

# GARY LEUNG

*Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science, Yale University*

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## EDUCATION

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|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Expected 2027 | <b>Ph.D. in Political Science</b>                                                                  | Yale University · New Haven, CT                 |
|               | – Committee: Jennifer Gandhi, Daniel Mattingly, Nicholas Sambanis (chair)                          |                                                 |
|               | – Certifications: Comparative Politics, Political Economy, Quantitative Methods (with Distinction) |                                                 |
| 2021          | <b>M.A. in East Asian Studies</b>                                                                  | Yale University · New Haven, CT                 |
| 2019          | <b>B.S.Sc. in Government and Public Administration</b>                                             | The Chinese University of Hong Kong · Hong Kong |
|               | – First Class Honours                                                                              |                                                 |
|               | – Minors: Statistics and Philosophy                                                                |                                                 |

## RESEARCH

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### *Job Market Paper*

#### “State versus Cultural Nationalism and the Legitimacy–Unity Trade-off: Evidence from China”

*Abstract.* When does nationalism strengthen authoritarian rule, and at what cost? State nationalism defines the nation through political institutions and territorial boundaries rather than shared culture. I argue that it creates a legitimacy–unity trade-off: it increases perceived regime legitimacy and support for ethnic minority accommodation, but weakens national identification among regime opponents, for whom dissatisfaction with the regime spills over into disidentification from the nation. I test this argument through two online experiments alongside a large-scale laboratory experiment in mainland China and Hong Kong, using a novel compare-and-argue self-persuasion design that generates exogenous variation in conceptions of the nation. In mainland China, state nationalism raises regime legitimacy and, under external threat, support for minority accommodation. In Hong Kong, state nationalism amplified how repression-related news and government dissatisfaction weakened national identification. The findings suggest that nationalism in autocracies can secure loyalty to the regime at the expense of attachment to the nation.

### *Working Papers (Draft available upon request)*

“The Feedback Effects of Failed Nation-Building: Experimental Evidence from China” (*Under Review*)

“Victimhood Complements Victory” (*Under Review*)

“Self-Persuasion as Experimental Belief Manipulation: A Compare-and-Argue Method”

“What Does It Mean to Be Chinese? Inclusive Nationalism in a Resilient Authoritarian Regime”

## AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

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|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2025 | Council on East Asian Studies Field Research Grant, <i>Yale University</i>       |
| 2025 | Hayek Fund, <i>Institute for Humane Studies</i>                                  |
| 2025 | MacMillan International Dissertation Research Fellowship, <i>Yale University</i> |
| 2024 | MacMillan Center Pre-Dissertation Research Grant, <i>Yale University</i>         |
| 2023 | CEAS Summer Travel & Research Grant, <i>Yale University</i>                      |

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| 2023 | Leitner Program in International and Comparative Political Economy Grant, <i>Yale University</i> |
| 2022 | CEAS Summer Travel & Research Grant, <i>Yale University</i>                                      |
| 2020 | University Fellowship (M.A.), <i>Yale University</i>                                             |
| 2019 | Professor Jih-wen Lin Memorial Scholarship, <i>Academia Sinica</i>                               |

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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|      |                                                                                   |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2026 | American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (APSA) ( <i>scheduled</i> ) |
| 2026 | Asia-Pacific Politics and Public Administration Conference                        |
| 2025 | Japanese Society for Quantitative Political Science, Winter Meeting               |
| 2024 | American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (APSA)                      |
| 2024 | Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science ( <i>poster</i> )  |
| 2024 | Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (MPSA)                       |
| 2024 | Workshop on Political Psychology in East Asia                                     |
| 2023 | Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (MPSA)                       |
| 2023 | When Hong Kong Studies Go Global Academic Conference                              |
| 2019 | International Studies Association Asia-Pacific Conference                         |

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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*Yale University*

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|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fall 2026   | <b>Comparative Politics: States, Regimes, and Conflict</b> PLSC 1413 · Undergraduate<br><i>Teaching Fellow</i> ( <i>scheduled</i> ) |
| Spring 2025 | <b>Design and Analysis of Experiments in Political Science</b> PLSC 512 · Ph.D.<br><i>Teaching Fellow</i>                           |
| Fall 2024   | <b>Visualization of Political and Social Data</b> PLSC 349 · Undergraduate<br><i>Teaching Fellow</i>                                |
| Spring 2024 | <b>Theory and Practice of Quantitative Methods</b> PLSC 503 · Ph.D.<br><i>Teaching Fellow</i>                                       |
| Fall 2022   | <b>Game Theory and Political Science</b> PLSC 344 · Undergraduate<br><i>Teaching Fellow</i>                                         |