Stanford



Xueguang Zhou

Kwoh-Ting Li Professor of Economic Development and Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies

Sociology

Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

Xueguang Zhou is the Kwoh-Ting Li Professor in Economic Development, a professor of sociology, and a senior fellow at Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. His main area of research is on institutional changes in contemporary Chinese society, focusing on Chinese organizations and management, social inequality, and state-society relationships.

One of Zhou's current research projects is a study of the rise of the bureaucratic state in China. He works with students and colleagues to conduct participatory observations of government behaviors in the areas of environmental regulation enforcement, in policy implementation, in bureaucratic bargaining, and in incentive designs. He also studies patterns of career mobility and personnel flow among different government offices to understand intra-organizational relationships in the Chinese bureaucracy.

Another ongoing project is an ethnographic study of rural governance in China. Zhou adopts a microscopic approach to understand how peasants, village cadres, and local governments encounter and search for solutions to emerging problems and challenges in their everyday lives, and how institutions are created, reinforced, altered, and recombined in response to these problems. Research topics are related to the making of markets, village elections, and local government behaviors.

His recent publications examine modes of governance in the Chinese bureaucracy (Journal of Sociological Research, 2012, with Hong Lian), the relationship between the central authority and the Chinese bureaucracy (Open Times, 2013), and the processes of muddling through in policy implementation (the China Journal, 2013, with Hong Lian, Leonard Ortolano and Yinyu Ye); and the development of agricultural markets in China (China Quarterly, forthcoming, with Yun Ai). He has recently completed a book manuscript "The Institutional Logic of Governance in China: An Organizational Approach" (in Chinese, ##### The Commercial Press, forthcoming).

Before joining Stanford in 2006, Zhou taught at Cornell University, Duke University, and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He is a guest professor at Peking University, Tsinghua University, and the People's University of China. Zhou received his PhD in sociology from Stanford University in 1991.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, Sociology
- Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Fellow, Center for Advanced Studies in Behavioral Science (2008-09)
- Guest Professorship, Department of Sociology, Tsinghua University, Beijing University, & the People's University of China
- Research Grants, National Science Foundation, Citicorp Social Science Research Council, Chiang King-Kao Foundation
- Research Grant, ASA/NSF Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline
- Spencer Fellowship, Spencer Foundation (1993-94)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Member, Academic Advisory Committee, Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica (2004 - present)
- Member, Academic Advisory Committee, Institute of American Studies, Academia Sinica (2004 - 2007)
- Member, Editorial board, Modern China (2009 - present)
- Member, Editorial board, Academy of Management Review (2004 - 2010)
- Member, Editorial board, Administrative Science Quarterly (1997 - 2012)
- Member, Editorial board, Management and Organization Review (2004 - 2009)
- Member, Editorial board, China Review (2000 - present)
- Member, Advisory board, Urban China Research Network, SUNY-Albany (2002 - present)
- Member, Editorial board, American Sociological Review (1997 - 2000)
- Member, Consulting editorial board, American Journal of Sociology (1997 - 1999)
- Member, Board of Directors, North American Chinese Sociologist Association (1997 - 2000)
- Senior associate editor, Management and Organization Review (2013 - present)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Center for East Asian Studies

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Stanford University , Sociology (1991)
- M.A., Sociology , Stanford University (1985)
- B.A., Fundan University, P.R. China (1982)

LINKS

- Stanford University Faculty Webpage: https://web.stanford.edu/~xgzhou/
- FSI Page: http://fsi.stanford.edu/people/xueguang_zhou/

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Institutional changes in contemporary Chinese society.

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Core Seminar: Debates and Methods in East Asian Studies: EASTASN 330 (Aut)

- Formal Organizations: SOC 160, SOC 260 (Aut)
- Workshop: Economy and Society: SOC 315W (Aut, Win, Spr)

2025-26

- Core Seminar: Debates and Methods in East Asian Studies: EASTASN 330 (Aut)
- Workshop: Economy and Society: SOC 315W (Aut, Win, Spr)

2024-25

- Core Seminar: Debates and Methods in East Asian Studies: EASTASN 330 (Aut)
- The Logic of Governance in Contemporary China: INTLPOL 224C (Spr)
- The Logic of Governance in Contemporary China: OSPBEIJ 45 (Spr)
- Workshop: Economic Sociology and Organizations: SOC 315W (Win)

2023-24

- The Logic of Governance in Contemporary China: INTLPOL 224C, SOC 116, SOC 216 (Spr)
- Workshop: Economic Sociology and Organizations: SOC 315W (Win, Spr)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Postdoctoral Faculty Sponsor

Xiaoyu Gao

Orals Evaluator

Alek Sigley

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Yuze Sui

Doctoral (Program)

Tianhao Hou, Yuze Sui

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Class and the Communist Party of China, 1978-2021: Reform and Market Socialism (Book Review)** *CHINA JOURNAL*
  Book Review Authored by: Zhou, X.
  2023: 165-+
- **Sponsorship as a double-edged sword: Political contingency and mobility dynamics in the Chinese bureaucracy.** *Social science research*
  Lu, Q., Zhou, X.
  2023; 110: 102847
- **Chinese Bureaucracy Through Three Lenses: Weberian, Confucian, and Marchian** *MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION REVIEW*
  Zhou, X.
  2021; 17 (4): 655-682
- **Modes of Governance in the Chinese Bureaucracy: A "Control Rights" Theory** *CHINA JOURNAL*
  Zhou, X., Lian, H.
  2020; 84 (1): 51–75
- **Organizational Response to COVID-19 Crisis: Reflections on the Chinese Bureaucracy and Its Resilience** *MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION REVIEW*
  Zhou, X.

2020; 16 (3): 473–84

- **Jim March and the Community of Research on Chinese Organizations** *MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION REVIEW*
  Zhou, X.
  2019; 15 (4): 901–4
- **From institutional segmentation to market fragmentation: Institutional transformation and the shifting stratification order in urban China** *SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH*
  Zhao, W., Zhou, X.
  2017; 63: 19-35
- **Capitalism without Capital: Capital Conversion and Market Making in Rural China** *CHINA QUARTERLY*
  Zhou, X., Ai, Y.
  2014; 219: 693-714
- **Will Demographic Change Slow China's Rise?** *JOURNAL OF ASIAN STUDIES*
  Eggleston, K., Oi, J. C., Rozelle, S., Sun, A., Walder, A., Zhou, X.
  2013; 72 (3): 505-518
- **Social Science Research on Chinese Organizations in the English Literature** *A Scholarly Review of Chinese Studies in North America*
  Zhou, X., Zhao, W.
  2013; 11
- **A Behavioral Model of 'Muddling Through' in the Chinese Bureaucracy** *The China Journal*
  Zhou , X., Lian , H., Ortolano, L., Ye , Y.
  2013
- **The Chinese Bureaucracy and the Logic of State Governance in China (in Chinese, " ## ## ## # ## ## ## ")** *Open Times (####)*
  Zhou , X.
  2013; 3
- **The Road to Collective Debt in Rural China: Bureaucracies, Social Institutions, and Public Goods Provision** *MODERN CHINA*
  Zhou, X.
  2012; 38 (3): 271-307
- **Children of China's Future** *YaleGlobal Online*
  Eggleston, K., Oi, J. C., Rozelle, S., Sun, A., Zhou, X.
  2012
- **Modes of Governance in the Chinese Bureaucracy (in Chinese, " # ##########'###'##")** *Journal of Sociological Research (#####)*
  Zhou , X.
  2012
- **State Building and Government Behavior (in Chinese, #########)**
  edited by Zhou , X., Liu , S., Zhe, X.
  Beijing: Chinese Social Science Press.2012
- **Sociological Research on Chinese Society** *Oxford Bibliography in Sociology*
  Zhou, X.
  Oxford University Press .2012
- **The Road to Collective Debt in Rural China : Government Bureaucracies and Public Goods Provision** *Modern China*
  Zhou , X.
  2012; 38 (3): 271-307
- **Mobilizational State: Further Exploration in the Institutional Logic of State Governance in China (in Chinese, " ############ ## ### ##### ")** *Open Times (####)*
  Zhou , X.
  2012; 9: 100-120

- **The Limit of Bureaucratic Power in Organizations: the Case of the Chinese Bureaucracy** *Research in the Sociology of Organizations*
  Zhou , X., Ai, Y., Lian , H.
  2012; 34: 81-111
- **The Autumn Harvest: Peasants and Markets in Post-Collective Rural China** *CHINA QUARTERLY*
  Zhou, X.
  2011: 913-931
- **Status Inconsistency and Product Valuation in the California Wine Market** *ORGANIZATION SCIENCE*
  Zhao, W., Zhou, X.
  2011; 22 (6): 1435-1448
- **Rethinking Property Rights as a Relational Concept Access to Financial Resources Among Small and Mid-Sized Firms** *CHINESE SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW*
  Zhou, X., Li, L.
  2011; 44 (1): 26-70
- **Bargaining in the Chinese Bureaucracy (in Chinese) [##########]** *Social Science in China [######]*
  Zhou, X., Lian , H.
  2011; 5: 80-96
- **Authoritarian State and Effective Governance: the Institutional Logic of State Governance in Contemporary China (in Chinese) [######## ##########]** *Open Times [####]*
  Zhou , X.
  2011; 10: 67-85
- **The Institutional Logic of Collusion among Local Governments in China** *MODERN CHINA*
  Zhou, X.
  2010; 36 (1): 47-78
- **Multiple Logics of Institutional Change: Toward an Analytical Framework (in Chinese) [##########]** *Social Science in China [##### #]*
  Zhou , X., Ai , Y.
  2010 : 132-150
- **Growing Pains: Tension and Opportunity in China's Transformation**
  Zhou, X., Oi, J. C., Rozelle , S.
  Shorenstein APARC .2010
- **Social Science Research on Chinese Organizations in the English Literature: A Survey (in Chinese) [##########]** *Journal of Sociological Studies [#####]*
  Zhou , X., Zhao , W.
  2009 ; 6: 145-186
- **Transaction Costs, Institutions, and the Duration of Interfirm Contracts in China** *Research in the Sociology of Work*
  Yang, L., Zhou , X.
  2009 ; 19: 69-104
- **Collusion among Local Governments: The Institutional Logic of a Government Behavior (in Chinese) [######"####"##########]** *Journal of Sociological Studies [#####]*
  Zhou , X.
  2008; 6: 1-22
- **Intraorganizational Career Advancement and Voluntary Turnover in a Multinational Bank in Taiwan** *Career Development International*
  Zhou , X.
  2008 ; 13: 402-424
- **Educational stratification in urban China: 1949-94** *SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION*
  Zhou, X. G., Moen, P., TUMA, N. B.
  1998; 71 (3): 199-222

- **Institutional change and job-shift patterns in urban China, 1949 to 1994** *AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW*
  Zhou, X. G., TUMA, N. B., Moen, P.
  1997; 62 (3): 339-365
- **STATUS PROCESSES IN ENDURING WORK GROUPS** *AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW*
  COHEN, B. P., Zhou, X. G.
  1991; 56 (2): 179-188