

# Deli Yang

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## EDUCATION

- PhD Political Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, expected May 2027
- Book Project: “Public Diplomacy in Conflict Resolution: The Use of International Apologies”
  - 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

Conflict resolution and international security: peace processes, conflict management, reconciliation

Foreign policy and public diplomacy: public opinion, diplomatic signaling, international cooperation

## 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**. “Selling Peace at Home: Leader Strategies and Public Support for Reconciliation.”

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

## ORIGINAL DATASETS

RAD     *Rebel Apology Dataset*, with Alyssa Prorok

- Original event-level dataset of political apologies issued by rebel groups in civil conflicts, 1990–2018. Coded for apology source, apology text, and target audience.

HuRT    *Human Rights and International Transgressions Dataset*

- Assembled event-level interstate dataset of 556 historical transgressions in international history. Designed to support analysis of cross-national conflict resolution.

## 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 (*developed original course*)

*University of Illinois, Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning*

Fall 2022–present      Statistical Analysis Workshops

### ***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

- Pedagogical training and a faculty-observed teaching practicum

*Mentoring Certificate*, University of Illinois, 2025

- Training in undergraduate mentoring and one semester of weekly one-on-one mentoring

## COURSES PREPARED TO TEACH

### ***Introductory and Core Courses***

Introduction to Political Science; Introduction to International Relations; World Politics; International Relations Theory; International Security; Research Methods and Political Analysis

### ***Upper-Division Courses***

International War; Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding; Foreign Policy Analysis; International Cooperation; Public Diplomacy; Quantitative Political Analysis; 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  
- Built event-level datasets and conducted text analysis

2022– Statistics, Data, and Survey Consultant, University of Illinois

2022– Research Assistant in Data Analytics, University of Illinois

### **SERVICE**

#### ***Service to the Profession***

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, and original data collection

Languages: Chinese (Mandarin, native); English (fluent)

Software: R, Stata, Python, SQL, Qualtrics, Tableau, and 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](mailto: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](mailto:pdiehl@illinois.edu)

### **Don Casler**

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

[dcasler@illinois.edu](mailto:dcasler@illinois.edu)