

Yifan Lou, Ph.D., AM, LMSW

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RESEARCH INTEREST

Aging and health policy, End-of-life care, Health inequality and disparity, Health communication and decision-making in dementia care.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

- 2024 – **Assistant Professor**
Virginia Commonwealth University, School of Social Work
- 2023 – 2024 **Postdoctoral Associate**
Yale University School of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine,
Section of Geriatrics.
Affiliation: Yale Program on Aging;
National Institutes of Aging Imbedded Pragmatic Alzheimer
Disease (AD) and AD Related Dementias Clinical Trials
Collaboratory;
Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center.

EDUCATION

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| PhD | Columbia University School of Social Work Concentration: Social Policy, Planning, and Policy Analysis | 2023 |
| MSW | University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice Concentration: Policy and Administration | 2018 |
| BSW | East China University of Science and Technology School of Social and Public Administration Major: Sociology, Social Work | 2016 |

LICENSURE

Certified Master Social Worker, State of New York, License ID: 113144

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Granted Research Grant

- 2023 – 2024 The Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research Grant

- *Title: Death and Dying of Chinese in U.S. and China: a comparative mixed method research (Role: PI; \$4,600)*
- 2022 – 2023 Sasakawa Young Leaders Research Grant, The Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research
 - *Title: End-of-life Care and Decision-making Experiences with Dementia Caregivers in China (Role: PI; \$4,500)*
- 2019 & 2022 Sasakawa Young Leaders Summer Fellowship, The Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research
 - *Title: Perception of death, dying, and end-of-life care discussions in medical professionals in China (Role: PI; \$2,500)*
- 2020 & 2021 Weatherhead Doctoral Student Summer Grant, Weatherhead East Asian Institute
 - *2021 Project Title: Developing a culturally appropriate questionnaire on end-of-life decision-making for Chinese older adults (Role: PI; \$2,500)*
 - *2020 Project Title: Advance care planning with older adults with Dementia in China (Role: PI; \$2500)*

Granted Fellowship and Awards

- 2023 Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Diversity Mentoring and Career Development Technical Assistance Workshop Diversity Fellow Award. (\$1500)
- 2023 Ruth Fizdale Doctoral Dissertation Award for Aging & Health Services (\$5,000)
- 2023 Sylvia Rosenberg Dissertation Award in Aging and Mental Health (\$2,500)
- 2023 Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Self-Financed Students Abroad (\$6,000)
- 2019 AGESW Gerontological Social Work Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (\$1200)
- 2018 & 2019 Phyllis and Joseph Caroff Doctoral Fellowship, Columbia University, School of Social Work (\$23,000/year)
- 2018 – 2023 Doctoral Fellowship, Columbia University, School of Social Work (\$29,000/year)

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| 2018 – 2023 | Doctoral Travel Grant, Columbia University, School of Social Work (\$1,000/year) |
| 2017 – 2018 | C.W. Chan Scholarship, University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration (\$5,000/year) |
| 2016 – 2017 | Tuition Award, University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration (\$2,500/year) |
| 2016 | Shanghai Outstanding Graduating Student, Shanghai Ministry of Education |
| 2016 | Shanghai Outstanding Undergraduate Graduation Thesis, Shanghai Ministry of Education |
| 2012 & 2014 | National Scholarship, Ministry of Education of China (RMB 8000/year) |
| 2013 & 2015 | Curriculum Awards – first class, East China University of Science and Technology (RMB 5500/year) |
| 2012 – 2014 | Social Activity Participation Awards, East China University of Science and Technology |

PUBLICATIONS

Lou, Y., Thi, V., Piechota, A., Monin, J., (2024), Emotion Regulation in People Living with Dementia and Their Spouses: The Role of Neuropsychiatric Symptoms. *Aging and Mental Health*. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2024.2367038>

Liu, J., Cheung, E., **Lou, Y.** (2024), A pilot study of a peer mentoring program for Chinese American dementia caregivers. *Aging and Mental Health*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2024.2346599>

Lou, Y. (2023), End-of-life Care Discussions with Healthcare Providers and Dying Experiences: A Latent Class Analysis Using the Health and Retirement Study. *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*. Pre-proof available through: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0167494323003977>

Lou, Y., Liu, J., Carr, D. (2023), To Tell or Not: Older Chinese Adults' Preferences for Disclosing or Concealing Serious Illness Diagnoses. *The Gerontologist*. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnac167>

Liu, J., **Lou, Y.**, Cheung, E. (2023), Beyond Dichotomy and Stability: ICT Use Among Asian American Older Adults During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648231204781>

- Lou, Y.**, Carr, D. (2022). Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Advance Care Planning: Assessing the Role of Subjective Life Expectancy. *The Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbac003>
- Wang Y., Guo M., Liu, J., **Lou, Y.**, Cater, K., Dong, X. (2022) Neighborhood Environment and Depressive Symptoms among Chinese Older Immigrants in the U.S.: The Mediation Effects of Coping. *The Gerontologist*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnac065>
- Liu, J., **Lou, Y.**, Li, L., Xu, H., Zhang Z. (2022). Dyadic Effects On Depressive Symptoms of Spouse Caregivers and Their Care Recipients in China: Evidence from CHARLS. *Aging and Mental Health*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2022.2087212>
- Liu, J., **Lou, Y.**, Cheung, E., Wu, B. (2022). Use of Tangible, Educational and Psychological Support Services among Chinese American Dementia Caregivers. *Dementia*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/14713012221099781>
- Lou, Y.**, Liu, J. (2021). Racial Disparities of Possessing Healthcare Power Attorney and Living Will among Older Americans: Do SES and Health Matter?. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpainsymman.2021.01.004>
- Liu, J., Ji, B., **Lou, Y.** (2021), The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on community services for homebound older adults: Evidence from a program evaluation. *Health & Social Care in the Community*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/hsc.13554>
- Liu, Z., Yang, F., **Lou, Y.**, Tong, F., Yang, Y. (2021), The effectiveness of Reminiscence Therapy on Alleviating Depressive Symptoms in Older Adults, A Systematic Review., *Frontiers in Psychology*. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.709853>
- Lou, Y.**, Liu, J. (2020). Death Narrative in 19th Century China: How Did Newspapers Frame Death and Dying?, *OMEGA: Journal of Death and Dying*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0030222820905946>
- Liu, J., **Lou, Y.**, Wu, B., Mui, A. (2020). “I’ve been always strong to conquer any suffering:” Challenge and resilience of Chinese American dementia caregivers in a life course perspective. *Aging and Mental Health*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2020.1793900>
- Ding, K., **Lou, Y.**, Li, X (2018). Hospice Social Work: A Historical and Regional Comparative Study (in Chinese), *Journal of the Social History of Medicine and Health*.
- Lou, Y.** (2015). Patients’ Anticipation of Social Workers’ Gender Role in Hospice Care (in Chinese), *Chinese Social Work*. Retrieved from: <http://d.wanfangdata.com.cn/Periodical/zgshdk201524008>

Lou, Y. (2015). Gerontological Social Work Intervention with Homebound Elders (in Chinese), *Journal of Chongqing Administration School (originally named: Social Work Education and Research)*. DOI: 10.16817/j.cnki.csglxb.2015.01.002

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Post-MSW Practice

- 2020.3 – 2022.5 Volunteering Social Worker, Phone Angel Program for Socially Isolated Chinese Seniors, North Flushing Senior Center, New York, NY.
- 2020.6 – 2022.5 Volunteering Social Worker, English Classes for Chinese Seniors, North Flushing Senior Center, New York, NY.

Pre-MSW Practice

- 2017 – 2018 Intern Social Worker
Department of Children with Hearing Loss, University of Chicago Medicine, Chicago, IL.
- 2016 – 2017 Intern Social Worker
Inspiration corporation, Chicago, IL.
- 2012 – 2016 Part Time Social Worker (first year as community volunteer)
Hospice Department, Linfen Hospital, Shanghai, China.
- 2015 Intern Social Worker
Asbury Methodist Social Service Institution, Hong Kong.
- 2015 – 2016 Intern Social Worker for Children Hospice Care
Oncology Department, Children’s Hospital of Fudan University.
- 2015 Intern Social Worker
Gerontology Department, Zhoujiadu Hospital, Shanghai, China.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024 Spring Lecturer, Class: Advanced Research Method & Statistics, School of Social Work, Columbia University.
- 2022 Spring Lecturer, Class: Advanced Research Method & Statistics, School of Social Work, Columbia University.
- 2021 Fall Teaching Assistant, Lab teaching: Advanced Research Method & Statistics, School of Social Work, Columbia University.

- 2020 Fall Teaching Assistant, Class: Research Method III – Large Scale Data Analysis, Mailman, School of Public Health, Columbia University.
- 2020 Guest Speaker, Class: Aging – Practice, Research, and Policy, School of Social Work, Columbia University.
- 2019 & 2020 Guest Speaker, Class: Global Policy, School of Social Work, Columbia University.
- 2019 Guest Speaker, Class: Aging and Mental Health, School of Social Work, Columbia University.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 – 2023 Graduate Research Assistant (PI: Jinyu Liu, Ph.D.), School of Social Work, Columbia University.
- 2016 – 2018 Research Assistant, Lab of Culture and Mental Health (PI: Miwa Yasui, Ph.D.), School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago.
- 2017 – 2018 Research assistant for intervention data, Thirty Million Words Lab, Department of Children with Hearing Loss, University of Chicago Medicine.
- 2015 – 2016 Research Assistant, Chinese National Social Worker Career Situation Study, School of Social and Public Administration, East China University of Science and Technology.
- 2013 – 2015 Principle investigator, supervised by Ruihong Wang, Ph.D., Hospice Research Project, School of Social and Public Administration, East China University of Science and Technology.

SERVICE

- 2020 – 2022 Mentor, Doctoral peer mentor program, Columbia University School of Social Work
- 2020 - 2023 Student Reviewer, Gerontological Society of America 2020 Annual Meeting
- 2016 – 2018 President, Asian Student Association, School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago.

2014 – 2015 Project Organizer, University-wide Incoming Student Camp, East China University of Science and Technology.

ACCEPTED OR INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Lou, Y., Vu, T., Piechota, A., Monin, J. (2024), Emotion Regulation in People Living with Dementia and Their Spouses: The Role of Neuropsychiatric Symptoms. Annual Conference of National Institute on Aging IMbedded Pragmatic Alzheimer's disease and AD-Related Dementias Clinical Trials Collaboratory.

Lou, Y., (2023), Heterogenous Effects of Medicare Benefit for Advance Care Planning Conversation by Sociodemographic Factors. Gerontological Society of America 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Ding, K., **Lou, Y.**, (2023), Neighborhood Cohesion, Neighborhood Physical Disadvantage, and End-of-life Care: How Neighborhood Matters. Gerontological Society of America 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Liu, J., Cheung, E., **Lou, Y.**, (2023), A Pilot Study of a Peer Mentoring Support Intervention for Chinese American Dementia Caregivers. Gerontological Society of America 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Lou, Y., Liu, J. (2022), To Tell or Not to Tell: Typologies of Older Adults Preferences on Diagnosis Disclosure of Critical Illness in China. Gerontological Society of America 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Lou, Y., Liu, J., Cheung, E., Wu, B. (2022), Reopening Under COVID-19: The Impact of Reopening Society on Older Asian American's Depressive Symptoms. Gerontological Society of America 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Liu, J., **Lou, Y.**, Li, L., Xu, H., Zhang Z. (2022), Dyadic Effects on Depressive Symptoms of Spouse Caregivers and Their Care Recipients: Evidence from China. Gerontological Society of America 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Lou, Y., Bern-Klug, M., Liu, J., (2021), Change of Health Conditions and Uptake of Advance Care Planning: Moderating Role of Race/Ethnicity. Gerontological Society of America 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Lou, Y., Bern-Klug, M., Liu, J., (2021), Change of Health and Change of Preferences on Life-sustaining Treatments: Evidence from a Longitudinal Dataset. Gerontological Society of America 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting.

Lou, Y., Liu, J., Wu, B., (2020), Power Dynamics in a Triad Relationship: Advance Care Planning for Older Adults with Dementia in China. Gerontological Society of America 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting.

- Lou, Y., Carr, D., (2020),** Racial Differences in the Impact of Subjective Life Expectancy on Advance Care Planning. Gerontological Society of America 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting.
- Lou, Y., Nan, J., Ornstein., K., (2020),** Last Place of Care and End-of-life Quality of Life in U.S.: Results from a National Representative Data. Gerontological Society of America 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting.
- Carr, D., **Lou, Y., (2020)** Do Perceptions of Own and Spouse Survival Affect Advance Care Planning? Gerontological Society of America 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting.
- Lou, Y., Liu, J., (2020),** Racial and Ethnic Disparities of Advance Directives among American older adults. at Society of Social Work Research Annual Meeting.
- Lou, Y., Liu, J., (2019),** Death Narrative in 19th Century China: How Did Newspapers Frame Death and Dying?, at Gerontological Society of America 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting.
- Lou, Y., Liu, J., (2019),** What Matters for Completion of Advance Directives among American older adults?. at Gerontological Society of America 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting.
- Liu, J., **Lou, Y., Wu, B., (2019),** Mui, A. “I’ve been always strong to conquer any suffering:” Challenge and resilience of Chinese American dementia caregivers in a life course perspective. at Gerontological Society of America 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting.

SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

Interviews

- Lou, Y.,** Interview with Wei-Gan Du. (2020). Legislation on Advance Care Planning in China (In Chinese), *South China Daily News*. Retrieved from: <https://static.nfapp.southcn.com/content/202207/06/c6661117.html?from=weChatMessage&colID=null&appversion=9000&firstColID=1374&date=NzA1MDBmZmQtYzJkOS0xMWU3LTgyNjUtNmM5MmJmNDcxMzA4&layer=3>

Written Materials

- Lou, Y., (2019).** When caring for family members with terminal cancer, what are the caregiving tips? (In Chinese), *Zhihu*. Retrieved from: <https://www.zhihu.com/question/328796159/answer/721266384>
- Nan, J., Ding, K., **Lou, Y., (2019).** Is Euthanasia the only option when facing death in China? (In Chinese), *Peng Pai News*. Retrieved from: https://www.thepaper.cn/newsDetail_forward_3154694

Ad Hoc Reviewer

Research on Aging
Aging and Mental Health
Journal of Applied Gerontology
Health & Social Care in the Community
OMEGA: Journal of Death and Dying
International Journal of Wellbeing
Journal of Family Studies

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Fellow, Columbia Population Research Center (CPRC)
Fellow, Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research (Sylff)
Fellow, Columbia China Center for Social Policy
Pre-dissertation Fellow, Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGESW)
Member, Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)
Member, Gerontological Society of America (GSA)