

# Deli Yang

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## EDUCATION

- PhD Political Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- PhD candidate (ABD); expected completion May 2027
  - Dissertation / 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)
- MS Statistics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 2023
- Double MSc London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) & 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 Peace Studies; Diplomacy and Foreign Policy; International Security; International Cooperation; 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. “The Strategic Value of ‘Sorry’: How Rebel Apologies Restrain Government Violence in Civil War.” **Revise and resubmit**, *International Studies Quarterly*.

**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? International Apologies and Unilateral Conciliation.” **Job market paper**. 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.** “Making the Case for Peace: How Leaders Build Support for Reconciliation at Home.”

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

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

## DATASETS

*Rebel Apology Dataset (RAD)*, with Alyssa Prorok

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

*Human Rights and Interstate Transgressions Dataset (HuRT)*

- 471 directed state dyads involving major interstate transgressions, designed for the comparative study of conflict resolution and reconciliation.

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

### 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

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 (\$2,600)  
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 (*course designed and taught independently*)

### Workshop Instructor

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

2022– Statistical Analysis Workshops  
• Teach four workshops per semester in R, Stata, and SAS, covering data management, statistical inference, and visualization; nine 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 AWARDS AND CREDENTIALS

- 2026 Facilitating Learning Excellence (FLEX) Teaching Award, University of Illinois
- 2026 Graduate Teacher Certificate, University of Illinois
  - Completed observed instruction, pedagogical training, and student-feedback assessment.
- 2025 Mentoring Certificate, University of Illinois
  - Completed training in undergraduate research mentoring and a semester of weekly one-on-one mentoring.

## COURSES PREPARED TO TEACH

**International Relations and Comparative Politics:** Introduction to International Relations; Introduction to Comparative Politics; International Security; Conflict Management and Resolution; International Cooperation; International Organizations; Foreign Policy Analysis; Diplomacy and Public Diplomacy; Human Rights and Political Violence; East Asian International Relations

**Methods:** Quantitative Methods; Research Design; Survey Research and Experiments; Data Visualization; Introduction to Data Science; Introduction to Statistics and Probability

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MENTORING

- 2024–25 Research Mentor, Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program, University of Illinois
  - Met weekly with undergraduate mentees to support research-question development, evidence collection, research presentations, and professional development.
- 2023–24 Undergraduate Research Supervisor, University of Illinois
  - Provided independent undergraduate research supervision supported by departmental research funds.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Invited Talks

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

## Conference Presentations

“Making Peace by Making Amends?”

- 2026 Peace Science Society (International) Conference, Pittsburgh, PA (*scheduled*)
- 2026 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA
- 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
- 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 research datasets and developed text-classification and event-coding workflows.
- 2022– Statistics, Data, and Survey Consultant, University of Illinois
  - Provide statistical, data, and survey consulting to 30+ faculty, staff, and student clients each semester on research design, survey methods, data analysis, and technical reporting.
- 2022– Research Assistant in Data Analytics, University of Illinois
  - Analyze university-wide campus climate and study-abroad surveys.

## PROFESSIONAL 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 (*scheduled*)

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

## **METHODS, LANGUAGES, AND SOFTWARE**

**Methods:** causal inference; matching and weighting; panel-data methods; survey experiments; survey design; original data collection

**Languages:** Chinese (native); English (fluent)

**Software:** R; Stata; Python; SQL; Qualtrics; Tableau; SAS

## **PROFESSIONAL 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)