

# YAO LU

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CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Sociology University of California, Davis One Shields Avenue Davis, CA 95616	<i>Email:</i> <a href="mailto:jzylu@ucdavis.edu">jzylu@ucdavis.edu</a>
RESEARCH FOCUS	Empire and colonialism, post-independent nation-states, politics of race and counting, sociology of Africa; postcolonial/decolonial thought; global historical sociology	
EDUCATION	<b>University of California, Davis</b> M.A. in Sociology, 2020 Ph.D. in Sociology, 2026 (expected) Dissertation: "Post-Independent Nation-States and Racial Classification in Africa: Zambia and Zimbabwe 1961-1992" Dissertation committee: Stephanie Mudge (Chair), Orly Clerge, Drew Halfmann, Rachel Jean-Baptiste, Mhoze Chikowero  <b>Hong Kong University of Science &amp; Technology (HKUST)</b> M.Sc. in Global China Studies, 2015 M.Phil. in Social Science, 2017  <b>Marquette University</b> B.Sc. Business Administration, 2011	
RESEARCH AFFILIATION	<b>University of Zambia</b> Department of Social Work and Sociology	2023-present
	<b>University of Zimbabwe</b> Department of History Heritage and Knowledge Systems	2023-present
PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS	Yan, Hairong, Barry Sautman, and <b>Yao Lu</b> . 2021. Contract Mobility, Self Mobility, and Chinese Localization in Africa. <i>Open Times</i> . 1:131-155. 严海蓉、沙伯力、路瑶.“合同流动、自主流动和中国人在非洲的本地化.”《开放时代》  Yan, Hairong, Barry Sautman, and <b>Yao Lu</b> . 2020. “Chinese and ‘Self-Segregation’ in Africa.” Pp 40-66 in <i>Chinese in Africa: ‘Chineseness’ and the Complexities of Identities</i> , edited by Obert Hodzi. Routledge. (Originally published as a special issue of <i>Asian Ethnicity</i> .)	
WORKING PAPERS	Counting “Colonial-Race”: Censuses in Africa from 1880 to 2000  What Shapes Racial Attitudes in Post-Colonial Africa? Evidence from Zambia (Best Qualifying Paper, UC Davis)  Big Dispersal and Small Concentration: Chinese Spatial Assimilation in Lusaka, Zambia (With YAN Hairong and Barry Sautman). <i>Under review</i>	
OTHER PUBLICATIONS	Review of T.J. Tallie, <i>Queering Colonial Natal: Indigeneity and the Violence of Belonging in Southern Africa</i> , in <i>EuropeNow</i> . 2020. Part of special feature on "Race and Racism in Europe: The Urgency of Now"	

Review of Ching Kwan Lee, *The Specter of Global China: Politics, Labor, and Foreign Investment in Africa*, in *Journal of Overseas Chinese*. 2019. 15(2):295-297

**Lu, Yao**, Barry Sautman, Hairong Yan, and Weixuan Zhou. 2017. Adaptation of Chinese Immigrants in Zambia. *SAIS-CARI Policy Brief 19*

RESEARCH  
EXPERIENCE

**Research Assistance**

Graduate Student Researcher for Erin Hamilton, UC Davis Summer 2020  
Research Assistant for Barry Sautman, HKUST 2014-15

CONFERENCES AND  
TALKS

“Counting “Colonial-Race”: Censuses in Africa from 1880 to 2000.” Paper Session. African Studies Association, San Francisco, CA 2023

“Counting “Colonial-Race”: Censuses in Africa from 1880 to 2000.” Department of History Heritage and Knowledge Systems, University of Zimbabwe, Hahare, Zimbabwe 2023

“Counting “Colonial-Race”: Censuses in Africa from 1880 to 2000.” Paper Session. American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA 2023

“Counting “Colonial-Race”: Censuses in Africa from 1880 to 2000.” Comparative Historical Sociology Section Paper Reading Day. Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA 2023

“Counting “Colonial-Race”: Censuses in Africa from 1880 to 2000.” Junior Scholar Symposium: Global Perspectives on Race and Ethnicity. Boston University, Boston, MA 2023

“State and Racial Classification in Post-Colonial Africa: Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi.” Panel. UC Africanists’ Workshop, Berkeley, CA 2022

“Chinese Assimilation in Zambia: Testing Migration Theories in the Global South.” Roundtable. American Sociological Association, New York, NY 2019

“Chinese Assimilation in Zambia.” Roundtable. Society for the Study of Social Problems, New York, NY 2019

“Chinese Assimilation in Zambia.” Individual paper. Pacific Sociological Association, Oakland, CA 2019

“Migrant Integration and Perceptions in Zambia: A Comparison of Chinese migrants and other foreign nationals.” Individual paper. *The World and Africa in the 21st Century*, Howard University, Washington D.C. 2017

“Comparative Analysis of Indigenous Perception of Non-Indigenous Ethnicities in Zambia: The Ethnic Hierarchy.” Individual paper. *Researching Africa Day 2017, Studying Africa, Studying Anywhere: Area Studies for an Interconnected World*, University of Oxford, Oxford, England 2017

“Comparative Analysis of Indigenous Perception of Non-Indigenous Ethnicities in Zambia: The Ethnic Hierarchy.” Individual paper. African Studies Association, Washington D.C. 2016

“Comparative Analysis of Zambian Perception on Non-Indigenous Ethnicities in Zambia.” Individual paper. Hong Kong Political Science Association, Hong Kong 2016

“Zambian Perception of Non-Indigenous Groups: Caucasians, Chinese and Indian.” Individual paper. *Imagining Asia: Urbanization, Migration, Exchange, Sustainability, Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast*, Northridge, CA 2016

“The Solar Hammer Mill Project: Sustainability Implications to Agriculture and Construction in Zambia,” *Africa-China Dialogue Platform: Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on China’s Engagement with Zambia: Opportunities and Challenges for Achieving SDGs*, Oxfam, Lusaka, Zambia 2016

“So what do Zambians really think of Chinese immigrants?” Audio podcast. *China in Africa*, hosted by Dr. Cobus van Staden and Eric Olander 2016

“The Ethnic Hierarchy of Non-Indigenous People in Zambia: A Comparative Analysis of Caucasian, Chinese, Indians, Lebanese, and South African Migrants.” *School of Education, University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia* 2016

AWARDS AND HONORS

Graduate Student Association Travel Award, UC Davis (\$500) 2023  
Graduate Program Fellowship, UC Davis (\$14,359) 2023-2024  
Dean’s Summer Graduate Fellowship, UC Davis (\$4,050) 2022  
Leon Mayhew Prize for the Best Qualifying Paper in Sociology, UC Davis (\$1,000) 2022  
Graduate Student Association Travel Award, UC Davis (\$250) 2020  
Sociology Graduate Program Travel Grant, UC Davis (\$750) 2019  
Graduate Student Association Travel Award, UC Davis (\$500) 2019  
Postgraduate Studentship, HKUST (\$24,285) 2016  
Fieldwork Grant, HKUST (\$900) 2016  
Research Travel Grant, HKUST (\$1,675) 2016  
Postgraduate Studentship, HKUST (\$23,200) 2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**University of California, Davis**

*Introduction to Sociology*, Associate Instructor Summer 2023  
*Introduction to Research Methods*, Teaching Assistant (TA) for Elizabeth Witcher Fall 2022  
*Sociology of Culture*, TA for Dr. David Orzechowicz Winter 2022  
*Political Sociology*, TA for Prof. Stephanie Mudge Fall 2021  
*Classical Theory*, TA for Prof. David McCourt Spring 2021  
*Global Social Change*, TA for Prof. David McCourt Winter 2020  
*Social Movements*, TA for Dr. Sean Arseo Fall 2020  
*Social Policy*, TA for Prof. Drew Halfmann Spring 2020  
*Immigration and Opportunity*, TA for Prof. Erin Hamilton Winter 2019  
*Data Visualization*, TA for Prof. Ryan Finnigan Spring 2019  
*Introduction to Social Research*, TA for Prof. Xiaoling Shu Winter & Fall 2019, Spring 2022  
*Self and Society*, TA for Dr. Lalia Kiburi Fall 2018

**Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**

*China and Africa*, MOOC Instructional Assistant for Prof. Barry Sautman 2017-18  
*International Law*, TA for Prof. Barry Sautman Spring 2017  
*China and the World*, TA for Prof. Barry Sautman Fall 2016  
*China-U.S. Relations*, TA for Prof. Barry Sautman Spring 2016  
*Understanding Society*, TA for Prof. Julian Groves Fall 2015

SERVICE AND AFFILIATION

**Student Liaison** for Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Research Cluster, UC Davis (2021-present)  
**Student Representative** for Sociology Colloquium Committee, UC Davis (2021-2022)  
**Co-Founder** for GlobalTea Student Research Group, UC Davis (2020-present)  
**Reviewer** for *African Studies Review*; *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*; *Society and Space*

**Member** of American Sociological Association; African Studies Association (Emerging Scholars Network); Social Science History Association; Chinese in Africa/Africans in China Research Network

LAST REVISED: FEBRUARY 2024