

Huacong Liu, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
School of Education, Shanghai Jiaotong University
Room 239, Chen Rui-Qiu Building
800 Dongchuan Road
Shanghai, China 200240

Email Address: huacong.liu@sjtu.edu.cn, huacong.liu@gmail.com

Google scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=hxcmYtIAAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao>

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2021 -	Associate Professor , Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China
2018 - 2020	Research Associate , University of Hamburg & UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning, Hamburg, Germany
2018	Consultant , UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report, Paris, France
2017	Thomas J. Alexander Fellow , OECD Directorate for Education and Skills, Paris, France

EDUCATION

2017	Ph.D. in Higher Education , Pennsylvania State University
2012	M.A. in Higher Education , University of British Columbia
2007	M.A. in Economics , Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
2004	B.A. in Management , Zhengzhou Institute of Aeronautical Industry Management

GRANTS AWARDED

2022	Shanghai Pu Jiang Talent Program Funds, 150,000 RMB, PI, China
2019	Open Society Foundation Research Funds, 5000 Euros, PI, Germany
2018	Hamburg Landesforschung sförderung, 170 million Euros, Co-PI, Germany
2017	OECD Thomas J. Alexander Grant, 12,000 Euros, PI, France
2016	American Institutes for Research PIAAC Funds, 10,000 USD, PI, U.S.
2016	The University of Chicago Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality Grant, U.S.
2015	Pennsylvania State University Roger L. Williams and Karen Magnuson Program Endowment in Higher Education Scholarship, U.S.
2014&2016	Pennsylvania State University Writing Group Grant, U.S.

PUBLICATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS)

UNDER REVIEW

Pendola, A. & **Liu, H.** “Comparing Cultures of School Leadership Effectiveness: Rural Leadership Behaviors between China and the U.S.?” *Asia Pacific Education Review*. (SSCI Q1, R2)

PUBLICATIONS

Wang, M. & **Liu, H.** (2025) “School-to-school Collaboration, Student Learning Outcomes, and Mediating Factors – Evidences from Shanghai’s Strong School Project” *ECNU Review of Education*. (ESCI Q1)

-
- Liu, H., & Zhang, Z..** (2025). How Does the Allocation of Teachers' Working Time Affect Work Stress?. *Shanghai Education*, (3), 62–65. In Chinese.
- Liu, H. (2023).** Response to “Problematizing the Imperative to Innovate: An Examination of Innovations in Adult Literacy”. *Adult Literacy Education*.
- Qu, L., Shao, J., Bai, Y., & **Liu, H.** (2023). Cultural reproduction or cultural mobility: The influence of individual characteristics and student engagement on academic achievement of the first-generation college students in Chinese Research University. *International Journal of Educational Research*, 117, 102119. **(SSCI Q1)**
- Liu, H.,** Fernandez, F., and Dutz, G. (2022) “Educational Attainment, Use of Numeracy at Work, and Gender Wage Gaps: Evidence from 12 Middle-Income Countries.” *International Journal of Educational Development*, 92, 102625. **(SSCI Q1)**
- Liu, H.** (2022) “How Do Affirmative Action Bans Affect the Racial Composition of Postsecondary Students in Public Institution?” *Educational Policy*, 36(6), 1348–1372. **(SSCI Q2)**
- Grotlüschen, A., Desjardins, R. and **Liu, H.** (2020). “Literacy and numeracy: Global and comparative perspectives.” *International Review of Education: Journal of Lifelong Learning* 66, 127–137. UNESCO, Paris. **(ESCI Q1)**
- Liu, H.** (2020). “Low-numeracy adults, motivational factors in learning, and their employment, education or training status in Germany, the U.S., and South Korea.” *ZDM mathematics education*, 52(3). **(SSCI Q1)**
- Qu, L. & **Liu, H.** (2020). “Skill Assessment Shift: Research on the OECD Study on Social Emotional Skills.” *International and Comparative Education*, 2020(7). (In Chinese)
- Fernandez, F. and **Liu, H.** (2019). “Examining Relationships Between Soft Skills and Occupational Outcomes among U.S. Adults With—and Without—University Degrees.” *Journal of Education and Work*, 32(8), 650-664. **(ESCI, Q2)**
- Liu, H.,** Fernandez, F., and Grotlüschen, A. (2019). “Examining self-directedness and its relationships with lifelong learning and earnings in Yunnan, Vietnam, Germany, and the United States.” *International Journal of Educational Development*, 70, 102088. **(SSCI Q1)**
- Cooper, R., and **Liu, H.** (2019). “Mismatch in human capital accumulation.” *International Economic Review*, 60(3), 1291-1328. **(SSCI Q2)**
- Liu, H.** and Metcalfe, A.S. (2016) “Internationalizing Chinese Higher Education: a glonacal analysis of local layers and conditions.” *Higher Education*, 71(3), 399-413. **(SSCI Q1)**

COMMISSIONED POLICY PAPERS (NOT PEER-REVIEWED)

- Yano, S., Linne C., Rasera, J. & **Liu, H.** (2021) “Counting the cost: achieving literacy in countries of the Global Alliance for Literacy.” UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning, Hamburg, Germany.
- Liu, H.** (2018). “Affordability of Tertiary Education - Indicators and targeting financing policies.” *Commissioned Paper for The Global Education Monitoring Report (GEMR) 2019*, UNESCO, Paris.
- Liu, H.** (2018). “Education Systems, Education Reforms, and Adult Skills in the PIAAC.” *OECD Education Working Papers*, No. 182, OECD Publishing, Paris, doi:10.1787/19939019.
- Liu, H.** and Fernandez, F. (2018). “Examining the Ways that Numeracy Skills and Soft Skills are Related to Occupational Status: The Case of U.S. Workers.” *American Institutes for Research Commissioned Paper*. Washington, DC., U.S.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Liu, H.** (2025). What of the National Teacher in a Global World? Deconstructing the Nordic and East Asian Models. In G. K. LeTendre, J. Helgetun, H. Woo, & S. Ikoma (Eds.), *How Teachers Shaped the Nation: The Pivotal Role of Teachers in Nordic and East Asian State Development* (pp. xx-xx). Emerald Publishing.
- Fu, Y.-C., & **Liu, H.** (2025). The Intersection of Teachers, Education, and the State in Nordic and East Asia Regions. In G. K. LeTendre, J. Helgetun, H. Woo, & S. Ikoma (Eds.), *How Teachers Shaped the Nation: The Pivotal Role of Teachers in Nordic and East Asian State Development* (pp. xx-xx). Emerald Publishing.
-

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Liu, H.** Li, L, Cao B., Fernandez, F. & Chykina, V. (**March, 2025**). Math Teacher Training, Student Math Performance and Math-related Career Expectations. 2025 *Comparative International Education Society meeting*, Chicago, U.S.
- Liu, H. (July, 2024)**. Why Don't Adults Complete Degree and Certificate Programs? Identifying Disparities by Prior Schooling, Cognitive and Non-cognitive skills. Faculty of Education, University of Hamburg invited seminar, Hamburg, **Germany**.
- Wang, M. & **Liu, H. (April, 2024)**. School-to-school Collaboration, Student Learning Outcomes, and Mediating Factors – Evidences from Shanghai's Strong School Project. 2024 *American Education Research Association*, Philadelphia, U.S.
- Pendola, H. & **Liu, H. (April, 2024)**. Comparing Cultures of School Leadership Effectiveness: Rural Leadership Behaviors between China and the U.S. 2024 *American Education Research Association*, Philadelphia, U.S.
- Pendola, H. & **Liu, H. (November, 2023)**. Comparing Cultures of School Leadership Effectiveness: Rural Leadership Behaviors between China and the U.S. 2023 *University Council for Educational Administration*, Minneapolis, U.S.
- Liu, H. & Zhang, Z. (2023, July)**. Teachers' Time Allocation and Perception of Stress—Empirical Analysis Based on TALIS 2018. 2023 *Chinese Policy Scholars Group (CPSG) Education Forum*, Shanghai, China.
- Liu, H. (2023, April & November)**. SDG 4.1, Global Trends in SES Achievement Gap and Targeting Policies. *Guest lecture for Education and Development in International Perspectives*, Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), Virtual.
- Liu, H. (2023, April)**. Design and Analysis of Large-Scale Assessment Data — Using OECD Adult Skills Survey (PIAAC) as an Example, *Invited talk at Beijing Normal University*, Virtual.
- Liu, H. & Wang, M. (2023, April)**. Did the “Strong School Project” in Shanghai improve the quality of low-performing schools? 2023 *American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting*, Chicago, U.S. Virtual.
- Liu, H. (2022, October)**. The Global Trend of Educational Inequality and Sustainable Development Goal 4.1. Guest Lecture at Faculty of Education, **University of Macau**, Virtual.

- Liu, H. (2021, March).** Education and Development Careers. Education and Development Career Panel, The University of Edinburgh, **Scotland, Virtual.**
- Liu, H. & Zhang, Z. (2022, September & November).** Teachers' Time Allocation and Perception of Stress—Empirical Analysis Based on TALIS 2018. *2022 Forum of Young Scholars in Comparative Education*, Shanghai, Virtual & *The Sixth Forum on Education Governance and School Reform at East China Normal University*, **Shanghai, Virtual.**
- Liu, H. (2020, October).** The evolution of assessment of adult skills and International Organizations' Collaboration on Monitoring SDG 4.6. *Invited lecture by Guangzhou University*, Guangzhou, **China.**
- Liu, H. (2020, February).** Educational Attainment, Use of Numeracy at Work, and Gender Wage Gaps: Evidence from 12 Middle-Income Countries. *Invited Talk at Faculty of Education*, Hamburg University, Hamburg, **Germany.**
- Liu, H. (2020, October & 2019, December).** History, theoretical background, and practices related to surveys of adult skills by the OECD. *Invited seminar by China Association for Science and Technology*, Beijing, **China.**
- Liu, H., Fernandez, F., and Grotlüschen, A.** Examining self-directedness and its relationships with lifelong learning and earnings in Yunnan, Vietnam, Germany, and the United States.
- (2019, September).** *UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning and University of Hamburg Jointed Workshop on Adult Education*, Hamburg, **Germany.**
- (2019, April)** *Comparative and International Education Society CIES 2019 Annual Conference*, San Francisco, **US.**
- Liu, H.** Education systems, education reforms, and adult skills in the Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC). **(2018, June).** *AEDE XXVII Meeting of the Economics of Education Association*, Barcelona, **Spain**
- (2018, March).** *Comparative and International Education Society CIES 2018 Annual Conference*, Mexico City, **Mexico.**
- (2018, February).** Invited presentation at *Institute for Research in Sociology and Economics of Education*, University of Burgundy, Dijon, **France.**
- (2017, October).** Invited presentation at the *Education Forum of the Directorate for Education and Skills*, OECD, Paris, **France.**
- Liu, H.** School Inequality in Shanghai's Secondary Education: Evidence from PISA 2009 and 2012. **(2018, April).** *American Educational Research Association (AERA)*, New York City, **U.S.**
- (2018, March).** *Comparative and International Education Society CIES 2018 Annual Conference*, Mexico City, **Mexico**
- Liu, H.** Affirmative Action Bans and Student-body Composition. **(2018, December).** Invited presentation at National Chung Cheng University, **Taiwan, China.**

- (2017, April). Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association (AERA)*, San Antonio, Texas, U.S.
- (2017, March). Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the *Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)*, Washington DC., U.S.
- (2016, November). Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the *Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)*, Columbus, Ohio., U.S.
- Cooper, R. & Liu, H. MisMatch in Human Capital Accumulation.
(2016, March). Paper presentation at the workshop on "*Occupations, Skills, and the Labor Market*" at ZEW, Mannheim, **Germany**
- Liu, H. & Zhang, L. Vocational Education and Accumulation of Transferable Skills: Evidence from PIAAC (Survey of Adult Skills).
(2016, March). Paper presentation at the workshop on "*Occupations, Skills, and the Labor Market*" at ZEW, Mannheim, **Germany**
- (2015, November). Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the *Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)*, Denver, Colorado., U.S.
- Zhang, L. & Liu, H. Exploring the Relationship Between Educational Attainment and Adult Skills Among Young Adults: A Comparative Study Among OECD Countries.
(2015, April). Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the *American Educational Research Association (AERA)*, Chicago, Illinois. U.S.
- Liu, H. & Metcalfe, A.S. Internationalizing Chinese Higher Education Institutions: “Jie Gui” and Global/Local Interpretations of Internationalization.
(2014, November). Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)*, Washington, DC. U.S.

TEACHING

Education and International Development, 2024, Undergraduate, Shanghai Jiao Tong University
 Future of Education, 2021, M.Ed program, Shanghai Jiao Tong University
 Individual Study on Large-scale Assessment Data and Educational Research, 2022, Undergraduate, SJTU
 Academic English, 2022, 2023, M.Ed program, SJTU

GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION

Ziqing Zhang (MA, 2024). The Impact of Middle School Teachers’ Workload on Their Self-Efficacy and Professional Identity in the Context of China’s Shuang Jian Policy.

Huanhuan Wu (MEd, 2024). Comparative Analysis of High School Mathematics Textbooks between China and the U.S.: A Case Study on Probability in Textbooks.

Haozhan Ding (MEd, 2025). Action Research on Cultivating Critical Reading Strategies in High School Students through Teacher Questioning Strategies in English.

Qingzhou Jiang (MEd, 2025). Action Research on High School Chinese Language Expository Writing Teaching Based on the Understanding by Design (UbD) Model.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Journal Manuscript Reviews:

Higher Education (2014-)
Adult Education Quarterly (2018-)
International Review of Education (2020-)
Sage Open (2021)
Discover Education (2025)

Special Issue Editor:

International Review of Education, Special Issue on literacy and numeracy: Global and comparative perspectives (2020)

Service in National Expert Committee:

Member of committee on China's civic scientific literacy indicator for the 14th Five-year Plan (2019-2023)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Educational Research Association (AERA)
Economics of Education Association (AEDE)
Comparative and International Education Society (CIES)
European Conference on Educational Research (ECER)
Global Labor Organization (GLO)