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ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

2015-2019	Ph.D. in Communication	Hong Kong Baptist University
2013-2015	M.A. in Communication & New Media	University of Macau
2011-2012	Exchange Study in Journalism	Taiwan Shih Hsin University
2010-2013	B.B.A. in Marketing	Zhongnan University of Economics and Law
2009-2013	B.A. in Television Journalism	South-Central University for Nationalities

TEACHING AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

2021.9-Present	Assistant Professor	Faculty of Humanities and Arts, Macau University of Science and Technology
2019-2021	Senior Research Fellow	Center for Globalization Hong Kong
2015-2019	Teaching & Research Assistant	School of Communication, Hong Kong Baptist University
2013-2015	Teaching & Research Assistant	Department of Communication, University of Macau

TEACHING AREAS

Introduction to communication, The psychology of communication, Research report writing

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social and psychological effects of communication technology on well-being; The psychology of communication; Online dating; Social marginalized groups

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2024–2025 Chinese online daters' negative experience. Faculty Research Grant (FRG), Macau University and Science and Technology. Grant Number: FRG-25-005-FA, Principal Investigator.
- 2023–2024 Imagination and Disillusionment. Faculty Research Grant (FRG), Macau University and Science and Technology. Grant Number: FRG-24-003-FA, Principal Investigator.
- 2022–2023 Mobile Phone Paradox. Faculty Research Grant (FRG), Macau University and Science and Technology. Grant Number: FRG-22-035-FA, Principal Investigator.

PUBLISHED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Tu, C., Li, X.*, Lu, F., Liu, X., & Zhong, L. (2025). Involvement type matters: Examining policy-related news exposure and opinion expression on social media. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* (Accepted). (SSCI, Q2, IF: 1.9, Communication and Political Science)
- Jiang, H.^{#+}, Zhong, L.^{*+}, Huang, V., & Zhong, R.[#] (2025). The impact of emotional neglect on internet addiction among left-behind adolescents in rural China: A moderated mediation model. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 163, 107341, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2025.107341> (SSCI, Q1, IF: 3.4, Top 4% in Social Work and Top 7% in Family Studies)
- Zhong, L.*, Chen, X.^{#+}, Shan, X.^{#+}, & Liu, X. (2024). From FoMO to discontinuous usage intention: information overload and social media fatigue for Chinese Weibo users. *Southern Communication Journal*, 1-14, <https://doi.org/10.1080/1041794X.2024.2431074> (ESCI, Q3 in Communication)
- Zhong, L., & Huang, V. (2024). For imagination or disillusionment? The social compensation and social enhancement effects on dating anxiety for online daters who fear being single. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 157, 108251, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2024.108251> (SSCI, Q1, IF: 9.0, Top 4% in Psychology)
- Yang, S.[#], Huang, V., Zhong, L.*, Liu, X., & Zhong, R.[#] (2023). Social compensation or social enhancement? A path model connecting rejection sensitivity and loneliness for Chinese online dating applications users. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 149, 107929, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2023.107929> (SSCI, Q1, IF: 9.0, Top 4% in Psychology)
- Zhong, L.*, Huang, V., & Guo, S. (2022). Mobile phone paradox: A two-path model connecting mobile phone use and feeling of loneliness for Filipino domestic workers in Hong Kong. *Mobile Media & Communication*, 10(3), 448-467. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20501579221077525> (SSCI, Q1, IF: 3.1, Top 13% in Communication)

Note. * Corresponding Author; + Equal Contribution; # Graduate Student Co-author.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Zhong, L., & Huang, L. V. (2025, June). Receiving sexually explicit content as a hyperpersonal failure: The impact of being sexted in online dating on long-term relationship commitment. Paper to be presented at the International 75th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Denver, Colorado, USA.
- Jiang, H., Zhong, L.*, Huang, V., & Zhong, R. (2025, June). The impact of emotional neglect on internet addiction among left-behind adolescents in rural China: A moderated mediation model. Paper to be presented at the International 75th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Denver, Colorado, USA.
- Liu, X., Li, Q., Li, X., Zhong, L.*, & Tu., C. (2024, June). Conspiracy belief as a mediator between Hong Kong identity tendency and hostile media perception. Paper presented at the International 74th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia. **Top Faculty Paper Award — Runner-up, Mass Communication Division.**
- Zhong, L., & Huang, L. V. (2024, June). For more imagination or disillusionment? A path model connecting

fear of being single to dating anxiety of online dating users. Paper presented at the International 74th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (**ICA**), Gold Coast, Australia.

Yang, S., & Zhong, L.*. (2023, July). Social compensation or social enhancement? A path model connecting rejection sensitivity and loneliness for Chinese online dating applications users. Paper presented at the International Association for Media and Communication Research (**IAMCR**) Conference, Lyon, France.

Zhong, L., & Huang, L. V. (2021, August). Mobile phone paradox: A hypothetical two-pathway model connecting mobile phone use and loneliness for the Filipino domestic workers in Hong Kong. Paper presented at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (**AEJMC**) Online Conference.

Zhong, L. (2019, February). Technology and psychological well-being: testing a two pathways model connecting mobile phone use and loneliness among adolescents in Hong Kong. Paper presented at the Being Digital-2019 U40 China-Australia Summer School, Perth, Australia.

Zhong, L. (2016, November). Framing protest: testing the protest paradigm devices in Hong Kong press coverage of Occupy Central Movement in 2014. Paper presented at the National Communication Association (**NCA**) 102nd Annual Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, US.

Zhong, L. (2016, December). Application of the Health Belief Model into the debate about the Laser Eye Surgery on the Chinese social media platform. Paper presented at the 1st Conference of the Public Relations Society of China & 9st International Forum on Public Relations and Advertising, Hong Kong Baptist University.

Zhong, L. (2014, August). The mobile phone use for female domestic workers in Macau. Paper presented at the 6th International Conference on Language and Communication (**ICLC**), Bangkok, Thailand.

MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICES

Professional Membership: *International Communication Association*

Journal Reviewer:

- *Computers in Human Behavior*
- *Information, Communication & Society*
- *Women's Studies International Forum*
- *Southern Communication Journal*
- *Psychology Research and Behavior Management*

International Communication Association (ICA) Reviewer

AWARDS

- 2024 Top Faculty Paper, Mass Communication Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference
- 2015 The University Grant (UG) Studentship of Hong Kong Baptist University
- 2013 Graduate Assistant Scholarship, Department of Communication, University of Macau
- 2013 Third Prize for Outstanding Scientific Research Achievements by College Students in Hubei Province
- 2012 Alumni Scholarship of Shih Hsin University, Taiwan
- 2010 National Scholarship