Chen Chen (Tom | 陈辰)

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Personal Website | Sociology Department Profile
Minnesota Population Center Profile

Education

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
Ph.D. in Sociology — Expected 2032
Advisor: Michael Esposito

New York University Shanghai, China
B.A. in Economics, *cum laude* — 2026
Minors in Social Science and Humanities

Additional Education & Training

New York University, New York, NY
Undergraduate Study-Abroad Exchange Program — Fall 2024–Spring 2025

Research Experience

Social Change Lab, University of Toronto, ON
Research Affiliate — May 2025–Present
PI: Ethan Fosse (U of Toronto) & Sebastien Parker (U of Prince Edward Island)

- Analyzed ideological polarization in the U.S. using American National Election Studies data, resolving inconsistencies across survey waves
- Standardized ideological and attitudinal measures in R to ensure cross-temporal comparability
- Applied Functional Data Analysis (FDA) and Dynamic Time Warping (DTW) to compare trajectories of ideological change

Applied Cognition and Emotions Lab, New York University Shanghai, China
Research Assistant — Nov 2023–Present
PI: Yuerui Wu (NYU Shanghai)

- Examined how parental cultural values shape children's recall of transgression scenarios; contributed to a paper accepted at the 2026 American Psychology-Law Society Conference
- Conducted 50+ behavioral experiments with children aged 3–7, including obtaining parental consent, administering developmental assessments, and conducting memory interviews
- Coded emotional and behavioral responses from 80+ participants into quantitative variables using standardized coding protocols for statistical analysis
- Trained new RAs on experimental protocols, data collection, and research ethics

Conference Presentations *(**Bold** text indicates the presenter)

[1] **Chen, C.** (June 2026). Invisible Boundaries: Measuring Poverty Stratification through Chicago's Spatial Adjacency Network [Poster presentation]. Sunbelt Conference, International Network for Social Network Analysis, Daytona Beach, FL.

[2] **Shen, W.,** Chen, C., Zhang, Y., Wu, Y. T., Wu, Y. R. (March 2026). Children's Suggestibility Following a Staged Transgression: The Role of Parental Cultural Values. American Psychology -Law Society Conference, Reno, NV.

Teaching Experience

Social Statistics, Teaching Assistant — Fall 2026
Instructor: Michael Esposito

Leadership

Inaugural Shanghai Meets the Gulf Forum, New York University Shanghai, China
Associate Director of Operations — Jan 2026–Apr 2026

Office of Residential Education and Housing, New York University Shanghai, China
Senior Resident Assistant — Aug 2025–May 2026
Resident Assistant — Aug 2023–May 2024

Language

- Mandarin – Native
- English – Professional proficiency
- Cantonese – Conversational proficiency

Research Interests & Methods

- Research Interests: Population Health; Resource Inequality; Mortality
- Methods: Age-Period-Cohort Analysis; Social Network Analysis; Spatial Analysis
- Technical Proficiencies: R, STATA, SPSS, Python