

Dr Xiaoling CHEN

Education

- D.Phil (Human Geography) University of Colorado Boulder, 2025
 - M.A. (Medical Anthropology) University of Colorado Denver, 2018
 - M.S. (Biotechnology) China Agricultural University, 2011
 - B.S. (Resources & Environmental Science) China Agricultural University, 2009
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Professional Experience

01/09/2025 - PRESENT

Postdoctoral Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

- I work with Professor Tim Bunnell in the Asia Urbanism cluster and take the lead in organising workshops and conferences, participate in cluster projects, and developing new projects as well as carrying out own writing for publication.

15/08/2019-20/08/2025

Instructor, Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder

- Developed and implemented course syllabi for two upper-division undergraduate courses: GEOG 3822 – Geography of China (one semester) and GEOE 3692 – Intro to Global Public Health (two semesters)

Teaching Assistant, Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder

- Led recitations and graded assignments for two upper-division undergraduate courses: GEOG 3822 – Geography of China (two semesters) and GEOE 3692 – Intro to Global Public Health (six semesters)

Department Assistant, Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder

- Worked with Department Chair, Professor Jennifer Fluri, on project development, implementation, and cross-sectional coordination (two semesters)

Lead Graduate Teacher, Department of Geography, sponsored by the Center for Teaching & Learning, University of Colorado Boulder

- Implemented certification programs and mentored graduate instructors; developed, coordinated, and facilitated teaching and professional development workshops; and built a pedagogy resource repository (two academic years)

15/08/2017-15/08/2018

Teaching Assistant, Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado Denver

- Led lab sections for the undergraduate course ANTH 1303 – Intro Biological Anthropology (two semesters)

Research Assistant, Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado Denver

- Assisted Professor Steve Koester with research and a literature review for a project on overdose deaths among individuals living on the street

Research Area/Topic/Discipline

- Human Geography
- Infrastructure Studies
- Urban Politics, Memory, and Trauma
- Science, Technology, and Society (STS)
- Big-data Governance & COVID-19

Short Biography

Xiaoling Chen is a Postdoctoral Fellow at NUS's Asia Research Institute. She employs multi-sited, multi-scalar ethnographic methods to investigate infrastructure, urban politics, digital governance, and collective trauma. She holds a Ph.D. in Human Geography from the University of Colorado Boulder and has published in journals, such as *Critical Asian Studies*, *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, *Made in China*, and *Human Organization*. She is currently writing a monograph titled “*Infrastructural Power for Despotism: Compulsory Vaccination, Digital Surveillance, and Collective Trauma in China's COVID-19 response*.” Her work contributes to and expands theories of state power and infrastructural violence through the lens of China.

Publications

Refereed Articles

2023. **Chen, Xiaoling**, and Tim Oakes. Time-Space Companions: Digital Surveillance, Social Management, and Abuse of Power During the Covid-19 Pandemic in China. *Critical Asian Studies*, 55(2):282-305. [Link](#).
2023. **Chen, Xiaoling**. ‘They Want the Horse to Run but Without Providing Feed’: Labour Exploitation of Healthcare Workers in China. *Made in China*, 8(1): 94-107. [Link](#).
2020. **Chen, Xiaoling**. Spaces of Care and Resistance in China: Public Engagement During the COVID-19 Outbreak. *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, 61(4-5):435-447. [Link](#).
2019. **Chen, Xiaoling**. and Hulsbrink, Eloiss B. Barriers to Achieving “Economic Self-Sufficiency”: The Structural Vulnerability Experienced by Refugee Families in Denver, Colorado. *Human Organization*, 78(3):218-229. [Link](#).

Book Chapter

2023. **Chen, Xiaoling**. The Venue Code: Digital Surveillance, Spatial (Re)organization, and Infrastructural Power during the Covid Pandemic in China. In volume: *Intelligence for*

Awards/Grants and Distinctions

Recognition

2023. Best Student Paper Award, *The Venue Code: Digital Surveillance, Spatial (Re)organization, and Infrastructural Power during the Covid Pandemic in China*. China Geography Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers, \$250.

Research & Travels

2025. James A. and Jeanne B. DeSana Graduate Research Scholarship (\$1,000). Geography, CU Boulder.

2025. AAG travel grant (\$250). Graduate Student Affinity Group, American Association of Geographers.

2024. James A. and Jeanne B. DeSana Graduate Research Scholarship (\$1,000). Geography, CU Boulder.

2024. Graduate Research Award Demonstrating Excellence (\$300). Center for Humanities & the Arts, CU Boulder.

2023. Graduate School Travel Grant (\$450). Graduate School, CU Boulder

2023. Graduate School Dissertation Completion Fellowship (approx. \$20,000). Graduate School, CU Boulder.

2023. Mabel Duncan Award (\$1,500). Geography, CU Boulder.

2023. James A and Jeanne B DeSana Graduate Travel Award (\$1,000). Geography, CU Boulder.

2023. The Eaton Graduate Student Research Award (\$1,000). Center for Humanities & the Arts, CU Boulder.

2023. Travel Grants (\$300). The Graduate and Professional Student Government, CU Boulder.

2023. Gilbert White Doctoral Award (spring semester, \$16,000). Geography, CU Boulder.

2021. Evelyn L Pruitt National Fellowship for Diss. Research (\$8,000). Society of Woman Geographers.

2021. Jennifer Dinaburg Memorial Research Award (\$3,500). Geography, CU Boulder.

2021. Beverly Sears Graduate Student Grant award (\$1,000). Graduate School, CU Boulder.

2021. Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences (\$1,000). CU Boulder.

2020. Solstice Graduate Research Award (\$1,000). Geography, CU Boulder.

2020. Jennifer Dinaburg Memorial Research Award (\$2,605). Geography, CU Boulder.

2018. Graduate Travel Fund (\$400). Department of Anthropology at CU Denver.

2018. Graduate Travel Fund (\$400). Graduate School, CU Denver.

2018. Graduate Travel Fund (\$500). College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, CU Denver.

2017. Graduate Research Grant (\$400). Department of Anthropology, CU Denver.

Teaching

2023-24. Lead Graduate Teacher Fellowship (\$2,500). Center for Teaching & Learning, CU Boulder.

2022-23. Lead Graduate Teacher Fellowship (\$2,500). Center for Teaching & Learning, CU Boulder.