

# Yiwen Wang

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Central Florida  
2023-2025 Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Sociology, Rice University

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology with Demography Specialization, University of Texas at Austin, 2023  
Dissertation: Same-Sex Relationships and Health: How Gender, Stress, and Relationship Dynamics Shape Health Over Time  
Committee: Debra Umberson, Kelly Raley, Mark Hayward, Daniel Powers, Diane Coffey, and Hui Liu (Purdue University)

M.A. Demography, Renmin University of China, 2017

B.A. Sociology (with Distinction), Minzu University of China, 2015

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## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Medical Sociology	Family Demography	Gender and Sexuality
Aging and the Life Course	Quantitative Methodology	Race and Ethnicity

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## PUBLICATIONS

10. **Wang, Yiwen.** Forthcoming. "End-of-Life Planning in Aging Same-Sex and Different-Sex Married Couples." *Research on Aging*.
9. **Wang, Yiwen**, and Hui Liu. 2025. "[Marital Quality and Daily Memory Among Aging Same-Sex and Different-Sex Couples.](#)" *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*. - 2025 Editor's Choice
8. **Wang, Yiwen**, Hye Won Chai, Debra Umberson, and Sara Mernitz. 2025. "[The Gendered Sexual Experiences and Marital Quality of Middle-Aged Same-Sex and Different-Sex Couples.](#)" *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 54(4), 1427-1440.
7. Coffey, Diane, **Yiwen Wang**, and Aashish Gupta. 2025. "[A Gender Gap in Happiness: Documenting a Puzzle from Indian Survey Data.](#)" *Asian Population Studies*, 1-16.
6. **Wang, Yiwen.** 2024. "[Who's Worried? Memory, Worries About Dementia, and Marital Strain in Midlife Same- and Different-Sex Marriages: A Dyadic Perspective.](#)" *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*, 79(8).
5. **Wang, Yiwen**, and Hui Liu. 2024. "[A National Longitudinal Study of Same-Sex Partnership and Self-Rated Health Trajectories.](#)" *Annals of LGBTQ Public and Population Health*.
4. **Wang, Yiwen**, and Debra Umberson. 2023. "[Dyadic Coping and Marital Quality in Same-Sex and](#)

Different-Sex Marriages.” *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 40(3), 996–1017.

- Featured (selected): [Salon](#), [UT News](#), [23ABC News Bakersfield](#), [Advocate](#), [Gay Times](#), [IFLScience](#), [Tech Explorist](#), [Press Release](#)

3. **Wang, Yiwen**. 2022. “[Marital Stress, Childhood Adversity, and Emotion Work in Same-Sex and Different-Sex Marriages](#).” *Journal of Family Studies*, 29(4), 1666-1686.
2. **Wang, Yiwen**. 2022. “[Self-Rated Health Changes of Individuals in Same-Sex Compared to Different-Sex Relationships: A Longitudinal Study](#).” *BMC Public Health*, 22(1), 862.
1. Duan, Chengrong, Rui Xiao, and **Yiwen Wang**. 2016. “[Changing Patterns of Ethnic Minority Migrant Populations in China](#)”, *Fujian Tribune* (ISSN:1672-6847) 2016(6): 104-108. *In Chinese*.

### **PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS**

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4. **Wang, Yiwen**, and Hui Liu. 2025. “[Sexual Orientation and Health Behavior](#).” Pp. 251-265 in the *Handbook of Social Epidemiology*, edited by T. Hill, T. Chandola, and G. Garcia-Alexander. Berlin, Germany: De Gruyter.
3. Chai, Hye Won, **Yiwen Wang**, Sara E. Mernitz, Daniel A. Powers, and Debra J. Umberson. 2025. “[Correlates of Longitudinal Change in Sexual Motives Among Same-Sex and Different-Sex Couples in Mid to Later Life](#).” In *Second International Handbook on the Demography of Sexuality* (pp. 239-262). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
2. **Wang, Yiwen**, and Debra J. Umberson. 2024. “[Long-Term Same-Sex Couples](#).” In *The Sage Encyclopedia of LGBTQ+ Studies*, 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks: SAGE Publications, Inc.
1. **Wang, Yiwen**, and Daniel A. Powers. 2020. “[Conditional Logit Model](#).” In *Sage Research Methods Foundations*, edited by Paul Atkinson, Sara Delamont, Alexandru Cernat, Joseph W. Sakshaug, and Richard A. Williams. London: SAGE Publications Ltd.

### **MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW**

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4. **Wang, Yiwen**. Katie Alexander, Caroline Wolski, Bridget Gorman, and Rachel Kimbro. “[Keys to the Future: How Gender and Sexuality Jointly Shape Parental Financial Support for Home Ownership](#).”
3. **Wang, Yiwen**. “[Dyadic Associations Between Daily Stress and Cognition Among Aging Same-Sex and Different-Sex Married Couples](#).” Invited manuscript at *LGBTQ+ Family: An Interdisciplinary Journal*.
2. **Wang, Yiwen**. “[Union Formation and Dissolution and Health Changes of Sexual Minorities: Does Sex Composition of the Union Matter?](#)”
1. Umberson, Debra, Hye Won Chai, **Yiwen Wang**, and Sara Mernitz. “[How Spouses Influence Each Other’s Health Habits: A Longitudinal Analysis of Same- and Different-sex Couples](#).” Invited manuscript at *Research on Aging*.

### **MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS**

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4. “[Needs and Receipt of Financial Assistance in Early Adulthood: Types and Sources of Support](#).”

3. "Sexual Orientation and Cognitive Function in Young Adulthood."
2. "Minority Stress, Social Support, and Loneliness in Three Cohorts of Sexual Minority Adults."
1. "Changes in Depressive Symptoms and Marital Quality Among Aging Same-Sex and Different-Sex Married Couples."

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## **EXTERNAL GRANTS**

**Principal Investigator.** "Stress, Partnership, and Cognition of Aging Sexual Minority Adults."

National Institute on Aging, Pilot Project Program sponsored by the Center on Aging and Population Sciences (P30AG066614), 7/1/24-6/30/25 (\$40,000).

**Consultant.** "Spousal Influence on Health in Same- and Different-Sex Marriages: A Dyadic and Longitudinal Assessment from Mid to Later Life." National Institute on Aging, R37AG076057 (Debra Umberson, PI).

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## **ACADEMIC TEACHING AND MENTORING**

<b>Instructor</b> , SYD 4020: Birth, Death, & Population Trends, UCF	2026
<b>Instructor</b> , SYO 4400: Medical Sociology, UCF	2025-2026
<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , SOC 365J: Social Ties and Health, UT Austin	2024
<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , SOC 3023: Aging in Society, UT San Antonio	2022
<b>Certificate in Advanced Teaching</b> , UT Austin	2021
<b>Undergraduate Honors Thesis Co-mentor</b> , UT Austin	2020
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , SOC 366: Deviant Behavior & Social Control, UT Austin	2019
<b>Lab Instructor</b> , SOC 317M: Introduction to Social Research Methods, UT Austin	2018
<b>First Year Graduate Student Mentor</b> , UT Austin	2018-2019

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## **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

### **Invited Scholarly Talks**

"Exploring the HARP Data: Marital and Health Dynamics Across Time in Sexual Minority and Heterosexual Couples." Center on Aging and Population Sciences. University of Texas at Austin. 2026.  
 "Gender, Relationship Dynamics, and Health in Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Marriages." Department of Sociology. University of Colorado Boulder. 2024.

### **Conference Presentations**

23. **Yiwen Wang**. 2025. "End-of-Life Planning in Aging Couples: A Comparison of Gay, Lesbian, and Heterosexual Marriages." Gerontological Society of America's Annual Scientific Meeting.
22. **Yiwen Wang**, Katie Alexander, Caroline Wolski, Bridget Gorman, and Rachel Kimbro. 2025. "Keys to the Future: How Gender and Sexuality Jointly Shape Parental Financial Support for Home Ownership." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.
21. **Yiwen Wang**, Katie Alexander, Caroline Wolski, Bridget Gorman, and Rachel Kimbro. 2025. "Keys to the Future: How Gender and Sexuality Jointly Shape Parental Financial Support for

Home Ownership.” Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

20. **Yiwen Wang**. 2024. “Daily Stress and Cognition of Aging Same-Sex and Different-Sex Couples”. Annual TEXPOP conference.

19. Jaime Hsu, **Yiwen Wang**, and Sara Mernitz. 2024. “Changes in Depressive Symptoms and Marital Quality Among Aging Same-Sex and Different-Sex Married Couples.” Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

18. Debra Umberson, Hye Won Chai, **Yiwen Wang**, and Sara Mernitz. 2024. “Social Control of Health Habits: A Longitudinal Analysis of Same- and Different-sex Marital Dyads.” Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

17. **Yiwen Wang**. 2023. “Memory, Concern about Dementia, and Marital Quality in Midlife Same- and Different-Sex Marriages”. The Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting.

16. **Yiwen Wang**, Hye Won Chai, Debra Umberson, Sara Mernitz. 2023. “The Gendered Sexual Experiences and Marital Quality of Middle-Aged Same-Sex and Different-Sex Couples.” The Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Annual Meeting.

15. **Yiwen Wang**. 2023. “Stress, Marital Quality, and Cognition in Midlife Same- and Different-Sex Marriages: A Longitudinal Dyadic Perspective.” Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

14. Debra Umberson, **Yiwen Wang**, and Hye Won Chai. 2023. “Life Course Change in Sexual Experiences: A Comparison of Midlife Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Couples.” Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

13. **Yiwen Wang** and Hui Liu. 2022. “Same-Sex Cohabitation and Changes in Self-Rated Health: A National Longitudinal Analysis Using 1996-2008 SIPP.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

12. **Yiwen Wang** and Debra Umberson. 2022. “Dyadic Coping and Marital Quality in Same-Sex and Different-Sex Marriages.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

11. **Yiwen Wang**. 2022. “Sexual Minority Status and Cognitive Health in Adulthood.” 2022 Add Health Users Conference.

10. **Yiwen Wang**. 2022. “Union Formation and Dissolution and Health Changes of Sexual Minorities: Does Sex Composition of the Union Matter?” Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

9. **Yiwen Wang**. 2021. “Dyadic Coping and Marital Quality in Same-Sex and Different-Sex Marriages.” National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference.

8. **Yiwen Wang**. 2021. “Change in Health Over Time: Same-Sex Compared to Different-Sex Couples.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

7. **Yiwen Wang**. 2021. “A Longitudinal Analysis of Self-rated Health of Same-Sex Couples: Evidence from the Survey of Income and Program Participation.” Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

6. **Yiwen Wang** and Hui Liu. 2021. “Same-Sex Cohabitation and Changes in Self-Rated Health: A National Longitudinal Analysis Using 1996-2008 SIPP.” Southern Demographic Association Annual Meeting.

5. **Yiwen Wang.** 2020. "Dyadic Stress Coping and Marital Quality in Same-Sex and Different-Sex Marriages." Canadian Population Society Annual Meeting, [cancelled due to Covid-19]
4. **Yiwen Wang.** 2020. "Childhood Adversity, Marital Stress, and Emotion Work in Same-Sex and Different-Sex Marriages." Population Association of America Annual Meeting. [cancelled due to Covid-19]
3. **Yiwen Wang** and Kelly Raley. 2019. "Household Instability and High School Dropout Risk." Population Association of America Annual Meeting.
2. **Yiwen Wang.** 2016. "Will hypogamy lead to lower well-being? An Empirical Study based on CGSS Data." Population Association of China Annual Meeting.
1. **Yiwen Wang.** 2016. "Family Socioeconomic Status and Depression among College Students in China: The Mediating Effects of Self-efficacy and Interpersonal Relationships." 2016 National Symposium on Population Health.

### **COMPETITIVE FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Travel Scholarship, Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science	2022
Conference Travel Award, Life Course Center, University of Minnesota	2022
Travel Award, Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	2022
Professional Development Awards, University of Texas at Austin	2022
Excellence Award, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin	2021
Sociology Fellowship, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin	2019-2022
Summer Research Grant, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin	2018-2019
Travel Award, Department of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin	2018-2019
Distinguished Postgraduate Scholarship, Renmin University of China	2015-2016
Outstanding Graduate of Beijing, The Education Commission of Beijing	2015
Fei Xiaotong Scholarship, China University Alumni Association	2014-2015
Excellent Graduation Thesis Award, Minzu University of China	2015
First Grade Scholarship, Minzu University of China	2014-2015
Globalink Research Internship Award, Chinese Scholarship Council & MITACS	2014
National Scholarship, Ministry of Education of P. R. China	2012-2013

### **ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

<b>Relationships and Health: Comparing Union Types</b>	2019-2023
Research Assistant, Population Research Center, UT Austin	
PI: Dr. Debra Umberson, Department of Sociology and Population Research Center, UT Austin	
<b>Black-White Differences in Life Course Exposure to Death: Consequences for Health</b>	
Research Assistant, Population Research Center, UT Austin	2019-2023
PI: Dr. Debra Umberson, Department of Sociology and Population Research Center, UT Austin	
<b>SIPP Longitudinal Households Project</b>	
Research Assistant, Population Research Center, UT Austin	2017-2019

PI: Dr. Kelly Raley, Department of Sociology and Population Research Center, UT Austin

**Analysis of the Left-behind Children in China Using 1% National Population Sample Survey**

Research Assistant, National Bureau Statistics of China

2016-2017

Advisor: Dr. Chengrong Duan, Department of Demography, Renmin University of China

**Ethnic Minority Population in China**

Research Assistant, Center for Population and Development Studies

2015-2017

Advisor: Dr. Chengrong Duan, Department of Demography, Renmin University of China

**Mental and Physical Health of Skilled Immigrants Working in the Service Sector in Ontario, Canada**

Research Intern, Department of Geography, Queen's University Canada

2014

Advisor: Dr. Mark Rosenberg, Queen's University Canada

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**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**Editorial Board**

*Demography* (2019-2022)

**Ad-hoc Reviewer**

*Journal of Health and Social Behavior; Journal of Marriage and Family; Society and Mental Health; The Gerontologist; Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences; Journal of Social and Personal Relationships; Research on Aging; International Journal of Comparative Sociology; Journal of Family Studies; Journal of Family Theory & Review; Journal of Alzheimer's Disease; Ageing & Society; Health & Social Care in the Community; PLOS ONE; BMC Women's Health; npj Women's Health; Scientific Reports*

**Professional Activities**

Committee Member, BSS Annual Scientific Meeting Program Panel. The Gerontological Society of America. 2026-2027.

Session Chair, *Policy and Contextual Effects on Sexual and Gender Minority Well-being*. Population Association of America. Washington, D.C. 2025.

Session Discussant, *Policy and Contextual Effects on Sexual and Gender Minority Well-being*. Population Association of America. Washington, D.C. 2025.

Abstract Reviewer, Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science Conference. 2022 & 2024.

Poster Judge, Social Sciences Research + Creative Symposium. Houston. 2024.

**Professional Affiliations**

Population Association of America (PAA); American Sociological Association (ASA); Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science (IAPHS); The Gerontological Society of America (GSA); International Sociological Association (ISA); Southern Demographic Association (SDA); Asian Population Association (APA); National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)

**Other Services**

The Bernard & Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice Affiliate, UT-Austin; The Williams Institute Volunteer, UCLA School of Law; Beijing LGBT Center Volunteer.

**PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**


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Population Aging and Intergenerational Relationships, Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics (Barcelona)	2025
Queer Demography Workshop, Population Association of America (DC)	2024
NIH Grant Proposal Preparation Program, Center on Aging and Population Sciences (UT Austin)	2024
IPUMS Data-Intensive Research Workshop, University of Minnesota Twin Cities	2022
Bayesian Statistics, UT Summer Statistics Institute	2018
Missing Data Workshop, Department of Statistics and Data Sciences (UT Austin)	2018
Advanced Quantitative Methodology, University of Michigan-Peking University Joint Institute	2017

**REFERENCES**


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Debra Umberson, PhD Department of Sociology University of Texas at Austin umberson@austin.utexas.edu +1 512-232-6330	Kelly Raley, PhD Department of Sociology University of Texas at Austin kelly.raley@austin.utexas.edu +1 512-232-6333	Mark Hayward, PhD Department of Sociology University of Texas at Austin mhayward@prc.utexas.edu +1 512-471-8382
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