

Deli Yang

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EDUCATION

- PhD Political Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, expected May 2027
- Book Project: “Unilateral Conciliation in International Conflict: Apology Diplomacy and the Politics of Reconciliation”
 - Committee: Alyssa Prorok (Chair), Paul Diehl, Don Casler, Matthew Winters, Alexandra Chronopoulou (Statistics)
 - Fields: International Relations; Political Methodology
- MS Statistics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 2023
- Double MSc London School of Economics and Political Science & Peking University, 2021
- LLB China University of Political Science and Law, 2019
- Exchange Student, University of California, Berkeley, 2017

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Relations; Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation; Diplomacy and Foreign Policy; Peace and Conflict Studies; Public Opinion; East Asian International Relations

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Yang, Deli, and Paul F. Diehl. “Political Apologies in International Relations.” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*, 2025. [doi:10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.2286](https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.2286)

WORKING PAPERS

Yang, Deli. “Steps of Rapprochement: Do International Apologies Initiate or Consolidate Peace?” **Revise and resubmit**, *Journal of Peace Research*

Yang, Deli, and Alyssa Prorok. “Managing Conflict by Saying Sorry: Introducing the Rebel Apology Dataset.” **Revise and resubmit**, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*

Yang, Deli. “Making Peace by Making Amends? The Impact of International Apologies on Bilateral Relations.” (*Job market paper*) Under review

Yang, Deli, and Alyssa Prorok. “The Strategic Value of ‘Sorry’: How Rebel Apologies Restrain Government Violence in Civil War.” Under review

Un, Paul, **Deli Yang**, and Yujeong Yang (*authors listed alphabetically*). “Action Over Cost: How Foreign Publics Evaluate Public Diplomacy Gestures in Apology-Making.” Under review

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

Yang, Deli, and Paul Diehl. “One Step Forward, One Step Back: Backsliding in International Relations.”

Yang, Deli. “Making the Case for Peace: How Leaders Build Support for Reconciliation at Home.”

“Why Foreign Publics Discount China’s Public Diplomacy.” (with Yujeong Yang and Paul Un)

ORIGINAL DATASETS

RAD *Rebel Apology Dataset*, with Alyssa Prorok

- Event-level dataset of 636 political apologies issued by 130 rebel groups in 64 countries, 1990–2018. Coded for apology source, text, target, timing, and conflict context

HuRT *Human Rights and International Transgressions Dataset*

- Event-level dataset of 556 historical interstate transgressions, designed for the comparative study of conflict resolution and reconciliation

GRANTS AND AWARDS

External

2025 Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (\$2,500)

2024–26 Travel Grants, American Political Science Association, International Studies Association, and International Studies Association-Midwest (\$1,000+)

Internal

2026 Facilitating Learning Excellence (FLEX) Teaching Award, University of Illinois

2025–26 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate College, University of Illinois (\$13,000)

2025 Jeremiah Sullivan Award, Program in Arms Control and Domestic and International Security, University of Illinois (\$10,000)

2024 Garner Fellowship, University of Illinois (\$1,000)

2023 Schroeder Fellowship, Cline Center for Advanced Social Research, University of Illinois (\$6,000)

- 2022–23 Kneier Fellowship, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois (three awards, \$4,400 total)
- 2022–26 Departmental Research and Travel Funding, University of Illinois (\$2,500)
- 2020 Bocheng Academic Excellence Award, Peking University (\$10,000)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

University of Illinois, Center for Global Studies

Spring 2026 Global Conflict Resolution (*original course*)

University of Illinois, Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning

2022– Statistical Analysis Workshops (*four workshops/semester; eight semesters*)

Teaching Assistant

University of Illinois, Department of Political Science

Spring 2025 Introduction to International Relations

Spring 2025 International Law

Spring 2022 The U.S. Constitution II

Guest Lecturer

University of Illinois, Department of Political Science

Spring 2025 “Conflict Resolution,” Introduction to International Relations

Teaching Credentials

Graduate Teacher Certificate, University of Illinois, 2026

- Completed faculty-observed instruction, pedagogical training, and student-feedback assessment

Mentoring Certificate, University of Illinois, 2025

- Training in undergraduate research mentoring and semester-long weekly one-on-one mentoring

COURSES PREPARED TO TEACH

Introduction to International Relations • International Security • Conflict Resolution • Foreign Policy Analysis • East Asian International Relations • Quantitative Methods • Survey Research and Experiments

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

2025 *Program in Arms Control and Domestic and International Security Seminar*, University of Illinois

Conference Presentations

“The Impact of International Apologies on Bilateral Relations”

- 2026 Peace Science Society (International) Conference, Pittsburgh, PA. Scheduled
- 2026 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA. Scheduled
- 2026 International Studies Association Annual Convention, Columbus, OH
- 2025 International Studies Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL

“Do International Apologies Initiate or Consolidate Peace?”

- 2025 Peace Science Society (International) Conference, Orlando, FL
- 2024 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2024 International Studies Association-Midwest Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO

“How Foreign Publics Evaluate Public Diplomacy Gestures in Apology-Making,” with Paul Un and Yujeong Yang

- 2026 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA. Scheduled
- 2026 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2025 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2024–26 Designed, programmed, and fielded two national survey experiments in Vietnam (2025–26) and seven survey experiments in the United States (2024–25)
- 2025 Research Assistant to Alyssa Prorok, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois
 - Constructed dataset and developed text-classification and event-coding workflows
- 2022– Statistics, Data, and Survey Consultant, University of Illinois
 - Provide consulting to 30+ faculty, staff, and student clients each semester on research design, survey methods, data analysis, and technical reporting across diverse disciplines
- 2022– Research Assistant in Data Analytics, University of Illinois
 - Conduct analyses of university-wide campus climate and study-abroad surveys

SERVICE

Service to the Discipline

Peer Reviewer, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*

Invited Discussant, “Political Apology and Postwar Reconciliation,” International Studies Association Annual Convention, 2027

Panel Co-Organizer, “Foreign Policy and Public Perception,” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2026

Service to the University of Illinois

- 2024–25 Mentor to First-Year PhD Students, Department of Political Science
- 2024–25 Research Mentor, Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program (URAP)
- 2023–24 Undergraduate Research Supervisor (independent supervision funded through departmental research funds)

METHODS, LANGUAGES, AND SOFTWARE

Methods: causal inference • matching • panel models • survey experiments • original data collection

Languages: Chinese (native) • English (fluent)

Software: R • Stata • Python • SQL • Qualtrics • Tableau • SAS

MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association • International Studies Association

Midwest Political Science Association • Peace Science Society (International)

REFERENCES

Alyssa Prorok

Associate Professor

Department of Political Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

aprorok@illinois.edu

Paul Diehl

Past President, International Studies Association

Past President, Peace Science Society (International)

Henning Larsen Professor Emeritus of Political Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Ashbel Smith Professor Emeritus of Political Science, University of Texas at Dallas

pdiehl@illinois.edu

Don Casler

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

dcasler@illinois.edu