

Deli Yang

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Department of Political Science
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
420 David Kinley Hall, Urbana, IL 61801

deliy2@illinois.edu
deliyang.com
+1 217 695 6557

EDUCATION

- PhD Political Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, expected May 2027
- Dissertation: “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. “Making Peace by Making Amends? The Impact of International Apologies on Bilateral Relations.” (*Job market paper*) Under review

Yang, Deli, and Alyssa Prorok. “Managing Conflict by Saying Sorry: Introducing the Rebel Apology Dataset.” Under review

Yang, Deli, and Alyssa Prorok. “The Surprising Strategic Value of Saying Sorry: Rebel Apologies and Civil War Dynamics.”

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, target audience, and transgression type.

HuRT *Human Rights and International Transgressions Dataset*

- Original 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, Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning, University of Illinois

- Pedagogical training and a faculty-observed teaching practicum

Mentoring Certificate, Graduate College, University of Illinois

- 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 AND SOFTWARE

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

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

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