

# Yongfeng Tang

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Update: April 27th, 2026

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, School of Government & Public Policy, University of Arizona  
2021-2026 (expected)  
Major: Comparative Politics, Minor: Methodology  
*Dissertation*: The Personalization of Power and its Impact on Law-making in  
Authoritarian China: from Jiang to Xi

Certificate: *Certificate of College Teaching*, UCATT, University of Arizona,  
December 2025

MA. Political Science, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada, 2020  
MA. Political Science, Nankai University, China, 2013  
BA Human Resource Management, Southwest University, China, 2010

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Paul Schuler, Trung-Anh Nguyen, **Yongfeng Tang**, Mohammad Khan, “Founding  
Leaders and National Narratives: Anthropomorphism and the Roots of Founding  
Leader Personality Cults in Three East Asian Cases” *Comparative Political Studies*,  
*online first*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00104140251381777>

**Yongfeng Tang**, Isabelle Côté, “How Large-scale Land Protests Succeed in China: The  
Role of Domestic Media.” *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, 26: 333-353 (2021).

## EDITOR-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Jianwen Liu, **Yongfeng Tang**, “The Cooperation between NGOs and Local  
Governments and its Contribution to China’s Balanced Regional Development” *Learn  
and practice* 2012(6):36-43. (in Chinese)

## BOOK CHAPTERS

Jianwen Liu, **Yongfeng Tang**, Chapter One, in Jianwen Liu and Long Yang (eds.).  
From Free Aid to Equality and Reciprocity: Regional Cooperation between Tibet and  
Inland China and its Role in Maintaining the Long-term Stability and Prosperity in  
Tibet. Beijing: Social Science Literature Press, 2014. (in Chinese)

## BOOK REVIEWS

Isabelle Côté, **Yongfeng Tang**, 2020, Review of Solinger, Dorothy (2019) *Polarized Cities: Portraits of Rich and Poor in Urban China*. Rowman & Littlefield. *Pacific Affairs* 2020 June.

### **UNDER REVIEW AND WORKING PAPER**

**Yongfeng Tang**, Paul Schuler, “The Foreign Face of Personalized Politics: The Impact of Xi Jinping’s Personalization of Power on the Perception of Chinese Foreign Threat”

**Yongfeng Tang**, “How Does Personalization of Power Affect Law Characteristics in Authoritarian China: from Jiang to Xi”

**Yongfeng Tang**, “How Does Personalization of Power Affect Law-making Process in Authoritarian China: from Jiang to Xi”

### **CONFERENCES**

“How Does Personalization of Power Affect Law Characteristics in Authoritarian China: from Jiang to Xi .” (by **Yongfeng Tang**), Presented at MPSA 2026 Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

“How Does Personalization of Power Affect Law Characteristics in Authoritarian China: from Jiang to Xi .” (by **Yongfeng Tang**), Presented at WPSA 2026 Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

“How Does Personalization of Power Affect Law Characteristics in Authoritarian China: from Jiang to Xi .” (by **Yongfeng Tang**), Presented at CP Retreat, SGPP, University of Arizona, December 1st, 2025

“The Foreign Face of Personalized Politics: The Impact of Xi Jinping’s Personalization of Power on the Perception of Chinese Foreign Threat.” (By Paul Schuler & **Yongfeng Tang**). Presented at WPSA 2025 Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

“Anthropomorphizing the Nation: The Impact of Xi Jinping’s Personalization of Power on Taiwanese Attitude towards China and the US.” (By Paul Schuler & **Yongfeng Tang**). Presented at APSA 2024 Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, Sep 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

“Does Xi have a Personality Cult? Bringing Conceptual Clarity to the Concept.” (By Paul Schuler & **Yongfeng Tang**). Presented at APSA 2023 Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA, Sep 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

“Why do authoritarian regimes make concessions when a Social Movement Campaign erupted? A case study from China.” (By **Yongfeng Tang** & Kirssa Cline Ryckman), Presented at WPSA 2023 Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

“The Re-emergence of Cult of Personality in China—The Xi Jinping Cult: Cult of Legitimation.” (By **Yongfeng Tang**). Presented at Saguaro Symposium 2023, University of Arizona, Tucson, March 14, 2023.

“The Rise of Mao’s Cult in China in the 1930s to 1940s: the ‘Face of the Nation’ theory” (By Paul Schuler and **Yongfeng Tang**). Presented at Saguaro Symposium 2022, University of Arizona, Tucson, March 25, 2022.

“How Large-scale Land Protests Succeed in China: The Role of Domestic Media. ” Presented at The Fourth Annual Changing Political Landscapes Conference, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John’s, November 24, 2020. (Online conference)

“Why a Large-Scale Land-Related Protest at Liantang Village Failed?”, Presented at The Third Annual Changing Political Landscapes Conference, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John’s, April 8, 2019.

“The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations in China’s Balanced Regional Development” (*zhongguo quyue fazhan zhongde minjian zuzhi yu defang hezuo*), Presented at The First National Doctoral Seminar on Intergovernmental Relations and Regional Governance, Nankai University, Tianjin, November 24-25, 2011.

### **INVITED TALK**

“*Informal discussion on China’s politics after 18<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China*”. December 2012. Tianjin University of Finance and Economics. Tianjin, China.

### **FIELDWORK**

China: Tianjin Municipality, Yunnan province, Guangdong province (January-March 2019); Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Jiangxi, Shaanxi (May-June 2023)

### **SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS & FUNDING**

University of Arizona, SGPP, Starns Fellowship, Spring 2023, (\$700)  
University of Arizona, SBSRI Pre-Doc Grant, Spring 2023, (\$500)  
University of Arizona, GPSC Travel Grant, Winter 2023, (\$1500)  
University of Arizona, GPSC Research Grant, Spring 2023, Winter 2023 (\$1500, \$1500)  
University of Arizona, Summer Research Fellowship: 2022, 2023; (\$3083, \$3724)  
University of Arizona, Graduate Assistantship, FA 2021 – Now  
Memorial University of Newfoundland, Fieldwork funding, 2020, (\$980)  
Memorial University of Newfoundland, Graduate Research Award, 2019, (\$1775)  
Memorial University of Newfoundland, Travel Grant, 2019, (\$250)  
Memorial University of Newfoundland, Scholarship for post-graduates, 2018, (\$10,000)

Memorial University of Newfoundland, Scholarship for post-graduates, 2017, (\$ 6,000)

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

POL 204, Comparative Politics, Spring 2026, University of Arizona, online class  
POL 417 Dictatorship: Could It Happen Here? Fall 2025, University of Arizona (in-person teaching)

PA/SOC 241 Criminal Justice Administration, Teaching of Record, University of Arizona: Spring 2025 (Seven Week 1); Spring 2025; online class

POL 202, International Relations, Teaching of Record, University of Arizona: Summer 2024 (Seven Week 2); Fall 2024; Summer 2025 (Seven Week 2); online class

POL 204, Comparative Politics, Dr. Paul Schuler, University of Arizona: Spring 2024 (TA)

POL 202, International Relations, Dr. Kirssa Cline Ryckman, University of Arizona: Fall 2023 (TA)

POL 201: American National Government, Dr. William Mishler, University of Arizona: Spring 2023 (TA)

POL 203: Political Ideas, Dr. Suzanne Dovi, University of Arizona: Spring 2022 (TA)

POL 201: American National Government, Dr. Barbara Norrander, University of Arizona: Fall 2021; Fall 2022 (TA)

### **GUEST LECTURE:**

Comparative Politics (University of Arizona)	2025
The Origins of Data in Politics and Policy (University of Arizona)	2025
Comparative Politics (University of Arizona)	2024

### **WORKING EXPERIENCE & RESEARCH ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE**

Research Assistant for Professor Schuler, SGPP, University of Arizona, Summer 2024

Research Assistant for Professor Côté, Department of Political Science, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Canada, July 25, 2021, to August 31, 2021.

Research Assistant for Professor Côté, Department of Political Science, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Canada, November 16, 2020, to April 30, 2021.

ChangCe Think Tank, Research Assistant, Beijing, China, October 2013 to June 2014

### **SERVICES**

Reviewer for GPSC awards, 2023-2024 academic year; 2024-2025 academic year.

Reviewer for the *Journal of Politics*.

### **LANGUAGES**

Chinese (native speaker); English (Fluent).

### **SOFTWARE SKILLS**

R; Stata; Qualtrics; LATEX.

## **REFERENCES**

### **Paul Schuler**

Associate Professor  
School of Government & Public Policy  
University of Arizona  
[pschuler@arizona.edu](mailto:pschuler@arizona.edu)

### **Anne Boustead**

Associate Professor  
School of Government & Public Policy  
University of Arizona  
[boustead@arizona.edu](mailto:boustead@arizona.edu)

### **Carolyn Barnett**

Assistant Professor  
School of Government & Public Policy  
University of Arizona  
[carolynbarnett@arizona.edu](mailto:carolynbarnett@arizona.edu)

### **Dimitar Gueorguiev**

Associate Professor  
Department of Political Science  
Syracuse University  
[ddgueorg@syr.edu](mailto:ddgueorg@syr.edu)