

Kai Zeng

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Research Interests

International Relations, Formal Theory and Methodology, Political Economy, Politics of Authoritarian Regimes, Chinese and East Asian Politics

Education

Northwestern University, IL, USA

Ph.D. in Political Science,	2009 (Expected)
M.S., Mathematical Methods in Social Science	2005
M.A., Political Science	2005

Foreign Affairs College, Beijing, China

B.A. with distinction, English and International Studies, Minor in International Economics,	2002
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Dissertation

“Foreign Direct Investment Liberalization and the Political Economy of Authoritarianism”
Committee Members: David Austen-Smith (Chair), Anne Sartori, Victor Shih

Working Papers

- *“Political Effects and Causes of Economic Openness to FDI in Autocracies: Theory and Evidence”*
(under review, job market paper)
- *“A Dynamic Theory of Economic Openness to FDI and Political Instability in Authoritarian Regimes”*
(presented at 2009 APSA annual meeting)

Work In Progress

- *“International Capital Market Volatility and Political Survival of Authoritarian Regimes”*
- *“The Logic of Centralization and Decentralization in China: An Information Theory”*

Grants and Awards

- Graduate Research Fellow
Institute for Policy Research , Northwestern University 2007-Present
- Conference Travel Grants
APSA; ISA; Northwestern University 2008, 2009

- BCICS Graduate Student Summer Research Grant
Center for International and Comparative Studies, Northwestern University 2008
- Summer Research Fellowship, Northwestern University 2002-2006
- University Fellowship, Northwestern University 2002-2003
- International Scholar Fellowship
International Summer Institute, Northwestern University 2002
- Remin Scholarship, Foreign Affairs College 1998-2002
- Awards for Excellent Students, Foreign Affairs College 1998-2002

Conferences

Presentations

- “*A Dynamic Theory of Economic Openness and Political Stability in Autocracies*” Presented at 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association
- “*Economic Openness to FDI and Political Stability in Autocracies: Theory and Evidence*” Presented at the Second Annual Graduate Student Conference On Political Economy, the NYU Alexander Hamilton Center for Political Economy, May 2009
- “*A Dynamic Model of Economic Openness and Political Stability of Authoritarian Regimes*” Presented at 2009 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association
- “*Foreign Direct Investment and Conflict Behaviors Of Authoritarian Regimes*” Presented at 2009 Annual Meeting of International Studies Association
- “*Foreign Direct Investment and the Political Economy of Authoritarianism*” Presented at 2008 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association
- “*Foreign Direct Investment and the Political Economy of Authoritarianism*” Presented at Institute for Policy Research Graduate Fellow Colloquia Series 2008, April 2008
- “*Private Information, Military Threat and Elections in Taiwan*” Presented at 2008 Annual Meeting of International Studies Association
- “*The Political Economy of Authoritarianism under Globalization: Case of China*” Presented at 2008 Annual Meeting of International Studies Association
- “*Forceful Persuasion: A Formal Analysis of China’s Coercive Diplomacy in Cross-Strait Relations*” Presented at 2007 Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association

Participants

- Conflict and Cooperation Conference, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, November 2006; March 2006; March 2009

Related Research Experience

- **Graduate Research Fellow** 2007-Present
 Wesley Skogan Inst. for Policy Research, Northwestern University
 Data mining, coding and analysis of several projects on police and community in Chicago. Development of VBA and C++ programs for data analysis.
- **Research Assistant** Fall, 2006
 Kathleen Thelen Dept. of Political Science, Northwestern University
 Data analysis and plotting on a book project of historical institutionalism
- **Intern Research Assistant** Fall, 2001
 Department of Policy Planning Ministry of Foreign Affairs of P.R. China
 Data collecting and analysis on regional integration of East and Southeast Asia.
- **Intern Research Assistant** Summer, 2001
 Institute of World Economics and Politics Chinese Academy of Social Science
 Conducted research and interviews on a project of Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

Teaching Experience

- **Instructor** Summer 2008
 Introduction to International Relations
- **Teaching Assistant for Ph.D. Courses** 2006-2007
 Statistics and Probability, Econometrics
- **Teaching Assistant for Undergraduate Courses** 2003-2006
 Introduction to IR, International Ethics, World System, Game Theory, Statistics, Positive Political Theory, International Political Economy

Languages

Chinese (native), English (fluent), German (beginner)

Programming Competencies

Maple (advanced)	Matlab (intermediate)
Mathematica (advanced)	R (intermediate)
Visual Basic for Applications (advanced)	SPSS (intermediate)
Stata (advanced)	C++ (intermediate)

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association	Midwest American Political Association
International Studies Association	

References

- **Prof. David Austen-Smith (Chair)**
Peter G. Peterson Professor of Corporate Ethics
Department of Managerial Economics and Decision Sciences
Kellogg School of Management
Northwestern University
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- **Prof. Anne Sartori**
Associate Professor of Political Science
Department of Political Science
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- **Prof. Victor Shih**
Assistant Professor of Political Science
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Northwestern University
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- **Prof. Wesley Skogan**
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