

**JEFFREY WENG**

Ph.D. Candidate  
University of California, Berkeley  
Department of Sociology  
410 Barrows Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
[jeffrey.weng@berkeley.edu](mailto:jeffrey.weng@berkeley.edu)  
+1-609-721-1254

**Education**

Ph.D. in Sociology (expected 2019), University of California, Berkeley.  
Dissertation: *With One Voice: Unifying the Nation through Language Reform in Early Twentieth-Century China* Dissertation committee: John Lie (chair), Mara Loveman, Wen-hsin Yeh, Pamela Crossley  
Advanced to candidacy (August 2014)  
Qualifying examinations passed (May 2014)

M.A. in Sociology (December 2013), University of California, Berkeley.  
Thesis: “The Making of Modern Standard Chinese: A Critique of Bourdieu through the Lens of Language Reform and Nation-Building in Early Twentieth-Century China.”

B.A. in Political Science and International Studies (2008), Yale University

**Research Interests**

Political sociology, nationalism, comparative historical sociology, sociology of language, social theory, China

**Publications***Peer-Reviewed Article*

Jeffrey Weng. 2018. “What is Mandarin? The Social Project of Language Standardization in Early Republican China,” *Journal of Asian Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021911818000487>  
[The top Asian studies journal; acceptance rate 8%.]

*Book Review*

Jeffrey Weng. 2017. “Review of ‘The Rural Modern: Reconstructing the Self and State in Republican China,’ by Kate Merkel-Hess.” *The China Review* 17(3).  
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/44371805>

## Work in Progress

- Jeffrey Weng. “Stop the Presses! Character Simplification in China Under the Nationalists, 1935–1936.” [Revise-and-resubmit to *Modern China*.]
- Jeffrey Weng. “The End of East Asian Cosmopolitanism: Language and Social Change in Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, ca. 1870–1950.” [Submitted to the *Comparative Studies in Society and History*.]
- Jeffrey Weng. “Weber Meets Bourdieu: Explaining the Rise of a National Lingua Franca.” [In progress.]
- Jeffrey Weng. “Spreading the Word: National Language Education in China in the 1920s and 1930s.” [In progress.]

## Conference Presentations

- Jeffrey Weng. 2018. “The Political Economy of Spelling: Character Simplification in China under the Nationalists, 1935–1936.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Section on Comparative Historical Sociology, refereed roundtable. Philadelphia, PA.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2017. “The End of East Asian Linguistic Cosmopolitanism: Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, ca. 1850–1950.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Section on Asia and Asian America, refereed roundtable. Montreal, Canada.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2016. “What is Mandarin? The Invention of a National Standard Language in Early Republican China.” *East Asia as Method: Culture, Knowledge, Space*, Institute of East Asian Studies Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates. Berkeley, CA.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2016. “Language, Class, and Nation: The Rise of a National Lingua Franca and the Problem of Equity.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Comparative-Historical Section, Refereed Roundtable. Seattle, WA.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2016. “What is Mandarin? Nationalism and Linguistic Modernity in Early Twentieth Century China.” *Colloquium Talk*. Nanjing University, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Nanjing, China.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2016. “What is Mandarin? Evolving Notions of Language and Peoplehood in Early Twentieth-Century China.” *Language, Power and Identity in Asia: Creating and Crossing Language Boundaries*, Leiden University, International Institute for Asian Studies. Leiden, Netherlands.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2015. “Linguistic Modernity: The Limits of Ideology and State Power in the Creation of Modern Standard Languages.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Theory Section regular session panel, “Theorizing Inequality.” Chicago, IL.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2015. “Linguistic Modernity: The Limits of Ideology and State Power in the Creation of Modern Standard Languages.” *Junior Theorists Symposium*. Panel, “The State and Globalization.” Chicago, IL.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2015. “Linguistic Modernity: The Limits of Ideology and State Power in the Creation of Modern Standard Languages.” *Social Science History Association Annual Meeting*. Panel, “Fields and Disciplines.” Baltimore, MD.
- Jeffrey Weng. 2014. “Language and Nation-Building in Early Twentieth-Century China: A Critique of Bourdieu.” *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*. Theory Section, refereed roundtable. San Francisco, CA.

## **Fellowships and Grants**

Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 2017–2018  
 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, 2016–2017  
 Finalist, Harvard Academy Scholars Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies (10 finalists chosen from 1,139 applicants), 2016  
 Dr. C.F. Koo and Cecilia Koo Fellowship for Outstanding Graduate Student in East Asian Studies, UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies, 2017  
 Long-Ling Hsiao Chu and Chao Chi Chu Fellowship in Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies, 2017  
 UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies Dissertation Fellowship, 2016–2017  
 Helen Gan and Richard Aston Fellowship, 2015–2016  
 UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates, 2015–2016  
 China Times Cultural Foundation Young Scholars Award, 2015  
 Leo Lowenthal Fellowship, UC Berkeley Department of Sociology, 2015  
 Republic of China East Asian Fellowship, UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies, 2015  
 Taiwanese-American Foundation of Boston University Fellowship, 2015  
 UC Berkeley Center for Chinese Studies Summer Research Grant, 2014  
 UC Berkeley Department of Sociology Small Research Grant, 2013–2014  
 Institute for Humane Studies, Bernard Marcus Fellowship, 2013–2014  
 UC Berkeley Graduate Division Summer Grant, 2013  
 Institute for Humane Studies, Baxter Fellowship, 2012–2013  
 Yale-China Association Teaching Fellowship, 2008–2010

## **Research and Teaching**

Research assistant to Stanley Lubman, UC Berkeley School of Law (2012–2013): Research in Chinese legal studies; translation of Chinese materials into English  
 Graduate student assistant to Faculty Working Group, “Borders, Flows, and Networks: Actors, Knowledge, and Publics in East Asia,” Penelope Edwards, John Lie, Aihwa Ong (convenors), UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies (fall 2013): Assisted with research and record-keeping to facilitate faculty discussions on current research projects in sociology, political science, anthropology, history, English, and ethnic studies  
 Graduate Student Researcher (research assistant) to John Lie (summer 2013): Conducted archival research at the Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley, to investigate the inception of Korean-language instruction in the United States in 1941–1942  
 Graduate student instructor (teaching assistant): “Politics and Social Change (Political Sociology),” Dr. Tiffany Page (fall 2014); “Modern Social Theory,” Professor John Lie (fall 2013); “Introduction to Sociology,” Professor Ann Swidler (fall 2012), Professor Thomas Gold (spring 2013); Dr. Jill Bakehorn (spring 2014)  
 Reader (grading assistant): “Sociology of Culture,” Dr. Jill Bakehorn (spring 2015); “Sociology of Work,” Dr. Linus Huang (spring 2012); “Sociology of Sports,” Dr. Linus Huang (fall 2011)

**Professional Experience**

Co-convenor, Haas Junior Scholars Program for Doctoral Candidates, Institute of East Asian Studies (IEAS), University of California, Berkeley (2015–2016): IEAS-funded biweekly doctoral candidates' writing workshop and conference, "East Asia as Method" (October 7–8, 2016), with 22 presenters (selected from more than 150 applicants), 6 discussants, and 2 invited extramural faculty keynote speakers

Yale-China Teaching Fellow, Hunan University, China (2008–2010): Designed and taught undergraduate courses in history, literature, and English language

Yale-China Service Intern, The Zigen Fund, Beijing and Guizhou, China (2007): Translated and updated bilingual (Chinese/English) publicity materials; designed curriculum and taught classes for Zigen's training program for teachers of English

Research and Translation Intern, Shanghai Yudan, Shanghai, China (2009): Translated (into Chinese) British LGBT antidiscrimination legislation; participated in Yudan's scholarly conference on "Sexual Orientation in the Law and Society," August 2009

Taiwan Tech Trek Intern, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan) (2006): Produced detailed report on revising the English-language version of the Ministry's website; worked with the Chief of the E-Diplomacy Unit of the Department of Information and Cultural Affairs; First Place in the Humanities Award for presentation on internship work at the Taiwan Tech Trek Academic Conference

**Languages**

Mandarin Chinese (advanced fluency); Spanish (advanced)

**Professional Affiliations**

American Sociological Association  
Association for Asian Studies  
Yale-China Association

**References**

John Lie (dissertation chair)  
C.K. Cho Professor  
Department of Sociology  
University of California, Berkeley  
410 Barrows Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
[johnlie@berkeley.edu](mailto:johnlie@berkeley.edu)

Mara Loveman  
Professor and Department Chair  
Department of Sociology  
University of California, Berkeley  
410 Barrows Hall

Berkeley, CA 94720  
[mloveman@berkeley.edu](mailto:mloveman@berkeley.edu)

Wen-hsin Yeh  
Richard H. and Laurie C. Morrison Chair Professor  
Department of History  
University of California, Berkeley  
3229 Dwinelle Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
[sha@berkeley.edu](mailto:sha@berkeley.edu)

Pamela Crossley  
Charles and Elfriede Collis Professor of History  
Professor of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies  
Department of History, 308 Carson Hall 6107  
Dartmouth College  
27 North Main Street  
Hanover, NH 03755  
[crossley@dartmouth.edu](mailto:crossley@dartmouth.edu)