

## MEINA CAI

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### EDUCATION

#### UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Ph.D. in Political Science, 2012  
M.Sc. in Agricultural and Applied Economics, 2009  
M.A. in Political Science, 2006

#### UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

M.A. in Political Science, Certificate in Asia-Pacific Studies, 2004

#### UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, BEIJING

B.A. in Public Administration, 2003

### PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

#### UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Assistant Professor of Political Science and Asian/Asian American Studies, 2013-  
Faculty Affiliate, Sustainable Global Cities Initiative

#### HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Postdoctoral Fellow, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, 2012-2013

### PUBLICATIONS

#### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Meina Cai, Jianyong Fan, Chunhui Ye, and Qi Zhan. 2021. "Government Debt, Land Financing, and Distributive Justice in China." *Urban Studies*. 58(11): 2329-2347.

Meina Cai, Ilia Murtazashvili, Jennifer Murtazashvili, and Hui Wang. 2020. "Sugarcoating the Bitter Pill: Compensation, Land Governance, and Opposition to Land Expropriation in China." *Journal of Peasant Studies* 47 (6): 1371-1392.

Meina Cai, Ilia Murtazashvili, Jennifer Murtazashvili, and Raufhon Salahodjaev. 2020. "Patience and Climate Change Policy: Global Evidence." *Environmental Research* 186. 109552.

Meina Cai, Pengfei Liu and Hui Wang. 2020. "Land Commodification and Hukou Policy innovation in China." *Journal of Chinese Governance* 5(4): 419-438.

Meina Cai, Pengfei Liu and Hui Wang. 2020. "Political Trust, Risk Preference, and Policy Support: A Study of Land-dispossessed Villagers in China." *World Development* 125. 104687.

Meina Cai, Ilia Murtazashvili, and Jennifer Murtazashvili. 2020. "The Politics of Land Property Regimes." *Journal of Institutional Economics* 16: 151-167. (One of the finalists for 2021 Elinor Ostrom Prize)

Meina Cai, Ilia Murtazashvili, Jennifer Murtazashvili, and Raufhon Salahodjaev. 2020. "Individualism and Governance of the Commons." *Public Choice* 184 (1): 175-195.

Meina Cai and Xin Sun. 2018. "Institutional Bindingness, Power Structure, and Land Expropriation in China." *World Development* 109: 172-186.

Meina Cai. 2017. "Revenue, Time Horizon, and Land Allocation in China." *Land Use Policy* 62: 101-112.

Meina Cai. 2016. "Land for Welfare in China." *Land Use Policy* 55: 1-12.

## BOOK

Colin Harris, Meina Cai, Ilia Murtazashvili, and Jennifer Murtazashvili. 2020. *The Origins and Consequences of Property Rights: Austrian, Public Choice, and Institutional Economics Perspectives*, New York: Cambridge University Press (Elements series in Austrian Economics).

## BOOK CHAPTER

Meina Cai. 2015. "'Flying Land': Institutional Innovation in Land Management in Contemporary China." In *Local Government Innovation in China: Experimentation, Diffusion, and Defiance*, edited by Jessica C. Teets and William Hurst, Routledge, pp. 60-83.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Meina Cai. 2015. Review of China's Disappearing Countryside: Towards Sustainable Land Governance for the Poor, by Yongjun Zhao. *Journal of Chinese Political Science* 20 (1): 95-96.

Meina Cai. 2012. Review of Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics, by Yasheng Huang. *Journal of Chinese Political Science* 17 (2): 215-216.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

### ARTICLES

"Individualism, Economic Freedom, and Charitable Giving" with Gregory Caskey, Nick Cowen, Ilia Murtazashvili, Jennifer Murtazashvili, and Raufhon Salahodjaev. (Review & Resubmit)

"When Lineages Meet Power: Elite Competition and Rural Governance in China" with Qi Zhang and Xiaolu Zhao.

"Central authority, Local Compliance, and Land Marketization in China: Evidence from Natural Experiments" with Shenghua Lu and Hui Wang.

"Rights Consciousness or Rules Consciousness: Perspectives from Contentious Urbanization in China" with Yuting Yao.

### BOOKS

*Simple Rules for Sustainability: Toward a Political Economy of the Commons*, with Ilia Murtazashvili and Raufhon Salahodjaev. Edward Elgar Press. (Under production, expected to publish in 2022)

*The Art of Negotiations: Legal Discrimination, Contentious Pyramid, and Land Rights Development in China*.

*The Political Origins of Property Rights in Land: Between Anarchy and Predation*, with Ilia Murtazashvili and Jennifer Murtazashvili.

## **AWARDS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS**

### **RESEARCH**

University of Connecticut, Humanities Institute, Faculty Fellowship, 2021-2022  
University of Connecticut, Sustainable Global Cities Initiative, Faculty Research Grant, 2021-2022  
University of Connecticut, Scholarship Facilitation Fund, 2020  
University of Connecticut, Asian/Asian American Studies Institute, Research grant, 2018, 2019  
University of Connecticut, Political Science Department, Collaborative Research grant, 2016  
International Society of New Institutional Economics, Ronald H. Coase Best Dissertation Award, 2014  
Harvard University, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, An Wang Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2012–13  
Stanford University, Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Shorenstein Fellowship, 2012–13 (declined)  
Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, Doctoral Fellowship, 2011–12  
Institute for Humane Studies, Humane Studies Fellowship and Bernard Marcus Fellow, 2011–12  
National Science Foundation, Political Science Program, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, 2009–10  
Institute for Humane Studies, Humane Studies Fellowship and Thomas W. Smith Fellow, 2009–10, 2010–11  
University of Wisconsin–Madison, Development Studies Program, Raymond J. Penn Scholarship, 2010  
University of Wisconsin–Madison, Division of International Studies, Graduate Student International Field Research Award, 2008

### **TRAVEL**

Southern Political Science Association, Prestage-Cook Travel Award, 2012  
Institute for Humane Studies, Hayek Fund for Scholars, 2011  
Ronald Coase Institute, Travel Grant, 2011  
University of Wisconsin–Madison, Department of Political Science, Summer Initiative Award, 2011, 2012  
University of Wisconsin–Madison, Graduate School, Vilas Travel Grant, 2010, 2011  
University of Wisconsin–Madison, Center for World Affairs and the Global Economy, Pre-dissertation Travel Award, 2009

### **TRAINING**

George Washington University, Center for International Business Education and Research, Summer Doctoral Institute for research and study on “Institutions and Development,” 2010 (declined)  
National Science Foundation, EITM Program Grant, 2008, 2009  
Ronald Coase Institute, Ronald Coase Institute Workshop Grant, 2008  
University of Wisconsin–Madison, Department of Political Science, Edward and Virginia Mills Fellowship, 2005–06

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS OF RESEARCH**

“Experimental research in Chinese Politics,” Association of Chinese Political Science Annual Meeting Professional Development Workshop, October 21, 2020.  
“The art of negotiations: The state, society, and development of land property rights in China,” University of Pittsburgh, November 15, 2019.  
“Political trust, risk preference, and policy support: A study of land-dispossessed villagers in China,” South China University of Technology, June 20, 2019  
Invited panelist, Getting China Right Conference, Duke University, December 6-7, 2019

- “Governance of land expropriation in China,” Columbia University, October 6, 2018
- “Land grabbing, compensation bargaining, and village governance,” Harvard University, March 8, 2014
- “State, society, and rural development: The political economy of land-taking compensation,” Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, April 24, 2014
- “Land for welfare in China,” Middlebury College, Department of Economics, March 13, 2013
- “Flying land: Institutional innovation in land management in contemporary China,” Middlebury College, Department of Political Science, March 13, 2013
- “Land for welfare in China,” Duke University, New Faces in China Studies, April 2012
- “Land for welfare in China,” Harvard University, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, October, 2013
- “Local determinants of economic structure: Evidence from land quota allocation in China,” University of Michigan, Center for Chinese Studies 50th Anniversary Conference: In Honor of Professor Kenneth Lieberthal, October 2012

### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS OF RESEARCH**

- “The art of negotiations: Legal discrimination, policy decentralization, and development of land property rights in China,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting on China mini-Conference (online). September 2020.
- “Government Debt, Land Financing, and Urbanization in China.” Association of Chinese Political Studies Annual Conference, Zhejiang, China, June 2019
- “Government Debt, Land Financing, and Urbanization in China.” Interational Studies Association Annual Conference, Toronto, March, 2019.
- “Political Trust, Risk Preference, and Land-Taking Compensation: Evidence from Survey Experiments in China.” University of Michigan, Sustainability and Development Conference, November 2018.
- “Political Trust, Risk Preference, and Land-Taking Compensation: Evidence from Survey Experiments in China.” World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty, Washington D.C., March 2018.
- “Is Urban Residency Status still Desirable to Farmers? Evidence from a Survey Experiment in China.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, August 2017.
- “Beliefs about Land Acquisition: Does Better Governance or More Money Make People Happier?” Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Toronto, March 2017.
- “Institutional Bindingness Matters: Post-Election Power Structure and Land Expropriation in Rural China.” Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Toronto, March 2017.
- “Political Trust, Risk Preference, and Land-Taking Compensation: Evidence from Survey Experiments in China.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, September 2016.
- “The Politics of Transferring Land Development Rights in China.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, September 2015.
- “Decentralization, Centralization, and Institutional Change: Evidence from Land Rights Development in China.” Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago, March 2015.
- “Land Grabbing, Compensation Bargaining, and Village Governance.” Center for Interuniversity Research and Analysis of Organizations Montreal, May 2014, Zhejiang University, June 5, 2014.
- “Land for Welfare in China.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, September 2012.
- “Land for Welfare in China.” Haas Junior Scholars Conference on Multi-disciplinary Interrogations of State and Society in China, University of California–Berkeley, October 2012.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT**

Chinese Politics and Economy  
Comparative Political Economy (graduate seminar)  
Introduction to Comparative Politics  
Qualitative Methods of Political Science (graduate seminar)  
Quantitative Methods of Political Science (graduate lecture)  
Quantitative Analysis in Political Science  
The Political Economy of East Asia

### **HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

The Political Economy of Transition in China

## **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

Geographic Information System Program, Harvard University, GIS Institute, Summer 2013  
Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models, University of Michigan, Summer 2009  
Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models, Washington University in St. Louis, Summer 2008

## **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Board member, Chinese American Professors Association in Connecticut, 2015-2017.  
Organizer, "The Politics of Land and the Polemics of Urbanization" Workshop, University of Connecticut, May 2017.  
Grant Search Committee member, Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Self-Financed Students Abroad, 2014.  
Organizer, "Why We Care about Land Grabbing in China" Workshop, Harvard University, 2014  
Co-organizer, "Land and Urbanization in China" Workshop, Center for Interuniversity Research and Analysis of Organizations (CIRANO), Montreal, 2014  
Thesis Reader, Harvard University, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, 2013  
Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2011  
Reviewer, *American Political Science Review*; *Asian Survey*; *China Economic Review*; *China Quarterly*; *Europe-Asia Studies*; *Journal of Chinese Political Science*; *Journal of Contemporary Asia*; *Journal of Contemporary China*; *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*; *Journal of Economic Policy Reform*; *Journal of Developmental Studies*; *Journal of Human Rights*; *Journal of Institutional Economics*; *Journal of Planning Education and Research*; *Geoforum*; *Journal of Economic Policy Reform*; *International Planning Studies*; *International Political Science Review*; *Land Use Policy*; *Modern China*; *Oxford Developmental Studies*; *Public Choice*; *Social Policy & Administration*; *Theory and Society*; *Urban Studies*; *World Development*; Research Grant Council of Hong Kong.