

**Yiping Xia, Ph.D**  
ACES Assistant Professor  
Texas A&M University  
xia@tamu.edu

## **EMPLOYMENT**

ACES Assistant Professor  
Department of Communication and Journalism  
Texas A&M University  
08/2023 – now

Postdoctoral Research Associate  
Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life (CITAP)  
School of Information and Library Science  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
08/2022 – 07/2023

Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant  
School of Journalism and Mass Communication  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
01/2017 – 06/2022

## **EDUCATION**

PhD: University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Journalism and Mass  
Communication, 2022

Dissertation title: *A Lifeworld Approach to News Engagement: Life Contexts, Social  
Networks, and Chinese-Canadians' Relationships with News*  
Dissertation committee: Lewis A. Friedland (co-advisor), Chris Wells (co-advisor),  
Sue Robinson, Lucas Graves, Michael Xenos

PhD minor – Sociology  
PhD minor – Science & Technology Studies

MA: University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Journalism and Mass  
Communication, 2017

BA: East China Normal University, School of Communication, 2015

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles**

Freelon, D., Pruden, M. L., Malmer, D., Wu, Q., **Xia, Y.**, Johnson, D., Chen, E., &  
Crist, A. (2024). What's in Your PIE? Understanding the Contents of Personalized  
Information Environments with PIEGraph. *Journal of the Association for Information*

*Science and Technology*. DOI: 10.1002/asi.24869

**Xia, Y.** (2023). “Remember That?” A Temporal Perspective on How Audiences Make Sense of the News. *Journalism*. DOI: 10.1177/14648849231200322.

Freelon, D., Bossetta, M., Wells, C., Lukito, J., **Xia, Y.**, & Adams, K. (2022). Black Trolls Matter: Racial and Ideological Asymmetries in Social Media Disinformation. *Social Science Computer Review*, 40(3), 560-578. DOI: 10.1177/0894439320914853

Zhang, Y., Lukito, J., Su, M. H., Suk, J., **Xia, Y.**, Kim, S. J., ... & Wells, C. (2021). Assembling the Networks and Audiences of Disinformation: How Successful Russian IRA Twitter Accounts Built Their Followings, 2015–2017. *Journal of Communication*, 71(2), 305-331. doi: 10.1093/joc/jqaa042

Zahay, M.L., Jensen, K., **Xia, Y.**, Robinson, S. (2021) The Labor of Building Trust: Traditional and Engagement Discourses for Practicing Journalism in a Digital Age. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 98(4), 1041-1058. doi:10.1177/1077699020954854

**Xia, Y.**, Robinson, S., Zahay, M., Freelon, D. (2020). The Evolving Journalistic Roles on Social Media: Exploring “Engagement” as Relationship-building between Journalists and Citizens. *Journalism Practice*, 14(5), 556-573. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17512786.2020.1722729>

Lukito, J., Suk, J., Zhang, Y., Doroshenko, L., Kim, S. J., Su, M.-H., **Xia, Y.**, Freelon, D., Wells, C. (2020). The Wolves in Sheep’s Clothing: How Russia’s Internet Research Agency Tweets Appeared in U.S. News as Vox Populi. *The International Journal of Press/Politics*, 25(2), 196-216. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1940161219895215>

**Xia, Y.**, Lukito, J., Zhang, Y., Wells, C., Kim, S. J., Tong, C. (2019). Disinformation, performed: Self-presentation of a Russian IRA account on Twitter. *Information, Communication & Society*, 22(11), 1646-1664. DOI: 10.1080/1369118X.2019.1621921

### **Peer-Reviewed Journal Essays**

**Xia, Y.** (2021). Disinformation after Trump (Invited review essay). *Media, Culture & Society*, 43(7), 1364-1373. DOI: 10.1177/01634437211040684

**Xia, Y.** (2016). More than Book Reading: A Case Study on Liren Rural Library (Invited essay). *Communication and the Public*, 1(3), 351-355. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F2057047316666085>

### **Book Chapters**

Farkas, J., **Xia, Y.** (2023). Unpacking Disinformation as Social Media Discourse. In KhosraviNik, M. (Ed.) *Social Media and Society: Integrating the digital with the social in digital discourse*. John Benjamins Publishing Company.

## Manuscripts in Progress

**Xia, Y.** (book manuscript in preparation). *Becoming Audiences: Everyday News Engagement in a Transnational Community*. Targeted presses: Oxford University Press (“Journalism and Political Communication Unbound” series), Columbia University Press.

Wang, Y., **Xia, Y.** (under review). Reinstating Impartiality over Taking a Stance: Repairing Journalism amid Right-Wing Attacks. *Journalism Practice*.

Farkas, J., **Xia, Y.** (under review). Troll: The Problem with Digital Tricksters and Monsters. Chapter in Farkas, J. & Maloney, M. (eds.) *Digital Media Metaphors: A Critical Introduction*. Routledge.

Malhotra, P., Hall, N. A., **Xia, Y.**, Stahl, L., Chadwick, A., Vaccari, C., Lawson, B. (under review). Unpacking Credibility Evaluation on Digital Media: A Case for Qualitative Interpretive Approaches. *Annals of the International Communication Association*.

**Xia, Y.** (journal article in preparation). No Time to Dwell: Three Mechanisms of Reflexive News Engagement.

**Xia, Y.** (journal article in preparation). Which Audience, What Engagement? Lessons for Journalism from Public Understanding of Science.

## Conference Presentations

Farkas, J., **Xia, Y.** (Expected September 2024). Troll: The Problem with Digital Tricksters and Monsters. To be presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> *European Communication Conference (ECREA)*. Ljubljana, Slovenia.

**Xia, Y.** (2024, June). No Time to Dwell: Three Mechanisms of Reflexive News Engagement. Presentation at the 74<sup>th</sup> *Annual Conference of the International Communication Association*. Gold Coast, Australia.

**Xia, Y.** (2023, October). Assessing the Credibility and Plausibility of News: Evidence from Chinese-Canadians’ Everyday News Engagements. Panel presentation at *The 2023 Association of Internet Researchers Conference*, Philadelphia, PA.

**Xia, Y.** (2023, May). The Four Shapes of Audience Meaning-Making in Time. Accepted at the 73<sup>rd</sup> *Annual Conference of the International Communication Association*. Toronto, Canada. (Did not present due to family emergency)

**Xia, Y.** (2023, April). Chinese immigrants in Toronto and “Ethnic News Intermediaries.” Presentation at the *2023 Asia Scholar Network Conference*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA.

**Xia, Y.** (2023, February). Immigrant audiences and “ethnic news intermediaries.” Presentation at the *2023 Local Journalism Researchers Workshop*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA.

**Xia, Y.** (2022, May). Which Audience, What Engagement? Lessons for Journalism from Public Understanding of Science. Presentation at *ICA preconference "What's after disinformation studies?"*. Paris, France.

**Xia, Y.** (2022, May). News in the lifeworld: Towards a holistic approach to studying news engagement [Extended abstract]. Presentation at the *72nd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association*. Paris, France.

Wang, Y., **Xia, Y.** (2022, May). "Even the press is bashing the press": Meta-journalistic discourse under contentious information politics. Presentation at the *72nd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association*. Paris, France.

**Xia, Y.** (2021, May). Rethinking news engagement: What Journalism Studies can take from Public Engagement with Science [Extended abstract]. Presentation at the *71st Annual Conference of the International Communication Association* (Virtual conference due to COVID-19).

**Xia, Y.** (2020, May). Source codes, Hackpads, and "Nobodies": Open collaboration in a Taiwanese civic tech community. Panel presentation at the *70th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association* (Virtual conference due to COVID-19).

**Xia, Y.** (2019, October) Which persona? An analysis of Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's tweets during #Ocasio2018 campaign. Paper presented at *The 2019 Association of Internet Researchers Conference*, Brisbane, Australia.

**Xia, Y.** (2019, August) Hacker groups and social movements: A systematic review of literature. Paper presented at the *2019 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference*, Toronto, Canada.

**Xia, Y.,** Wang, Y. (2019, June). Who Has the Say over Truth? The Self-Policing of U.S. Journalists in the Post-Truth Era. Paper presented at the *Fifth Communication & the Public Symposium*, Hangzhou, China

**Xia, Y.,** Robinson, S., Zahay, M. (2019, May). The Role of the Press on Social Media: Exploring the evolving relationship between journalists and citizens. Paper presented at the *Engaged Journalism Preconference, 69th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association*, Washington, DC

Zahay, M., Nelson, K., **Xia, Y.,** Robinson, S. (2019, May). The Labor of Journalistic Trust in a Digital Age: Rhetorical Transformations in Doing Journalism. Paper presented at the *69th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association*, Washington, DC

**Xia, Y.,** Lukito, J., Zhang, Y., Wells, C., Kim, S. J., Tong, C. (2018, October). "This world lacks personalities. You have one." Self-presentation of a Russian IRA Account on Twitter. Paper presented at *Locked out of Social Platforms: An iCS Symposium on Challenges to Studying Disinformation*. Copenhagen, Denmark.

Lukito, J., Suk, J., Zhang, Y., Doroshenko, L., Su, M., Kim, S. J., **Xia, Y.**, & Wells, C. (2018, August). Zero Day Twitter: How Russian Propaganda Infiltrated the U.S. Hybrid Media System. Paper presented at the *2018 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference*, Washington, DC.

Freelon, D., Bossetta, M., Wells, C., Adams, K., **Xia, Y.**, and Lukito, J. (2018, August). The (Non)Americans: Analyzing Russian Disinformation on Twitter. Paper presented at the *2018 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference*, Washington, DC.

**Xia, Y.** (2018, May). From zero, by “nobody”: Understanding a civic hacking community in Taiwan. Paper presented at *the 68th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association*, Prague, Czech Republic.

Choung, HS. Coppini, D. Schmidt, L.J. **Xia, Y.** Kim, MH. and Duncan, M. (2016, August). Turning off or tuning in? Testing two competing mechanisms of expressive behavior. Paper presented at the *2016 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference*, Minneapolis, MN.

### **Public Scholarship**

Robinson, S., **Xia, Y.**, & Zahay, M. (2019) *Public Political Talk on Twitter and Facebook: The View from Journalists*. Knight Foundation Report. Retrieved from: <https://knightfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/KF-Twitter-Report-Part2.pdf>

Lukito, J., Wells, C., Zhang, Y., Doroshenko, L., Kim, S., Su, M., Suk, J., **Xia, Y.**, & Freelon, D. (2018). *The Twitter exploit: How Russian propaganda infiltrated U.S. News*. University of Wisconsin-Madison Research White Paper. <https://uwmadison.app.box.com/v/TwitterExploit>

**Xia, Y.** (in preparation) *Studying trust and credibility in context: Lessons from Science and Technology Studies*. Social Science Research Council, Mediawell.

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

#### *Awards*

- 2023 Lynda Lee Kaid Top Paper Award for 2022, AEJMC Political Communication Division
- 2018 Top Faculty Paper in 2018 AEJMC Political Communication Interest Group paper competition
- 2018 Third place in 2018 AEJMC Research Prize for Professional Relevance competition

#### *Fellowships & Scholarships*

- 2022 Summer Scholar Award, Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies, UW-Madison
- 2021 Mini-fellowship, Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies, UW-Madison

2020-21 SJMC Departmental Fellowship, UW-Madison  
2020 Top-up fellowship, Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies,  
UW-Madison  
2018 UW-Madison Graduate School Research Travel Award  
2017-2020 SJMC Graduate Student Research Award, UW-Madison

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Texas A&M University**

COMM 665 Communication and Technology (Spring 2024)

### **University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Instructor, *CA 100: Introduction to Speech Composition* (Fall 2017)

Teaching assistant, *J561: Mass Communication and Society* (Spring 2021)

Teaching assistant, *J560: History of Mass Communication* (Spring 2020)

Teaching assistant, *J565: Effects of Mass Media* (Fall 2019)

Teaching assistant, *J162: Mass Media in Multicultural America* (Fall 2018)

Teaching assistant, *J201: Introduction to Mass Communication* (Spring 2017, Spring 2019)

Certificate of completion: The Discussion Project

*“The Discussion Project draws upon the most recent research on classroom discussions in higher education to identify effective facilitation strategies. We have designed the program around these practices and scaffolded the learning so the participants move from basic, low-risk strategies to more complex strategies. It is a 21 hour online course available to all University of Wisconsin-Madison instructors.”*

## **GUEST LECTURES**

April 12, 2023

Guest lecture at UNC Chapel Hill, COMM 850: Critical Disinformation Studies (invited by Prof. Alice Marwick)

February 28, 2023

Guest lecture at UNC Chapel Hill, INLS 776: Ethics, Values, and Society (invited by Prof. Francesca Tripodi)

February 27 & March 1, 2023

Guest lectures at UNC Chapel Hill, MEJO 101: The Media Revolution: From Gutenberg to Zuckerberg and Beyond (invited by Prof. Daniel Kreiss)

April 8, 2021

News consumption, then and now. UW-Madison J561: Mass Communication & Society (invited by Prof. Lucas Graves)

November 20, 2019

Disinformation and its effects. UW-Madison J565: Effects of Mass Media (invited by Jiyoun Suk).

## **SERVICE**

### **Journal manuscript reviewer**

*New Media & Society*

*Digital Journalism*

*Information, Communication & Society*

*Social Media + Society*

*Social Science Computer Review*

*Media, Culture & Society*

*Journalism Studies*

*Mobile Media & Communication*

*Media and Communication*

*International Journal of Communication*

*Sage Open*

*Journal of Digital Social Research*

### **Book proposal reviewer**

*Routledge*

### **Conference reviewer**

Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA)

Annual Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC)

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Mid-Winter Conference

### **Committee member**

Student Competition Chair, International Communication Division, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (2024- )

Search Committee member, Journalism faculty positions, Department of Communication and Journalism, Texas A&M University (Fall 2024)

Award committee member, 2023 Lynda Lee Kaid Top Paper Award, AEJMC Political Communication Division (Spring 2024)

Secretary, International Communication Division, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (2023-2024)

DEI committee member, Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology (CITAMS) section of the American Sociological Association (2022- )

Search Committee member, UNC postdoc position for CITAP's Political and Civic App Division (Fall 2022)

## Newsletter editor

Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology (CITAMS) section of the American Sociological Association (2021-22)

## Organizing experience

October 2023 - AoIR panel: *Using Interpretive Methods to Study Credibility Evaluation of Online Information* (with Natalie-Anne Hall, Pranav Malhotra, and Louise Stahl)

October 2023 – *CITAP Misinformation and Marginalization Symposium* (with Yvonne Eadon, Nanditha Narayanamoorthy, and Qunfang Wu)  
<https://citap.unc.edu/events/symposium-on-misinformation-and-marginalization/>

May 2020 - ICA panel (virtual): *Varieties of Data Activism in Asia: Beyond the Western Perspective* (with Yu Sun, Danbi Yoo, and Fiona Suwana)

## MEDIA COVERAGE

UNC Center for Innovation and Sustainability in Local Media (2023). *Q&A with News Engagement Researcher, Yiping Xia*. <https://www.cislm.org/qa-with-news-engagement-researcher-yiping-xia/>

- Discusses my dissertation work on immigrants' news engagement

ABC News (2022, February). *When disinformation becomes 'racialized'*. <https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/disinformation-racialized/story?id=82400863>

- Discusses Freelon et al 2022 in brief.

ScienMag (2021, July). *On The Internet, Nobody Knows You're A Dog — Or A Fake Russian Twitter Account*. <https://scienmag.com/on-the-internet-nobody-knows-youre-a-dog-or-a-fake-russian-twitter-account/>

- Discusses Zhang et al 2021 in detail.

The Conversation (2021, July). *Silenced in China: the COVID 'truth-tellers' and political dissent*. <https://theconversation.com/silenced-in-china-the-covid-truth-tellers-and-political-dissent-164642>

- Links to Xia 2016.

Nieman Journalism Lab (2021, February). *New research shows how journalists are responding and adapting to "fake news" rhetoric*. [https://www.niemanlab.org/2021/02/new-research-shows-how-journalists-are-responding-and-adapting-to-fake-news-rhetoric/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3ANiemanJournalismLab+%28Nieman+Journalism+Lab%29](https://www.niemanlab.org/2021/02/new-research-shows-how-journalists-are-responding-and-adapting-to-fake-news-rhetoric/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3ANiemanJournalismLab+%28Nieman+Journalism+Lab%29)

- Links to Xia et al 2020.

Nieman Journalism Lab (2020, October). *Journalism faces a crisis in trust. Journalists fall into two very different camps for how to fix it*. <https://www.niemanlab.org/2020/10/journalism-faces-a-crisis-in-trust-journalists-fall-into-two-very-different-camps-for-how-to-fix-it/>



- Discusses Zahay et al 2020 in detail.

Journalism Lab - The Netherlands (2020, October; article in Dutch). *Hoe journalisten aan vertrouwen bouwen*. <https://www.journalismlab.nl/hoe-journalisten-aan-vertrouwen-bouwen/>

- Discusses Zahay et al 2020 in detail.

The Washington Post (2020, August). *Black voters are being targeted in disinformation campaigns, echoing the 2016 Russian playbook*. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2020/08/26/race-divisions-highlighted-disinformation-2016/>

- Discusses Freelon et al 2022 in brief.

The Washington Post (2020, August). *Trump's Black supporters bring attacks from the Internet to convention prime time, in answer to diverse Democratic ticket*. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/black-trump-supporters-republican-convention/2020/08/25/fadeb30e-e600-11ea-970a-64c73a1c2392\\_story.html?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=wp\\_politics](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/black-trump-supporters-republican-convention/2020/08/25/fadeb30e-e600-11ea-970a-64c73a1c2392_story.html?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=wp_politics)

- Links to Freelon et al 2022.

Quartz (2019, December). *How to avoid another Russian-troll misinformation nightmare in 2020*. <https://qz.com/1764746/how-to-avoid-an-election-2020-misinformation-nightmare/>

- Links to Xia et al 2019.

Knight Foundation (2019, December). *Polarization in the Twittersphere: What 86 million tweets reveal about the political makeup of American Twitter users and how they engage with news*. <https://knightfoundation.org/articles/polarization-in-the-twittersphere-what-86-million-tweets-reveal-about-the-political-makeup-of-american-twitter-users-and-how-they-engage-with-news/>

- Discusses Robinson et al 2019 in detail.

Channel 3000 (2019, April). *Team of graduate students at UW-Madison cited in Mueller report*. <https://www.channel3000.com/news/education/team-of-graduate-students-at-uw-madison-cited-in-mueller-report/1072080529>

- Discusses Lukito et al 2018 in detail.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Intern journalist, *Pengpai News (thepaper.cn)*, Shanghai, China  
 Conducted interviews; Wrote current affairs round-ups; Translated and compiled information from foreign sources into reports.  
 01/2015 - 08/2015

Public relations intern, *Weber Shandwick*, Shanghai, China  
 Planned and prepared presentation materials for various projects; Compiled newsletters.  
 05/2014 - 08/2014