

Rory Truex

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Princeton University
Princeton, NJ 06520

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS **Princeton University**, Princeton, NJ July 2014 - Present
Associate Professor of Politics and International Affairs (with tenure) (July 2023 - Present)
Ralph O. Glendinning University Preceptor (July 2018 - June 2021)
Assistant Professor of Politics and International Affairs (July 2015 - June 2023)
Instructor of Politics and International Affairs (July 2014 - July 2015)

EDUCATION **Yale University**, New Haven, CT 2009-2014
Ph.D., Political Science with University and Departmental Distinction (December 2014)

- Field Certifications: Comparative Politics, Quantitative Methods, Political Economy

M.Phil., Political Science (2012)
M.A., Economics (2012)

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 2003-2007
A.B., Politics *summa cum laude* (2007)

- Certificates in Political Economy and East Asian Studies (Chinese language focus)
- Attended Princeton in Beijing Chinese immersion program at Beijing Normal University (2004)

BOOKS Truex, R. (2016). *Making Autocracy Work: Representation and Responsiveness in Modern China*. Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics Series. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Winner 2017 Leon Epstein Outstanding Book Award (APSA Section Political Organizations and Parties)

ARTICLES Han, Z., Truex, R., & Liu, N. (2025). "Measuring Political attitudes with Word Association." *Public Opinion Quarterly*.

Arceneaux, K. & R. Truex. (2023). "Donald Trump and the Lie." *Perspectives on Politics*: 21(3): 863-879.

Truex, R. (2022). "Political Discontent in China is Associated with Isolating Personality Traits." *The Journal of Politics*: 84(4): 1-16.

Hou, Y. & R. Truex. (2022). "Ethnic Discrimination and Authoritarian Rule: An Analysis of Criminal Sentencing in China." *The Journal of Politics* 84(4): 2294-2299.

Shen, X., & R. Truex (2021). "In Search of Self-censorship." *British Journal of Political Science* 51(4): 1672-1684.

Greitens, S. C. & R. Truex. (2020). "Repressive Experiences in the China Field: New Evidence from Survey Data." *The China Quarterly* 242: 349-375.

Truex, R. (2020). "Authoritarian Gridlock? Haste and Delay in the Chinese Legislative System." *Comparative Political Studies* 53(9): 1455-1492.

Truex, R. & D. L. Tavana. (2019). "Implicit Attitudes toward an Authoritarian Regime." *The Journal of Politics* 81(3): 1014-1027.

Truex, R. (2019). "Focal Points, Dissident Calendars, and Preemptive Repression." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 63(4): 1032-1052.

Truex, R. (2017). "Consultative Authoritarianism and Its Limits." *Comparative Political Studies* 50(3): 329-361.

Truex, R. (2017). "The Myth of the Democratic Advantage." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 52(3): 261-277.

Tai, Q. & R. Truex (2015). "Public Opinion towards Return Migration: A Survey Experiment of Chinese Netizens." *The China Quarterly* 223: 770-786.

Truex, R. (2014). "The Returns to Office in a 'Rubber Stamp' Parliament." *American Political Science Review* 108(2): 235-251.

Truex, R. (2011). "Corruption, Attitudes, and Education: Survey Evidence from Nepal." *World Development* 39(7): 1133-1142.

BOOK
CHAPTERS

Rose-Ackerman, S. & R. Truex (2013). "Corruption and Policy Reform." in B. Lomborg & Copenhagen Consensus (eds), *Global Problems, Smart Solutions: Costs and Benefits*. Cambridge, MA: Cambridge University Press.

Truex, R. & T. Soreide (2011). "Why Multi-stakeholder Groups Succeed and Fail," in S. Rose-Ackerman and T. Soreide (eds), *The International Handbook on the Economics of Corruption: Volume 2*. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing.

BOOK
REVIEWS

Truex, R. (2022). "Review of *Policing China: Street-Level Cops in the Shadow of Protest* by Suzanne E. Scoggins." *Journal of Chinese Political Science* 27: 795-796.

Truex, R. (2020). "Review of *The Art of Political Control in China* by Daniel C. Mattingly." *The China Quarterly* 243: 870-871.

Truex, R. (2018). "Review of *China's Governance Puzzle: Enabling Transparency and Participation in a Single-Party State* by Jonathan R. Stromseth, Edmund J. Malesky and Dimitar D. Gueorguiev." *The China Quarterly* 236: 1214-1216.

Truex, R. (2017). "Review of *Populist Authoritarianism: Chinese Political Culture and Regime Sustainability* by Wenfang Tang." *Perspectives on Politics* 15(2): 617-618.

Truex, R. (2017). "Review of *Information for Autocrats: Representation in Chinese Local Congresses* by Melanie Manion." *The China Journal* 175-176.

WORKING
PAPERS

Truex, R. & A. Dale-Huang (2025). "The End of Exchange: Assessing NSF-Funded China Research." Working Paper. (under review)

Cerny, M. & R. Truex. (2025). "Under Pressure: China Attitudes Among American Foreign Policy Elites." Working Paper. (under review)

Cerny, M. & R. Truex. (2025). "From Altitude to Attitude: Localized Exposure to the 2023 Chinese

Balloon Incident and American Security Attitudes.” Working Paper. (under review)

Arceneaux, K. & R. Truex (2025). “The Life of the Lie: Loyalty Testing in Trump’s Republican Party.” Working Paper.

COMMENTARY

Truex, R. (2024). “Researching China in Hard Times.” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 57(1): 146-148.

Truex, R. (2024). “Let’s All Take a Deep Breath About China.” *The New York Times*.

Truex, R. (2024). “The Anti-China Academic Panic is Hurting America.” *The Hill*.

Truex, R. (2024). “Where Have All the American China Experts Gone?” *The Washington Post*.

Truex, R. (2022). “China’s Blank-Paper Protests Are Only a Beginning.” *The Atlantic*.

Truex, R. (2022). “Hu Jintao’s Exit Was Mysterious. Xi Jinping’s Power Play Is Not.” *The Atlantic*.

Truex, R. (2021). “What the Fear of China is Doing to American Science.” *The Atlantic*.

Gueorguiev, D., X. Lü, K. Ratigan, M. Rithmire, R. Truex. (2020). “How to Teach China this Fall.” *ChinaFile*.

Truex, R. (2020). “China’s Chernobyl Never Seems to Arise.” *The Atlantic*.

Truex, R. (2019). “Colleges Should All Stand Up to China.” *The Atlantic*.

Truex, R. (2018). “China’s National People’s Congress is Meeting This Week. Don’t Expect Checks and Balances.” *Washington Post*, Monkey Cage.

AWARDS

President’s Award for Distinguished Teaching, Princeton University (2021)

Ralph O. Glendinning University Preceptorship, Princeton University (2018)

Stanley Kelley, Jr. Teaching Award, Princeton University Department of Politics (2018)

Leon Epstein Outstanding Book Award, APSA Section on Political Organizations and Parties (2017)

University and Departmental Distinction, Yale University Department of Politics (2014)

Westview Press Award, Midwest Political Science Association (2012)

Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation (2011-2014)

Highest honors (*summa cum laude*), Princeton University (2007)

Phi Beta Kappa Society, Princeton University (2007)

International Service Award, Princeton University (2007)

Shapiro Award for Academic Excellence, Princeton University (2004)

INVITED
PRESENTATIONS

“Under Pressure: China Attitudes Among American Foreign Policy Elites,” University of California San Diego, San Diego, February 2025.

“The Party is Me,” University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, October 2024.

“Under Pressure: China Attitudes Among American Foreign Policy Elites,” UCLA, April 2024.

“Studying China in Hard Times,” Keynote Address, Next Generation China Scholars Conference, University of Toronto, March 2024.

“What We Know About Public Opinion in China,” Syracuse University, September 2023.

“The Party is Me,” Brown University, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, February 2023.

“The Party is Me,” New York University, New York, September 2022.

“Personality and the Party,” University of California San Diego, San Diego, April 2022.

“Chinese Domestic Politics Under Xi Jinping,” Network 20/20, New York, March 2022.

“Charting the Ideological Spectrum and Public Opinion in China,” Stanford Center on China’s Economy and Institutions, Zoom Webinar, February 2022.

“Word Association Tests for Political Science,” Annual Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, July 2021.

“The China Challenge for American Universities,” MIT, Zoom Webinar, May 2021.

“Higher Education and U.S.-China Relations,” National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, New York, May 2021.

“Word Association Tests for Political Science,” Columbia University, New York, April 2021.

“Ethical Dilemmas of the China Scholar,” U.S.-Asia Law Institute, New York University, New York, March 2021.

“New Challenges in Teaching China,” Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Washington DC, February 2021.

“Representation and Responsiveness in Contemporary China,” New York University, New York, October 2019.

“Ethnic Discrimination in Criminal Sentencing in China,” Lehigh University, Bethlehem, October 2019.

“Personality and the Party,” Penn State University, State College, September 2019.

“Ethnic Discrimination in Criminal Sentencing in China,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, September 2019.

“Ethnic Bias in Criminal Sentencing in China,” Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Washington DC, April 2019.

“Dissident,” Yale University, New Haven, February 2019.

“Repressive Experiences in the China Field: New Evidence from Survey Data,” University of Virginia, Charlottesville, October 2018.

“Repressive Experiences in the China Field: New Evidence from Survey Data,” Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, October 2018.

“Repressive Experiences in the China Field: New Evidence from Survey Data,” National Committee on U.S. China Relations, New York, October 2018.

“In Search of Preference Falsification,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, September 2018.

“Implicit Attitudes Towards an Authoritarian Regime,” University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, April 2018.

“How Propaganda Works,” University of California San Diego, San Diego, April 2018.

“Implicit Attitudes Towards an Authoritarian Regime,” Harvard University, Cambridge, February 2018.

“The Psychology of Authoritarian Rule,” University of Southern California, Los Angeles, November 2017.

“Authoritarian Gridlock,” Presented at “Authoritarian Parliaments Workshop,” Oxford University, Oxford, March 2017.

“Authoritarian Gridlock,” Presented at “Citizens and the State: Comparing Mass Politics and Policy in China and Russia,” University of Notre Dame, South Bend, March 2017.

“Authoritarian Gridlock,” University of Chicago, Chicago, February 2017.

“Authoritarian Gridlock,” Temple University, Philadelphia, February 2017.

“Implicit Attitudes Toward an Authoritarian Regime,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, January 2017.

“Chinese, Statistics, and My Academic Career,” Presented at “What Role Has Chinese Played in My Career?”, Princeton in Beijing Program, Princeton, November 2016.

“Focal Points, Dissident Calendars, and Preemptive Repression,” Presented at the “Political Economy of Repression,” Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance, Princeton, November 2016.

“Focal Points, Dissident Calendars, and Preemptive Repression,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, September 2016.

“Authoritarian Gridlock,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2016.

“The Temporal Logic of Repression,” University of Louisville, Louisville, February 2016.

“The Temporal Logic of Repression,” Conflict Consortium Virtual Workshop, February 2016.

“Who Believes the *People’s Daily*? Bias and Credibility in Authoritarian Media,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, September 2015.

“Does China Want Change? Implicit Attitudes Towards an Authoritarian Regime,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2015.

“Who Believes the *People’s Daily*? Bias and Credibility in Authoritarian Media,” University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, April 2015.

“The China Field: Challenges and Opportunities,” MIT, Cambridge, March 2015.

“Who Believes the *People’s Daily*? Bias and Credibility in Authoritarian Media,” Duke University, Durham, January 2015.

“Who Believes the *People’s Daily*? Bias and Credibility in Authoritarian Media,” EAS Colloquium, Princeton University, Princeton, November 2014.

“Consultative Authoritarianism and Its Limits,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., September 2014.

“Representation and Accountability in China’s National People’s Congress,” Tsinghua University, Beijing, June 2014.

“Representation Within Bounds,” Job talk at Princeton University, Princeton, November 2013.

“Representation Within Bounds,” Job talk at Emory University, Atlanta, November 2013.

“Representation Within Bounds,” Practice job talk at UC Berkeley, Berkeley, October 2013.

“Representation Within Bounds,” Practice job talk at Stanford University, Palo Alto, October 2013.

“Representation Within Bounds: Preference Congruence in an Authoritarian Parliament,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, August 2013.

“The Returns to Office in a “Rubber Stamp” Parliament,” Presented at the New Faces in China Studies Conference at Duke University, Durham, May 2013.

“Representation by Design: Preference Congruence in an Authoritarian Parliament,” Presented at the Comparative Politics Workshop at Yale University, New Haven, December 2012.

“Does China’s National People’s Congress Matter? The Returns to Office in an Authoritarian Parliament,” Presented at the Alexander Hamilton Center Graduate Student Conference in Political Economy at New York University, New York, May 2012.

“Cooptation or Specialization? Politics and Policy in China’s Highest Congress,” Presented at the Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2012.

“Understanding the New China,” Invited Panelist, McDougal Graduate Student Center Current Events Series, New Haven, April 2012.

“Cooptation or Specialization? Politics and Policy in China’s Highest Congress,” Presented at the Social Science Workshop on Contemporary China at Yale University, New Haven, January 2012.

“Why Multi-stakeholder Groups Succeed and Fail,” Presented at the Economics of Anti-corruption

Policy Conference at Yale Law School, New Haven, September 2010.

OTHER
PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE

The Civic Forum, Philadelphia 2025-Present

Founder and Host

- Created new speaker series and podcast to educate Americans about democratic backsliding; Recorded 20 episodes in first season, yielding 22,000 episode views.

National Committee on U.S. China Relations, New York, NY 2017 - 2019

Participant, Public Intellectual Program (PIP)

- Attended government/media workshops in Washington, D.C., Beijing, and San Francisco

The World Bank, Washington, DC May - August 2010

Consultant, Sustainable Development Network

Bain & Company, Inc., New York, NY 2007 - 2009

Associate Consultant

- Received top performance rating: “frequently exceeds expectations”
- Managed client portfolio for Bain New York branch of non-profit consulting organization

Princeton in Asia, Jishou, China 2005 - 2007

Summer of Service Program Founder and Director, PiA Trustee

- Founded and directed new summer English immersion program at university in rural China

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE

- Reviewer for *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Cambridge University Press*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Comparative Politics*, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, *International Organization*, *International Security*, *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *Journal of Legislative Studies*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Party Politics*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Politics & Gender*, *Princeton University Press*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *Stanford University Press*, *The China Journal*, *The China Quarterly*, *World Politics*
- MPSA Annual Conference Chinese Politics Division Chair (2020)
- APSA Annual Conference Political Economy Division Chair (2018)
- Associate Editor for *World Politics* (2015-Present)
- Editorial Committee for *World Politics* (2024-Present)
- Executive Committee for Princeton’s Bobst Center (2024-Present)
- Director of PIIRS Undergraduate Fellowship Program (2024-Present)
- Member of School of Public and International Affairs Faculty Govern. Committee (2024-Present)
- Chair of International Committee for School of Public and International Affairs (2023-2024)
- Member of Princeton University Committee on Committees (2020-2024)
- Member of Princeton University Institutional Review Board (2021-2024)
- Member of Princeton University Outdoor Action Strategic Planning Committee (2018-2019)
- Fellowships Advisor for Princeton University Schwarzman Scholars applicants (2017-2019, 2022)
- Organizer of Chinese Politics Virtual Workshop (2016-2018)
- Co-organizer of APSA Chinese Politics Mini-conference (2016)
- Member of Princeton in Beijing Board of Trustees (2024-Present)
- Member of Princeton in Asia Board of Trustees (2010-2014)
- Mentor through Philadelphia Futures program (2016-2019)

TEACHING/
ADVISING

Courses

POL 362 / SPI 323 / EAS 362 - Chinese Politics

- Fall 2024 (75 students enrolled, 4.57/5.00 evaluation)

- Fall 2022 (87 students enrolled, 4.64/5.00 evaluation)
- Spring 2021 (100 students enrolled, 4.85/5.00 evaluation)
- Fall 2018 (171 students enrolled, 4.70/5.00 evaluation)
- Fall 2017 (115 students enrolled, 4.71/5.00 evaluation)
- Fall 2015 (63 students enrolled, 4.53/5.00 evaluation)
- Spring 2015 (23 students enrolled, 4.67/5.00 evaluation)

FRS 162 - Human Rights in China

- Spring 2016 (6 students enrolled, 4.80/5.00 evaluation)

SPI 571D - Topics in Development: Chinese Politics

- Fall 2022 (8 students enrolled, 5.00/5.00 evaluation)

SPI 593D - The China Model

- Spring 2025 (14 students enrolled, 4.73/5.00 evaluation)
- Spring 2021 (8 students enrolled, 4.83/5.00 evaluation)
- Fall 2018 (17 students enrolled, 4.87/5.00 evaluation)

POL 521 - The Study of Comparative Politics

- Fall 2025 (14 students enrolled, 4.75/5.00)

POL 528 - Comparative Politics: Institutions

- Fall 2025 (22 students enrolled, 4.36/5.00 evaluation)

POL 527 - Authoritarian Politics

- Fall 2021 (19 students enrolled, 4.82/5.00 evaluation)
- Fall 2017 (8 students enrolled, 5.00/5.00 evaluation)

POL 981 - Junior Workshop

- Fall 2014
- Fall 2019

Comparative Politics Graduate Research Seminar

- Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2021, Spring 2022

Advising

Ph.D. Students (expected defense year, * indicates role of Chair)

- Jamie Gruffyd-Jones (2017), Nhung Bui (2018), Sharan Grewal (2018), Sanata Sy-Sahande (2019), Audrye Wong (2019), Meir Alkon (2019), Erik H. Wang (2020), Killian Clarke (2020), Harris Doshay* (2020), Daniel Tavana (2021), Carolyn Barnett (2022), Haosen Ge (2022), Fin Bauer* (2022), Xiaoxiao Shen* (2023), Tiffany Barron (2023), Jacob Tucker (2025), Tiffany Simon (2025), Ze Han (2025), Greg Amusu (2026), Yutian An* (2026), Nancy Tang* (2026), Shourya Sen (2026), Yingjie Fan* (2026), Elizabeth Bachman (2027), Merlin Boone (2027), Alexis Dale-Huang* (2028), Lingyun Zhang* (2028)

Senior Thesis Students (* indicates winner of departmental thesis prize)

- Maria Katarina Rafael (2015), Wendy Li (2015), Sherry Wu* (2015), Casey Ward (2015), Mitchell Kilborn* (2016), Jenny Zhou (2016), Lillian Xu* (2016), Kelsey Dennison (2016), Oscar Guardado (2018), Shobhit Kumar (2018), Aspen Wang (2018), Amanda Morrison* (2019), Matthew Parodi (2019), Esham Macauley (2019), Austin Berman* (2019), Kiara Rodriguez Gallego (2019), Noah Agarwal (2021), Margaret Baughman* (2021), Sophie Li* (2021), Nikhita Salgame* (2021), Kamya Yadav (2021), Owen Matthews (2022), Amy Wang (2022), Alan Lin (2022), Grace Xu (2022), Rebecca Han (2022)*, Kate Gross-Whitaker (2023), Dillion Gallagher (2023), Alex Cherry

(2023), Zoe San Martin (2024), Vincent Jiang (2025))* , Sophia Chang (2025), Artemisia Matera (2026), Simon Xiao (2026), Mia Brown (2026)