

YAO LU

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Sociology
University of California, Davis
One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616

Email: jzylu@ucdavis.edu

RESEARCH FOCUS

Sociology of Africa, empire and colonialism, post-independent nation-states, politics of race and counting, financialization, global historical sociology

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis

M.A. in Sociology, 2020

Ph.D. in Sociology, 2026 (expected)

Dissertation: "Post-Independent Nation-States and Counting Race in Africa: Zambia and Zimbabwe 1961-1982"

Dissertation committee: Stephanie Mudge (Chair), Orly Clerge, Drew Halfmann, Rachel Jean-Baptiste, Mhoze Chikowero

Hong Kong University of Science & Technology (HKUST)

M.Sc. in Global China Studies, 2015

M.Phil. in Social Science, 2017

Marquette University

B.Sc. Business Administration, 2011

RESEARCH AFFILIATION

University of Zambia

Department of Social Work and Sociology

2023-present

University of Zimbabwe

Department of History Heritage and Knowledge Systems

2023-present

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Yan, Hairong, Barry Sautman, and **Yao Lu**. 2021. Contract Mobility, Self Mobility, and Chinese Localization in Africa. *Open Times*. 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 **Yao Lu**. 2020. "Chinese and 'Self-Segregation' in Africa." Pp 40-66 in *Chinese in Africa: 'Chineseness' and the Complexities of Identities*, edited by Obert Hodzi. Routledge. (Originally published as a special issue of *Asian Ethnicity*.)

WORKING PAPERS

Counting "Colonial-Race": Censuses in Africa from 1881 to 2020

How Mobile Money Reshapes Inequality in Zambia (With Stephanie Mudge)

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). *Under review*

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Review of T.J. Tallie, *Queering Colonial Natal: Indigeneity and the Violence of Belonging in Southern Africa*, in *EuropeNow*. 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

“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.” 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 pa-

per. *Imagining Asia: Urbanization, Migration, Exchange, Sustainability, Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast*, Northridge, CA 2016

INVITED TALKS

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

“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 Program Fellowship, UC Davis (\$14,400) 2024-25
Sociology Small Research Grant, UC Davis (\$1,000) 2024
Sociology Travel Grant, UC Davis (\$1,500) 2024
Graduate Student Association Travel Award, UC Davis (\$500) 2023
Graduate Program Fellowship, UC Davis (\$14,359) 2023-24
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 (2021-24)

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: AUGUST 2024