

CHENG CHEN
Department of Political Science
Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy
University at Albany, State University of New York

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Employment

University at Albany, SUNY

- Professor, Department of Political Science (2019 - present)
- Associate Professor, Department of Political Science (2009 - 2019)
- Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science (2003 - 2009)
- Affiliate Professor, East Asian Studies Program (2003 - present)

Education

University of Pennsylvania

- Ph.D. in Political Science, May 2003
Dissertation: *Illiberal Nationalism in Post-Leninist States*
- M.A. in Political Science, May 1999

Foreign Affairs College, China

- B.A. in English and Diplomacy, June 1996

Fields of Study

- Comparative Politics (Comparative Politics; Communist and Post-Communist Politics; Nationalism and Nation-Building; Chinese Politics; Comparative Democratization)
- International Relations (International Relations Theory; International Security)
- Methodology (Comparative Methods; Qualitative and Critical Methods)

Courses Taught

- POS 362: Nationalism and Nation-Building (Lecture/new course)
- POS 373/EAS 373: Government and Politics of the People's Republic of China (Lecture)
- POS 452Z: Communist and Post-Communist Politics (Writing-Intensive Lecture)
- POS 516: Introduction to Political Inquiry (Required Graduate Seminar)
- POS 550: Comparative Political Analysis (Graduate Field Seminar)
- POS 552: Communist and Post-Communist Politics (Graduate Seminar)
- POS 561: Nationalism and Nation-Building (Graduate Seminar/new course)
- POS 563: Chinese Politics (Graduate Seminar)

- POS 695/696: Research and Writing Seminar (Required Graduate Seminar)

Publications

Refereed Books (single-author)

- Cheng Chen, *The Return of Ideology: The Search for Regime Identities in Post-Communist Russia and China* (Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2016). Reviewed in *Choice*; *Nationalities Papers*; *Pacific Affairs*; *Slavic Review*
- Cheng Chen, *The Prospects for Liberal Nationalism in Post-Leninist States* (University Park, PA: Penn State University Press, 2007). Paperback edition released in 2012. Reviewed in *Comparative Political Studies*; *Europe-Asia Studies*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *Russian Review*; and *Slavic Review*

Refereed Edited Books

- Cheng Chen and Meredith Weiss, eds., *The Political Logics of Anti-Corruption Efforts in Asia* (Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 2019).
- Zai Liang, Steven F. Messner, Youqin Huang, and Cheng Chen, eds., *Confronting the Challenges of Urbanization in China: Insights from Social Science Perspectives* (New York: Routledge, 2016).
- Zai Liang, Steven F. Messner, Cheng Chen, and Youqin Huang, eds., *The Emergence of a New Urban China: Insiders' Perspectives* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2012). Paperback edition released in 2014. Selected by *Choice* as an "Outstanding Academic Title" of 2012. Reviewed in *Choice*; *Contemporary Sociology*

Refereed Journal Articles

- Cheng Chen, "Muddling through the Shadow of the Past(s): Post-Communist Russia's Search for a New Regime Identity," *Demokratizatsiya* 19:1 (Winter 2011): 37-57.
- Cheng Chen, Kyungmin Ko and Ji-Yong Lee, "North Korea's Internet Strategy and Its Political Implications," *The Pacific Review* 23:5 (December 2010): 649-670.
- Cheng Chen and Rudra Sil, "Stretching Postcommunism: Diversity, Context and Comparative Historical Analysis," *Post-Soviet Affairs* 23:4 (2007), 275-301. (Lead Article)
- Cheng Chen and Ji-Yong Lee, "Making Sense of North Korea: 'National Stalinism' in Comparative-Historical Perspective," *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 40:4 (2007): 459-475.
- Cheng Chen, "Institutional Legitimacy of an Authoritarian State: China in the Mirror of Eastern Europe," *Problems of Post-Communism* 52:4 (July/August 2005): 3-13. (Lead article)
- Rudra Sil and Cheng Chen, "State Legitimacy and the (In)significance of Democracy in Post-Communist Russia," *Europe-Asia Studies* 56:3 (2004): 347-368. (Lead article)

- Cheng Chen, “The Roots of Illiberal Nationalism in Romania: A Historical Institutional Analysis of the Leninist Legacy,” *East European Politics and Societies* 17:2 (Spring 2003): 166-201.

Refereed Book Chapters

- Cheng Chen, “Ideology-Building under Hu Jintao: Reacting to Jiang and Paving the Way for Xi,” in Shiping Hua, ed., *The Chinese ideology* (New York: Routledge), under contract.
- Cheng Chen and Meredith L. Weiss, “Theorizing Anticorruption as a Political Project,” in Chen and Weiss, eds., *The Political Logics of Anti-Corruption Efforts in Asia* (Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 2019), 1-21.
- Cheng Chen, “Comparing Post-Communist Authoritarianism in Russia and China: The Case of Anti-Corruption Campaigns,” in Ariel Ahram, Patrick Kollner, and Rudra Sil, eds., *Comparative Area Studies: Methodological Rationales and Cross-Regional Applications* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018), 133-151.
- Zai Liang, Steven F. Messner, Youqin Huang, and Cheng Chen, “Introduction,” in Zai Liang et al. eds., *Confronting the Challenges of Urbanization in China: Insights from Social Science Perspectives* (New York: Routledge, 2016), 1-8.
- Gong Ni and Cheng Chen, “A Crisis of Trust: A Case Study of Doctor-Patient Relationship in Guangzhou,” in Zai Liang et al. eds., *Confronting the Challenges of Urbanization in China: Insights from Social Science Perspectives* (New York: Routledge, 2016), 164-178.
- Zai Liang, Steven F. Messner, Cheng Chen, and Youqin Huang, “Introduction,” in Zai Liang et al. eds., *The Emergence of a New Urban China: Insiders’ Perspectives* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2012), ix-xvi.
- Xiaojuan Chen and Cheng Chen, “Economic Deprivation, Social Networks and Unprotected Rights: A Study on Peasant Workers’ Collective Action in the Pearl River Delta,” in Zai Liang et al. eds., *The Emergence of a New Urban China: Insiders’ Perspectives* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2012), 25-41.
Translated and reprinted in: Zhou Daming, Liu Linping, and Liang Zai, eds., *都市中国社会学新探* (Beijing: 社会科学文献出版社, 2012), 28-45.
- Cheng Chen, “Pathways of Institutional Diffusion under Leninism: A Historical Comparison of Romania and Hungary,” in Dennis Galvan and Rudra Sil, eds., *Reconfiguring Institutions Across Time and Space: Syncretic Responses to Challenges of Political and Economic Transformation* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007), 205-224.

Book Reviews and Other Publications

- Cheng Chen, “Review of Jeffrey T. Martin, *Sentiment, Reason, and Law: Policing in the Republic of China on Taiwan*,” *Choice*, forthcoming.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Deborah Welch and Alexei Shevchenko, *Quest for Status: Chinese and Russian Foreign Policy*,” *Slavic Review*, forthcoming.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Florian Schneider, *China’s Digital Nationalism*,” *Choice* 56:6 (2019).

- Cheng Chen, “Review of Greg C. Bruno, *Blessings from Beijing: Inside China’s Soft-Power War on Tibet*,” *Choice* 56:3 (2018).
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Pål Kolstø and Helge Blakkisrud, eds., *The New Russian Nationalism: Imperialism, Ethnicity and Authoritarianism*,” *Slavic Review* 77:2 (2018): 556-558.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Bin Xu, *The Politics of Compassion: The Sichuan Earthquake and Civic Engagement in China*,” *Choice* 55:6 (2018).
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Jae Ho Chung, *Centrifugal Empire: Central-Local Relations in China*,” *Choice* 54:5 (2017): 780.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Justin M. Jacobs, *Xinjiang and the Modern Chinese State*,” *Choice*, 54:3 (2016): 448.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Steven M. Goldstein, *China and Taiwan*,” *Choice* 53:8 (2016): 3712.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Daniel A. Bell, *The China Model: Political Meritocracy and the Limits of Democracy*,” *Choice* 53:3 (2015): 1492.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Christer Pursiainen, ed., *At the Crossroads of Post-Communist Modernization: Russia and China in Comparative Perspective* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012),” *Russian Review* 72:3 (July 2013): 539-540.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Merle Goldman, *Political Rights in Post-Mao China* (Ann Arbor, MI: Association for Asian Studies, Inc., 2007),” *The China Journal* 60 (July 2008): 195-196.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Yang Zhong and Shiping Hua, eds., *Political Civilization and Modernization in China* (New Jersey: World Scientific Publishing Co., 2006),” *Pacific Affairs* 80:1 (June 2007): 93-94.
- Cheng Chen, “Review of Merle Goldman, *From Comrade to Citizen: The Struggle for Political Rights in China* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2005),” *Journal of Asian Studies* 65:4 (2006): 802-803.
- Cheng Chen, “Nationalist Movements,” *Governments of the World: A Global Guide to Citizens’ Rights and Responsibilities* (Detroit, MI: Macmillan Reference, 2005), 166-170.
- Cheng Chen, “China (PRC),” *Governments of the World: A Global Guide to Citizens’ Rights and Responsibilities* (Detroit, MI: Macmillan Reference, 2005), 183-188.

Works in Progress

- Cheng Chen, “What is Behind Anti-Corruption? A Comparison of Russia and China,” working paper.
- Jiacheng Ren and Cheng Chen, “The Revenge of Ideology: Leftist Student Activism in Xi Jinping’s China,” journal article to be submitted.
- Cheng Chen, “Ideology and the CCP’s Party-Building,” book chapter in progress.
- Cheng Chen, *Discipline and Punish: Corruption Crackdowns as State-Building in Russia and China*, book project in development.

Conferences, Workshops & Invited Talks

- “Ideology-Building under Hu Jintao,” to be presented at Annual Meeting of Association of Asian Studies, Spring 2020.
- “The Return of Left-Wing Ideology: Student Activism in Xi Jinping’s China,” with Jiacheng Ren, presented at American Association of Political Science Annual Convention, Fall 2019.
- Co-organizer and chair of session on *Urban China and the State*, International Conference on the Next Generation of Urban China Research, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China, Summer 2019.
- Presenter, Roundtable on *Comparative Area Studies and the Case for Contextualized Comparison Across Regions*, International Studies Association, Spring 2019.
- Presenter, Roundtable on *Comparative Area Studies: Why We Need Contextualized Cross-Regional Comparison*, American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Fall 2018.
- Conference co-organizer and chair of session on *Community, Social Media and Civil Society*, International Conference on Urban China Studies in a New Era, Wuhan University, Wuhan, China, Summer 2018.
- Discussant for Panel on *Institutions and Institutionalization under Chinese Authoritarianism*, American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Fall 2017.
- Conference co-organizer and chair of planetary session II, International Conference on Rethinking Urbanization in China, Shanghai University, China, Summer 2017.
- “The Return of Ideology,” invited talk at the Center for the Study of Contemporary China, University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2017.
- Panel co-organizer, chair and discussant for the panel on *The Political Logics of Anti-Corruption Campaigns in Asia*, American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Fall 2016.
- Conference advisor and panel chair for the panel on *Diverse Paths of Urbanization under the New Normal*, International Conference on China’s Urbanization in a New Era, Xi’an Jiaotong University, China, Summer 2016.
- “What is Behind Anti-Corruption? A Comparison of Russia and China,” invited talk at Union College, Winter 2016.
- Discussant for Panel on *Exit, Voice & Loyalty in Post-Soviet Russia: Facts and Narratives about Protest and Participation*, The Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies Annual Convention, Fall 2015.
- “What is Behind Anti-Corruption? A Comparative Study of Anti-Corruption Campaigns in Putin’s Russia and Xi Jinping’s China,” presented at American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Fall 2015.
- “Meritocracy, Ideology, and China’s Political Succession,” with Mark W. Lai and Yihao Su, presented at American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Fall 2015.
- Paper and abstract reviewer, International Conference on The Next Generation of Urban China Research, Brown University, Spring 2015.
- “The Return of Ideology: The Search for a New Regime Identity in Post-Communist Russia and China,” Book Workshop, University at Albany, Spring 2014.
- Conference co-organizer and chair for the panel on *Urban Housing*, International Conference on Contemporary Urban China, University at Albany, Spring 2014.
- Conference co-organizer and discussant for the panel on *Rural Perspectives on Urbanization*, International Conference on Contemporary Urban China: Fostering a New

- Generation of Urban China Researchers, Sun Yat-sen University, China, Winter 2013.
- “The Return of Ideology?: The Search for Regime Identities in Post-Communist China and Russia,” presented at Rockefeller College Speakers Series, University at Albany, Spring 2012.
 - “‘Authoritarian Capitalism’ in Post-Communist Russia and China: Regime Ideology-Building in Comparative Perspective,” presented at American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Fall 2010. [SSRN Top Ten List]
 - “The Rise of Authoritarian Capitalism?” invited talk for US-China Future Leaders Program, Columbia University, Summer 2010.
 - Conference co-organizer and chair for the panel on *Institution Building*, International Conference on Contemporary Urban Research: Social Science Perspectives, University at Albany, Spring 2010.
 - “Muddling through the Shadow of the Past: Post-Communist Russia’s Search for a New Regime Identity,” presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Fall 2009.
 - Conference co-organizer and panelist for the workshop on *Publication and Peer Review Process*, International Conference on Contemporary Urban China Research, Sun Yat-sen University, China, Winter 2009.
 - “North Korea’s Internet Strategy and Its Political Implications,” with Kyungmin Ko and Ji-Yong Lee, presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Fall 2008.
 - “The Divergent Fates of ‘National Stalinism’ in North Korea and Romania,” with Ji-Yong Lee, presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, Spring 2008.
 - “The Perils of ‘National Stalinism:’ Regime Affinity between the DPRK and Ceausescu’s Romania,” presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Fall 2006.
 - “Will China Democratize?” invited talk (with live Webcast) at World Policy Institute, The New School, Spring 2006.
 - “Expanding the Post-communist Universe without Conceptual Stretching,” with Rudra Sil, presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, Spring 2006.
 - “The Promise of Cross-Regional Contextualized Comparison,” with Rudra Sil, presented at Symposium on Postcommunist State and Society: Transnational and National Politics, Syracuse University, Fall 2005.
 - “Illiberal Nationalism in Post-Communist Russia, With Comparisons to China,” presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, Spring 2005
 - “Institutional Legitimacy of an Authoritarian State: China in the Mirror of Eastern Europe,” presented at the Association for Asian Studies 56th Annual Meeting, Spring 2004
 - “State Legitimacy and the (In)significance of Democracy in Post-Communist Russia,” with Rudra Sil, presented at the American Political Science Association 99th Annual Meeting, Fall 2003.
 - “Liberalism, Leninism, and the National Question,” presented at the 8th World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, Spring 2003.
 - “Illiberal Nationalism in Post-Leninist States,” presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, Spring 2003.

- Chair and Discussant for panel on *Challenges to Democracy in Former Soviet States*, International Studies Association Annual Convention, Spring 2003.
- “Nationalism after Leninism: Russia, China, Romania, and Hungary in Comparative-Historical Perspective,” presented at the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies 34th National Convention, Fall 2002.
- Discussant for “Exit, Voice, and Family Policy: Explaining Japan’s Uneven Pace of Reform,” by Leonard Schoppa, University of Pennsylvania Workshop in Comparative Politics, Fall 2002.
- “Bringing Legitimacy Back In: The State of the State in ‘Democratic’ Russia and ‘Authoritarian’ China,” with Rudra Sil, presented at the American Political Science Association 98th Annual Meeting, Fall 2002.
- “Illiberal Nationalism in Post-Leninist Romania,” presented at the Northeastern Political Science Association 33rd Annual Meeting, Fall 2001.
- Discussant for “Citizenship Claims and Ethnic Movements: Contentious Politics in an Age of Globalization?” by Deborah J. Yashar, University of Pennsylvania Workshop in Comparative Politics, Fall 1999.
- Discussant for “State Repression and Student Protest in Contemporary China” by Teresa Wright, University of Pennsylvania Christopher H. Brown Center for International Politics Speaker Series, Fall 1998.

Professional, University and Departmental Service

Profession

- Editorial Board, *Russian Politics*, 2015-present
- Member, Steering Committee and Advisory Board of Urban China Research Network (UCRN), 2005-present
- Regular Book Reviewer, *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*, 2015-present
- Member, Fulbright US Student Program National Screening Committee (China), Institute of International Education, 2016; 2018; 2019
- Member, Mary Parker Follett Prize Committee, Politics & History Section, American Political Science Association, 2016-2017
- Outside Evaluator, Asian Studies Program, City College, City University of New York, 2009
- Book Manuscript and Proposal Reviewer, Cambridge University Press; Palgrave Macmillan; Polity Press; Rowman & Littlefield
- Article Manuscript Reviewer, *American Journal of Political Science*; *Comparative Political Studies*; *Comparative Politics*; *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*; *Problems of Post-Communism*

University and College

- Member, Confucius Institute Advisory Committee, University at Albany, 2018-present
- Member, Search Committee for Director of Graduate Recruitment and Admissions, Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany, 2016

- Member, CLUE Planning Group on Issues of Promotion and Tenure, University at Albany, 2009-2011
- Co-organizer, Rockefeller College Speaker Series, Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, University at Albany, 2008-2009
- Member, Study Abroad Search Committee, University at Albany, 2008
- Member, China Semester Committee, University at Albany, 2007

Department

- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Political Science, 2016-2019
- Member, Political Science Reappointment and Tenure Committee (Barta), 2018-2019
- Member, Ad-hoc Committee on Grad-Course Credits, 2018
- Member, MIA Comparative Politics Search Committee, 2017
- Member, Political Science Tenure Committee (Ingram), 2016
- Member, International Relations Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee, 2016
- Member, Graduate Studies Committee, Department of Political Science, 2008-2009; 2012-2016
- Chair, Political Science Promotion Committee (Weiss), 2015
- Member, Political Science Reappointment Committee (Barta), 2015
- Member, Graduate Methods Review Committee, 2014-2015
- Field Coordinator of Comparative Politics, Department of Political Science, 2007-2009; 2012-2014
- Member, MIA International Economics Search Committee, 2013-2014
- Chair, Political Science Reappointment Committee (Ingram), 2014
- Member, Political Science International Relations Search Committee, 2013
- Member, International Relations Professional Master's Program Search committee, 2013
- Member, Ad hoc Committee to Review Comprehensive Exams, Department of Political Science, 2012-2013
- Director, Undergraduate Honor's Program, Department of Political Science, 2009-2011
- Chapter Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha, Department of Political Science, 2009-2011
- Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of Political Science, 2009-2011
- Member, Political Science Reappointment Committee (Jarman), 2011
- Chair, Political Science Reappointment and Tenure Committee (Weiss), 2010
- Member, Political Science International Relations Search Committee, 2008
- Member, Political Science Comparative Politics Search Committee, 2007
- Member, Political Science Reappointment Committee (Walker), 2007
- Member, Political Science Comparative Politics Search Committee, 2006
- Member, Political Science Reappointment Committee (Strach), 2006
- Co-organizer, Political Science Departmental Colloquium Series, 2004-2005
- Member, Political Science International Relations Search Committee, 2004
- Member of Dissertation Committees (13 completed, 4 as the chair (Ji-Yong Lee; Anna Lopatina; Turkhan Sadigov; and Xiaoye She); 3 in progress, 1 as the chair (Jiacheng Ren))
- Theses Advisor: numerous Master's and Undergraduate Honors Theses

Selected Media

- “NBA 激怒中国背后：一句口号揭示对香港示威的不同定性,” BBC Chinese, October 11, 2019
- “北京邀网红思想政治教师参加座谈会背后,” BBC Chinese, March 20, 2019
- “Why a Marxist movement is emerging in China – and being crushed,” *Inkstone News, South China Morning Post*, November 16, 2018
- “习近平南下广东的背后：由港珠澳大桥开通仪式说起,” BBC Chinese, October 23, 2018
- ““习思想”如何覆盖新时代：从地铁到课堂,” BBC Chinese, July 9, 2018
- “Will China’s new anti-graft watchdog save the nation – or doom it?” *Inkstone News, South China Morning Post*, March 20, 2018
- “一片噤声中人大近全票通过修宪,海内外学者表忧虑批评,” BBC Chinese, March 11, 2018
- “‘Into the Brains’ of China’s Children: Xi Jinping’s ‘thought’ to become compulsory school topic,” *South China Morning Post*, October 23, 2017
- “Live commentary on Chinese President Xi Jinping’s opening speech at the 19th Party Congress,” BBC World News, October 18, 2017
- “Xi Jinping Thought: A break with China’s past?” *South China Morning Post*, October 17, 2017

Awards and Fellowships

- University at Albany, State University of New York, Faculty Research Award Program (FRAP), Category B, Academic Years 2018-2020
- University at Albany, State University of New York, Faculty Research Awards Program (FRAP), Category B, Academic Years 2015-2017
- University at Albany, State University of New York, CLUE Fellowship, Academic Year 2013-2014
- *CHOICE*, Outstanding Academic Title, 2012 (for *The Emergence of a New Urban China: Insiders’ Perspectives*)
- University at Albany, State University of New York, Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Award, Spring 2006
- University of Pennsylvania, Margaret E. Galey Award in International Affairs, Summer 2002
- University of Pennsylvania, School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, Academic Year 2001-2002
- The Ford Foundation/University of Pennsylvania Project on the Problematics of States and Identities Dissertation Development Grant, Summer 1999
- University of Pennsylvania, University Fellowship, Academic Year 1996-1997

Other Professional Experiences

- Department of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania: Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant (1997-2003)

- Office of International Programs, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania:
Program Coordinator, Translator and Interpreter (Summers, 1997, 1998, 2000)

Languages

- Chinese (Native)
- English (Fluent)
- Japanese (Intermediate reading and listening; elementary speaking and writing)
- French (Intermediate reading; elementary listening, speaking, and writing)

References

Available upon request