

Lei YAN

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April 8th 1984

CURRENT POSITION

February 2013 – present

- Research Assistant
- Chôros Laboratory, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland.
- Current work: *Mapping a World in Wikipedia*, collaborating with Prof. Jacques LÉVY.

My current research project focuses on the studies of various civil societies on the global scale by means of the investigation of a large amount of Wikipedia entries. My research overcomes a key challenge of undertaking data analysis and visualization from the geographical and sociological perspectives. It also helps to rethink the social sciences in a new computational way.

EDUCATION

October 2010 - June 2012

- Master's degree in Sociology
- University of Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV), France.
- 2nd year thesis title: *Social Diversity in the Parisian District La Goutte d'Or and Evaluation of Urban Politics*, supervised by Dr. Elise VERLEY.
- 1st year thesis title: *Precarity and Marginality – Studies of the Gleaners in the Contemporary Society of France and China*, supervised by Dr. Pierre-Marie CHAUVIN.

September 2002 - June 2006

- Bachelor in Social Work
- Huaiyin Institute of Technology, Huai'an, China.
- Thesis title: *Outlining Urban Reforms Between 2000 and 2005 - the Case Study of Nantong City, China*, supervised by Dr. Ping TIAN.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Globalization, civil society, technology, cyberculture, computational social sciences, Wikipedia, data analysis, data visualization.

PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCES

- Lei Yan, *Cosmopolitan Vision in Wikipedia*, Association of American Geographers (AAG), San Francisco, April 2016.
- Lei Yan, *Big data: In search of a global society*, Conference Cultures, Sociétés, et Numérique, Montreal, October 2015.
- Lei Yan, *Generality in Social Sciences*, EDAR Journal Contour, EPFL, September 2015.

INTERNSHIPS & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Teaching Assistant, *Internet: Social Challenges, Global Challenges I*, School of Architecture, Civil and Environmental Engineering (ENAC), EPFL, course given by Dr. Jean-Nicolas Faucille, Sep. 2016 – Jan. 2017.
- Teaching Assistant, *Theory of Space (Théorie de l'espace)*, School of Architecture, Civil and Environmental Engineering (ENAC), EPFL, course given by Dr. Boris Beaude, Sep. 2013 – Jan. 2016.
- Teaching Assistant: *Exploring Humans' Space: An Introduction to Geographicity*, edX, online course, Jun. 2015 – Dec. 2016.
- MA Internship: *Quantitative Analysis of Parisian Pre-school Projects*, Scholar Educational affairs, Paris City Hall, Feb. 2012 – Sep. 2012.

LANGUAGES

- Chinese (mother tongue)
- French (proficient, level C2)
- English (proficient, level C2)

COMPUTER SKILLS

- GIS: QGIS
- Statistics: SAS, SPSS, R, Excel
- Programming Language: Python, JavaScript, Node.js, D3.js, HTML, CSS, MySQL, MongoDB
- Design: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign