and infiltrates discipline into the everyday movement of bodies.

PUBLICATIONS

Wang, R. Censorship and Creative Communities: Fragility and Change of Fanfiction in China. *Qualitative Sociology*. (Accepted)

GRANTS/HONORS/AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 2024 Gertrude and Otto Pollak Summer Research Award
- 2023 Doctoral Fellowship at the Center on Digital Culture and Society

2021 Ellie and David Werber Research Scholar in Social Sciences
2021 Alexander L. Shluger Award for excellence in sociology
2018 Presidential Honors Scholars at NYU College of Arts and Science

PRESENTATIONS

2024 The Enduring Transience: Preserving Early Online Fandom Communities in China | Seattle, United States
2024 Reiteration of Parody: Chinese Political Jokes during the COVID Pandemic | Lisbon, Portugal
2021 Censorship and Creative Communities: Fragility and Change of Fanfiction in China. | Shanghai, China

SKILLS

Technology: R, Python, SQL, QGIS
Languages: Chinese (fluent)

TEACHING ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

2023 Chinese Media, Culture, and Society
2022 Introduction to Transportation Planning