

ELI FRIEDMAN

Cornell University
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Ithaca, NY 14853

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Cornell University

Associate Professor, Department of International and Comparative Labor	2017-present
Field of Sociology	2012-present
Field of Development Studies	2013-present
Assistant Professor, Department of International and Comparative Labor	2011-2017
Chair, Department of International and Comparative Labor	2020-present
Director of International Programs, ILR School	2018-2020

Brown University

Visiting Fellow, International Studies	Spring 2015
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, University of California, Berkeley, CA	2011
M.A. Sociology, University of California, Berkeley, CA	2007
B.A. Asian Studies, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY	2002
A.A. Liberal Arts, Bard College at Simon's Rock, Gt. Barrington, MA	2000

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Development, China and East Asia, Social Movements, Urbanization, Work and Labor

BOOKS

The Urbanization of People: The Politics of Development, Labor Markets, and Schooling in the Chinese City. Columbia University Press. 2022.

Insurgency Trap: Labor Politics in Postsocialist China. Cornell University Press. 2014.

EDITED VOLUMES & SPECIAL ISSUES

China on Strike: Narratives of Workers' Resistance. Haymarket Press. 2016. [co-editor of the English edition with Zhongjin Li]

Special Issue: Changing Work, Labour and Employment Relations in China. *Human Relations*. 68(2). 2015. [co-editor with Sarosh Kuruvilla]

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

"Faltering Standardization: Labor Conflict in China's Sanitation and Taxi Sectors." *International Labour Review*. 160(3): 363-385. 2021. [Second author, with Hao Zhang]

"Resistance Under the Radar: Organization of Work and Labor Conflict in China's Food Delivery Industry." *The China Journal*. 86: 68-89. 2021. [Second author, with Chuxuan Liu]

"Regimes, Resistance and Reforms: Comparing Workers' Politics in the Automobile Industry in China and India." *Global Labour Journal*. 12(1). 2021. [Co-author, with Manjusha Nair]

"Informality and Working Conditions in China's Sanitation Sector." *China Quarterly*. 238: 375-395. 2019. [Second author, with Hao Zhang]

"Just-in-Time Urbanization? Managing Migration, Citizenship, and Schooling in the Chinese City." *Critical Sociology*. 44(3): 503-518. 2018.

"Teachers' Work in China's Migrant Schools." *Modern China*. 43(6): 559-589. 2017.

"Experimentation and Decentralization in China's Labor Relations." *Human Relations*. 68(2): 181-195. 2015. [First author, with Sarosh Kuruvilla]

"Alienated Politics: Labour Insurgency and the Paternalistic State in China." *Development and Change*. 45(5): 1001-1018. 2014.

"Economic Development and Sectoral Unions in China." *ILR Review*. 67(2): 481-503. 2014.

"Insurgency and Institutionalization: The Polanyian Countermovement and Chinese Labor Politics." *Theory and Society*. 42(3):295-327. 2013.

"Getting Through the Hard Times Together? Chinese Workers and Unions Respond to the Economic Crisis." *Journal of Industrial Relations*. 54(4):459-475. 2012.

"Remaking the World of Chinese Labour: a 30-Year Retrospective." *British Journal of Industrial Relations*. 48(3):507-533. 2010. [First author, with Ching Kwan Lee]

"External Pressure and Local Mobilization: Transnational Activism and the Emergence of the Chinese Labor Movement." *Mobilization*. 14(2):199-218. 2009.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“Rupture at the Center: Evicting Migrant Schools in Beijing.” In *Proletarian China: A Century of Chinese Labour*. Verso. 2022.

“The Biopolitics of Urbanization in China: Managing Migration and Access to Education.” In *Developmentalist Cities? Interrogating Urban Developmentalism in East Asia*. Edited by Jamie Doucette and Bae-Gyoon Park. Brill, 2018. (adapted from 2018 *Critical Sociology* article)

“Migration without Integration: Workers between Countryside and City.” In *Factory Towns of South China*, edited by Stefan Al. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press. 2012.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

The China Question [co-editor with Ashley Smith & Kevin Lin]. Under contract with Verso.

TEACHING

Courses offered at Cornell

The Asian Century? The Rise of China and India (co-taught)

Empire of Migrants: Chinese People on the Move

Globalization and Sociology of Work

Labor Sociology (PhD Seminar)

The US-China Relationship: A Labor Perspective

Work and Labor in China

Work, Labor, and Capital in the Global Economy (team-taught)

Workers in the City: A Global Perspective

Course offered at Brown

Urbanization in China: Megacities, Mass Migration, and Citizenship Struggles

Awards

MacIntyre Award for Exemplary Teaching, ILR School, Cornell University (2013)

POPULAR WRITING

“The Real Numbers Behind the Labor Movement.” *The Nation*. April 5, 2022. [second author, with Johnnie Kallas and Leonardo Grageda]

“Labor Action Tracker Annual Report, 2021.” *ILR Worker Institute*. February 22, 2022. [third author, with Johnnie Kallas and Leonardo Grageda]

- “Why China is Capitalist: Toward an Anti-Nationalist Anti-Imperialism.” *Spectre*. July 15, 2020.
Spanish Translation: “Por qué China es capitalista.” *Contexto y Acción*. September 16, 2020.
Chinese Translation: “為什麼中國是資本主義社會。” *Lausan*. September 24, 2020.
Italian Translation: “Perchè la Cina è capitalista: Per un anti-imperialismo anti-nazionalista.” *Dinamo*. October 1, 2020.
German Translation: “Warum China kapitalistisch ist: Für einen anti-nationalistischen Anti-Imperialismus.” *Autonomie Magazin*. October 11, 2020
Portuguese Translation: “Por que a China é capitalista.” *Esquerda*. July 15, 2021.
- “Why Leftists Should Support Hong Kong’s Fight for Democratic Rights.” *Jacobin*. December 5, 2019.
- “It’s Time to Get Loud About Academic Freedom in China.” *Foreign Policy*. November 13, 2018.
- “The Communist Party vs. China’s Labor Laws.” *Jacobin*. October 2, 2018. [second author, with Elaine Hui]
- “The End of the ‘End of History’.” *Jacobin*. April 1, 2018.
- “Evicting the Underclass.” *Jacobin*. December 6, 2017.
- “Collective Bargaining in China is Dead: The Situation is Excellent.” *Made in China*. Volume 2.1. 2017.
- “China Is Not to Blame for the Decline of the US Working Class.” *Truthout*. February 10, 2017.
- “Cruel Irony: China’s Communists Are Stamping Out Labor Activism.” *Washington Post*. January 3, 2016. [First author, with Aaron Halegua & Jerome Cohen]
Chinese Translation: “中国不应视公民社会组织为威胁.” *Financial Times*. January 11, 2016.
- “The Guest Worker – Use and Discard.” *Pacific Standard*. November 13, 2015.
- “Marketizing China.” *Jacobin*. September 9, 2015.
- “The Primary Contradiction.” *Jacobin*. February 2, 2015.
Spanish Translation: “¿Una nueva izquierda en China?” *Nueva Sociedad*. 266. 2016.
- “The Urbanization of the Chinese Working Class.” *Jacobin*. 15/16. 2014.
- “Why Hong Kong’s ‘Occupy Central’ Movement has Beijing Very, Very Scared.” *The Nation*. September 12, 2014.
- “Outside the New China.” *Jacobin*. 11/12. 2013.
Italian Translation: “I ‘dannati della terra’ nella nuova Cina.” *MicroMega*. 9. 2013.

POPULAR WRITING (CONT'D)

“China in Revolt.” *Jacobin*. 7/8. 2012.

French Translation: “La Chine en révolte.” *La Revue des Livres*. Jan-Feb. 2013.

Spanish Translation: “Las mutaciones de la resistencia obrera en China.” *Nueva Sociedad*. 244. 2013.

Chinese Translation: “躁动的中国.” *劳动世界*. March, 2013.

“In China, investors follow migrant workers from the coast to the inland region.” *Quartz*. October 29, 2012.

“China Since Tiananmen: The Labor Movement.” *Journal of Democracy*. 20(3):21-24. 2009.
[second author, with Ching Kwan Lee]

BOOK REVIEWS

Hui, Elaine Sio-Ieng. “Hegemonic Transformation: The State, Laws, and Labour Relations in Post-Socialist China.” *China Quarterly*. 234. 2018.

Kim, Jaesok. “Chinese Labor in a Korean Factory: Class, Ethnicity, and Productivity on the Shop Floor in Globalizing China.” *Pacific Affairs*. 89(1):148-150. 2016.

Becker, Jeffrey. “Social Ties, Resources, and Migrant Labor Contention in Contemporary China: From Peasants to Protesters.” *The China Journal*. 75:182-4. 2016

Zhang, Lu. “Inside China’s Automobile Factories: The Politics of Labor and Worker Resistance.” *ILR Review*. 68(5): 1229-30. 2015.

Chan, Anita. “Walmart in China.” *ILR Review*. 66(5). 2013.

Kay, Tamara. “NAFTA and the Politics of Labor Transnationalism.” *Social Forces*. 91(1). 2012.

Hurst, William. “The Chinese Worker after Socialism.” *Enterprise and Society*. 11(3):672-674. 2010.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Central New York Humanities Corridor, w/Darwin Tsen (Syracuse), 2022-

Cornell University Institute for the Social Sciences Collaborative Project, 2016-19

Cornell University Institute for the Social Sciences Faculty Fellows Program, 2015-16

Jeffrey Sean Lehman Fund for Scholarly Exchange with China, 2013

Cornell Institute for the Social Sciences, Small Grants Program, 2012

University of California, Berkeley Department of Sociology Grant, 2010

Pacific Rim Research Program Advanced Graduate Student Research Fellowship, 2009

Global Scholarship Programme for Research Excellence – CNOOC Grant, 2009

University of California Berkeley Dean’s Normative Time Fellowship, 2008

University of California Labor and Employment Research Fund Thesis Fellowship, 2008

Center for Chinese Studies Summer Research Grants, Summer 2007

Foreign Language and Area Studies Scholarship, 2004-2005

INVITED TALKS

“Academic Freedom and Confucius Institutes” (panel presentation) The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Washington, D.C. August 2022.

“Labor Rights and Human Rights.” University of Chicago. February 2022.

“Rendered Surplus: The Struggle for Schooling Amidst Anti-Migrant Policies in Beijing.” Indiana University. September 2021.

“The Urbanization of People: The Politics of Development, Labor Markets, and Schooling in the Chinese City.” (Book talk)

University at Buffalo. April 2021.

York University. February 2022.

Harvard University. March 2022.

Brown University. April 2022.

“The Pros and Cons of US Universities in Authoritarian Countries” (panel presentation) The New School. December 2019.

“University Engagement in China.” Committee on Human Rights of the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Washington, D.C. May 2019.

“Collaborating with China: Challenges and responsibilities of the academic community, professional associations, and universities” (panel presentation) Lund University, Sweden. April 2019.

“The Urbanization of People.” Yale-NUS. Singapore. October 2018.

Rethinking China’s Urban Development Models. University of Pennsylvania. November 2018.

“Resisting the Worker-Citizen Rupture in Urban China: Parents and Teachers Fight Back.” Pennsylvania State University. April 2018.

“The Inverted Welfare State: Urbanization, Citizenship, and Education in China.” National Tsinghua University. Hsinchu, Taiwan. May 2016. (presented in Chinese)

“Fractured Militancy: Labor Politics in 21st Century China.” Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica. Taipei, Taiwan. May 2016. (presented in Chinese)

“China on Strike.” (Book Talk)

Asian Pacific Studies Institute, Duke University. April 2016.

Global Labor Research Center. York University. October 2016.

“China’s Growing Labor Turmoil.” U.S.-Asia Law Institute, New York University. April 2016.

“Inverted Socialism: Urbanization, Education, and Segmented Inclusion in China’s Megacities.” China Economics Seminar, National Bureau of Economic Research. Cambridge, MA. February 2016.

“Insurgency Trap: Labor Politics in Postsocialist China.” Harvard Trade Union Program, Harvard University. February 2015; February 2016.

“Alienated Politics: Labor Insurgency and the Paternalistic State in China.”

The Future of Democracy After Neoliberalism: Social Movements in a Globalizing World, University of Tokyo. Tokyo, Japan. July 2014.

From Proletariat to Precariat: Changing Labor Relations in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries. Indiana University. September 2014.

“Inverted Socialism: Urbanization, Citizenship, and Education in China.”

Colloquium on Comparative Research, Brown University. April 2014.

China Social Policy Symposium, Harvard University. April 2015.

“Teachers’ Work in China’s Migrant Schools.” Pembroke Center Roundtable, Brown University. March 2014.

“Economic Transition and Popular Resistance in China.” Center for Social Theory and Comparative History, UCLA. February 2014.

“Capitalist Development and Postsocialist Labor Politics in China.” Department of Sociology, Yonsei University. Seoul, South Korea. October 2013.

“Appropriated Representation: Illegitimate Unions and Worker Unrest in China.” The Rise of the South: Current Trends >> Future Possibilities. Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University. April 2013. Video Link: <http://t.co/2dPxFYTucE>

“What Are the Pressures on Supply Chains to Change?” The Transformation of Supply Chains. University of Washington. March 2013.

“Economic Development and Sectoral Unions in China: The Cases of Guangdong and Zhejiang.” Institute for Work and Employment Research, MIT. November 2012

“Producing Social Reproduction: Teachers’ Work in Beijing’s Segregated School System.” East Asian Studies Program, Johns Hopkins University. September 2012.

INVITED TALKS (CONT'D)

"Insurgency and Institutionalization: Countermovements and Chinese Labor Politics." Department of Sociology, University of Arizona. February 2012.

"Occupy the World: Labor, Global Insurgency, and Permanent Crisis." (presented in Chinese) Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China. December 2011.

"The Development and Evolution of U.S. Labor Relations." (presented in Chinese) Chinese Institute for Industrial Relations, Beijing, China. December 2011.

"Oligarchic Decommodification: Trade Unions and Sectoral Wage Negotiations in Zhejiang Province." Department of Sociology, Chinese University of Hong Kong. December 2009.

"Dynamics of Representation and the Unionization of Wal-Mart in China." *Work and Inequality in the Global Economy: China, Mexico, and the US.* University of California, Los Angeles. October 2009.

"Transformations in US-Chinese Trade Union Relations." (presented in Chinese) Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China. December 2007.

LANGUAGES

Chinese (Mandarin), near-native oral and written proficiency