YIFAN SHEN
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2022– Assistant Professor, Division of Social Science, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

2026 Global Fellow, Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University (September–October)

EDUCATION

2022 PhD, Sociology, Brown University

2016 MPhil, Sociology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

2013 MSc, Social Research Methods, London School of Economics and Political Science

2012 BA, Sociology, Renmin University of China

AREAS

Demography; marriage and family; social stratification; health and mortality

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Accepted **Shen, Yifan**. "Educational Hypogamy and Men's Longevity: Evidence from Linked U.S. Census and Administrative Mortality Data." *Demography*.

2026 **Shen, Yifan**. "Men's Labor-Market Decline and the Rising Correlation between Spouses' Earnings in the United States." *Sociological Science* 13:1018–45. doi:10.15195/v13.a39

2026 **Shen, Yifan**, and Tim F. Liao. "To See or Not to See: Another Look at the Mechanisms Behind Growing Earnings Homogamy in the United States." *Demography* 63(4):1007–17. doi:10.1215/00703370-12745916
Related published reply: **Shen, Yifan**, and Tim F. Liao. "Assortative Agreement: A Reply to Gonalons-Pons and Schwartz." *Demography* 63(4):1029–31. doi:10.1215/00703370-12746446

2022 Rauscher, Emily, and **Yifan Shen.** "Variation in the Relationship between School Spending and Achievement: Progressive Spending Is Efficient." *American Journal of Sociology* 128(1):189–223. doi:10.1086/719956

2021 **Shen, Yifan**. "The Nonlinear Linkage between Earnings Homogamy and Earnings Inequality among Married Couples." *Demography* 58(2):527–50. doi:10.1215/00703370-8996374

BOOK CHAPTERS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2022 Rauscher, Emily, and **Yifan Shen**. "Progressive School Spending Is Efficient." *Sociological Insights for Development Policy* 7(3):1–2.

2020 Qian, Zhenchao, and **Yifan Shen**. "Context of Interracial Childbearing in the United States." Pp. 65–87 in *Analyzing Contemporary Fertility*, edited by R. Schoen. The Springer Series on Demographic Methods and Population Analysis, vol. 51. Cham: Springer. doi:10.1007/978-3-030-48519-1_5

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2026 Vice-President for Research and Development Equipment Fund, HKUST. Principal Investigator. HK$174,700

2025 Global Fellow, Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University. US$5,000

2023 Vice-President for Research and Development Equipment Fund, HKUST. Principal Investigator. HK$51,319

2021 Small Grant Program for Emerging Scholars, Marriage Strengthening Research and Dissemination Center (MAST), USA. US$700

2021 Dissertation Fellowship, Brown University

2021 Summer Research Award, Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University

2018 International Fellowship, Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University

2017 Manning Graduate Fellowship, Brown University

HONORS AND AWARDS

2022 Student Paper Award, Population Section, American Sociological Association

2021 Nan Lin Best Graduate Student Paper Award, International Chinese Sociological Association

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2026 "Wives' Educational Advantage and Men's Longevity." Southern Demographic Conference Annual Meeting.

2026 "The Longevity Penalty of Educational Hypogamy." Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

2026 "Diverging Trends in Low Birth Weight in Hong Kong: Rising Rates among Native-Born Mothers, 1988–2022." Joint Annual Scientific Meeting, Hong Kong Paediatric Society.

2025 "The Role of Men's Changing Labor Market Conditions in Shaping the Shifting Economic Homogamy." ISA RC28 Summer Meeting.

2023 "The Changing Assortative Mating and the Rising Earnings Homogamy in the United States" (with Tim F. Liao). American Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

2022 "Is the Changing Assortative Mating Really Not Important for Understanding the Inequality Trends in the United States?" ISA RC28 Spring Meeting.

2021 "Schools as Active Equalizers: Variation in the Relationship between School Spending and Achievement by Cohort Health at Birth" (with Emily Rauscher). Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

2021 "Educational Advantage and Earnings Lead? Assortative Mating and Spousal Pay Gap" (with Zhenchao Qian). Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

2019 "The Association between Spouses' Earnings and Earnings Inequality among Married Couples in Urban China." Population Association of America Annual Meeting.

TEACHING

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

2023–26 MASS 5030 Social Stratification (master's). Fall 2023, Fall 2024, Fall 2025, Spring 2026

2023–25 SOSC 2140 Research Methods in the Social Sciences (undergraduate). Spring 2023, Fall 2024, Fall 2025

2023–25 SOSC 1110 Data Analysis for Quantitative Social Research (undergraduate). Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

2026 Discussant, Session on Union Formation and Dissolution, Population Association of America Annual Meeting, St. Louis

2025 Organizer, Sessions on Assortative Mating and on New Perspectives on Family Formation, Population Association of America Annual Meeting, Washington, DC

2024–26 Early-Career Review Board, *Social Science Research*

2024–26 Council Member, Hong Kong Sociological Association

2024 Mentorship Committee, Population Section, American Sociological Association

2023 Discussant, Session on Novel Topics on Union Formation, Population Association of America Annual Meeting, New Orleans

2023 Student Paper Award Committee, Population Section, American Sociological Association

Reviewer: *Advances in Life Course Research, American Behavioral Scientist, American Sociological Review, Demographic Research, Demography, European Sociological Review, Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Population Research and Policy Review, Social Forces, Social Science Research, Sociological Methods & Research, Socius, Sociology Compass*

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2026–27 Faculty Search Committee, Division of Social Science, HKUST

2025–26 Executive Committee, Division of Social Science, HKUST

2024–25 Faculty Search Committee, Division of Social Science, HKUST

2023–24 Seminar Series Committee, Division of Social Science, HKUST

2018–19, 2021–22 Graduate Student Committee, Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University