

# Ma Xiangyu

Nanyang Technological University  
48 Nanyang Avenue  
Singapore 639818

Phone: +65 9274-7195  
Email: [xy.ma@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:xy.ma@ntu.edu.sg)  
Website: [xy.ma.net](http://xy.ma.net)

## Employment

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Nanyang Technological University. 2023–

## Education

Ph.D. Sociology, University of Chicago, 2023.

Dissertation: “Moral matters in cultural spaces.”

Advisors: John Levi Martin (chair), Amanda Sharkey, & James Evans.

M.A. Sociology, University of Chicago, 2018.

B.A. Sociology, Pomona College, 2017. Magna Cum Laude.

## Fields of Interest

Culture, economic sociology, morality, computational social science.

## Publications

### *Journal Articles*

Ma, Xiangyu. 2024. “Tastes and complex tastes.” *Cultural Sociology*.

Ma, Xiangyu. 2024. “The costliest signals of authenticity? How death inflects artistic reputations in hip-hop.” *Poetics*.

Ma, Xiangyu. 2021. “What are the temporal dynamics of taste?” *Poetics*.

- Best student paper award from the ASA Consumption and Consumers Section, 2022.

### *Book Chapters*

Lembo, Alessandra, Xiangyu Ma & John Levi Martin. 2023. “New directions in the sociology of morality.” *Handbook of the Sociology of Morality*.

### *In-Progress*

Ma, Xiangyu. In preparation. “Twitter and the politicization of mediated scandals in weakly autonomous cultural fields.”

## Conference Presentations & Talks

"The costliest signals of authenticity? How death inflates artistic reputations in hip-hop." 2023. Presented at the 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association.

"What is taste?" 2023. Presented at the International Sociological Association's World Congress of Sociology 2023.

"What is taste?" 2023. Presented at the Eastern Sociological Society Meeting 2023.

"Tastes and complex tastes." 2022. Sociology of Culture Workshop. University of California, Santa Barbara.

"Tastes, complex tastes & meta-tastes." 2022. Presented at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, panel session on *International Perspectives on Cultural Sociology*.

"Denunciations and scandals in a cultural market." 2022. Stigler Center Lunch Workshop. University of Chicago.

"What are the temporal dynamics of taste?" 2021. Center for Cultural Affairs, Indiana University Bloomington.

"Cultural consumption as voluntaristic action." 2021. Presented at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, panel session on *Consumers, Consumption, and Well-being*.

## Fellowships, Awards & Grants

Social Science & Humanities Research (SSHRC) Seed grant (S\$30,000)

Ministry of Education Tier 1 Seed Grant (S\$50,000)

Nanyang Technological University Start-Up Grant (S\$35,000)

International Sociology Association World Congress of Sociology Grant

Michael and Ling Markovitz Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Chicago.

Henderson research grant (US\$3,000), University of Chicago

Stigler Center PhD Dissertation Award and Bradley Fellow (US\$5,000), University of Chicago (Booth)

Wing C. Chan and Angelina H. Li Fund research grant (US\$1,500), University of Chicago

College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (HASS) International PhD Scholarship, Nanyang Technological University.

Ministry of Education-Autonomous University (MOE-AU) Scholarship, Ministry of Education, Singapore.

Independent Summer Undergraduate Research Program Award, Pomona College.

Edward J. Sexton Fellow, Claremont McKenna College.

Robert Day Scholar, Claremont McKenna College.

Arthur R. Adams Fellow, Claremont McKenna College.

Kravis Prize Fellowship, Claremont McKenna College.

## Teaching

### *As Instructor*

2024-2025. "Contemporary Social Theory (undergraduate)."

2024-2025. "Contemporary Social Theory (graduate)."

2023-2024. "Research Practicum on Quantitative Social Research."

### *As Teaching Assistant*

Spring 2020. "Advanced Statistical Methods in the Social Sciences."

Fall 2019. "Introduction to Spatial Data Science."

Winter 2019. "Introduction to Statistical Methods in the Social Sciences."

Winter 2018. "Introduction to Statistical Methods in the Social Sciences."

## Mentorship

### *Undergraduates*

I have advised undergraduate students on both qualitative and quantitative research projects for their final year theses, winning grants such as the Jek Yuen Thong Community Development Fund Grant.

## Professional Service

Occasional reviewer for the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Cultural Sociology*, *Poetics*, *Socio-Economic Review*.

Program committee for *International Conference on Computational Social Science 2024*.

Sociology management committee at Nanyang Technological University, 2024-

Graduate admissions committee at Nanyang Technological University, 2023-

Seminar series committee at Nanyang Technological University, 2023-

Graduate editorial intern at the *Socio-Economic Review*, 2022-2023.

Manuscript review board at the *American Journal of Sociology*, 2021-2022.

## Technical Skills

Languages: English (native), Mandarin (native), Python (fluent), R (fluent), Japanese (basic), Stata (basic).