# Duong Thi Thuy Pham

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## ABOUT ME

My research revolves around the puzzle of authoritarian survival and autocratization in the 21st century. My current research agenda tackles an often overlooked angle of modern authoritarianism: autocrats' redefining of "democracy" in ways that challenge the Western liberal model. I study the "why", "how", and "so what" of this phenomenon. Methodologically, I am a strong advocate for and an avid practitioner of a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative methods. My research draws on a wide array of tools including survey experiments, computer-assisted text analysis, discourse analysis, semi-structured interviews, participant observation, archival research, and large-N qualitative analysis.

## EDUCATION

**University of California, San Diego** — San Diego, CA

*Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Arts, Political Science* — *Sept. 2021 – now*

- Dissertation Committee:
  - Dr. Christina J. Schneider (Professor, UCSD, Department of Political Science) - Co-Chair
  - Dr. Nico Ravanilla (Associate Professor, UCSD, School of Global Policy and Strategy) - Co-Chair
  - Dr. Stephan Haggard (Lawrence and Sallye Krause Distinguished Professor Emeritus, UCSD, School of Global Policy and Strategy) - Member
  - Dr. Margaret E. Roberts (Professor, UCSD, Department of Political Science) - Member
  - Dr. Edmund Malesky (Professor, Duke University, Department of Political Science) - Member

**Peking University, Yenching Academy** — Beijing, China

*Master of Law, Politics and International Relations* — *September 2019 - July 2021*

- The Yenching program is a prestigious fully funded master program in China studies inspired by Rhodes and Fulbright Scholarships with an extremely competitive acceptance rate of 2.7%.

**Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University** — Oita, Japan

*Bachelor of Social Science, International Relations and Peace Studies* — *September 2019 - July 2021*

## RESEARCH

### PhD Dissertation

- A People of One Will: Autocrats' Remake of Democracy

### Working in Progress

- "Accountable to Whom? How Vietnamese Newspapers Cover Corruption Scandals and Redefine Accountability"
- "Sources of Public Support for the Digital Citizen Scoring System in Vietnam", *article form of dissertation chapter*
- "ASEAN and the Challenge of Democratic Regression", with Stephan Haggard (UC San Diego).
- "Framing the LGBTQIA Movement: Effects on Public Support in Vietnam", with Mai Truong (Marquette University).
- "Unserious Dissent: How Vietnamese Gen Zs Talk Politics", with Quynh Thuy Truong (UC San Diego).

### Policy and Public Scholarship

- **Pham, Thi Thuy Duong**. 2026. "The Authoritarian Rebranding of Democracy." *IGCC Blog*. February 19.
- **Pham, Thi Thuy Duong**, and Mai Truong. 2025. "Vietnam's Bureaucratic 'Revolution': Rationales and Challenges." *The Diplomat*. January 29.
- **Pham, Thi Thuy Duong**, and Thuy Quynh Truong. 2023. "Unveiling the Engines Behind E-Government in Vietnam." *East Asia Forum*. April 15.

- Truong, Thuy Quynh, and **Thi Thuy Duong Pham**. 2021. "Bittersweet: Vietnam's Mixed Progress on E-Government During COVID-19." *The Diplomat*. July 16.
- **Pham, Thi Thuy Duong**, and Thuy Quynh Truong. 2020. "In Vietnam, Many Are Mourning the Downfall of an American Idol." *The Diplomat*. November 12.
- **Pham, Thi Thuy Duong**. 2020. "In Vietnam, an Ancient Town Struggles with a New COVID-19 Outbreak." *The Diplomat*. July 31.
- **Pham, Thi Thuy Duong**, and Dickson Agbaji. 2020. "China's Class of COVID-19." *The Diplomat*. July 7.

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- **Dissertation Fellowship**, University of California Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation (IGCC), US$15,000
- **International Institute Travel Award**, University of California San Diego, US$1,700
- **Pre-Dissertation Fellowship**, Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG), US$5,000
- **SEAREG Winter Conference Travel Grant**, US$500 (2023)
- **SEAREG Winter Conference Travel Grant**, US$700 (2022)
- **Teaching Assistant Excellence Award - UC San Diego Department of Political Science**, US$200 (Academic Year 2024-2025)
- **Yenching Academy Fellowship**, Peking University — full tuition, stipend, and travel support (2019–2021)
- **Asian Future Leadership Program Research Grant**, Baixian Asia Institute, RMB 12,000
- **Yenching Academy Dean's Research Grant** (cancelled due to COVID-19)
- **100% Tuition Reduction Scholarship**, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
- **Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students**, JASSO — JPY 40,000/month (2014–2015)
- **Certificate of Recognition for Contributions**, Consulate General of Vietnam in Fukuoka, Japan

## OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Authoritarian International Organizations** since 2023

*Graduate Research Assistant* *Department of Political Science, UC San Diego*

- with Professor Christina J. Schneider, Professor Stephan Haggard, and Professor Christina Cottiero
- Served as lead RA on production of a book manuscript on the effect of regional organization membership on the prospects for democracy.

**South China Sea Data Initiative** June – July 2022

*Graduate Research Assistant* *School of Global Policy and Strategy, UC San Diego*

- with Professor Nico Ravanilla
- Collected and cleaned datasets on elite profiles in Southeast Asian countries using Apollo.io.

**South China Sea Data Initiative** January – July 2020; January – March 2021

*Undergraduate Research Assistant* *Emory University and UC San Diego*

- with Professor Renard Sexton (Emory University) and Professor Nico Ravanilla (UC San Diego)
- Geocoded conflict events in the South China Sea.
- Project website: scsdi.org

**Youth and Interstate Reconciliation in East Asia** 2017

*Undergraduate Research Assistant* *Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University*

- with Professor Heo Emilie Seunghoon
- Designed survey questions and conducted interviews.

- Conducted data analysis.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Pham, Thi Thuy Duong (September 2024). *Framing Corruption News under the Authoritarian Shadow: The Case of Vietnam.* **American Political Science Association**, Philadelphia, PA.
- Haggard, Stephan, and Thi Thuy Duong Pham (September 2024). *ASEAN and the Challenge of Authoritarian Regression.* **American Political Science Association**, Philadelphia, PA.
- Pham, Thi Thuy Duong (March 2026). *Redefining Democracy: How Rhetoric of Collective Will Legitimizes Authoritarian Rule in Vietnam.* **WPSA Conference**, San Diego, CA.
- Pham, Thi Thuy Duong (December 2025). *Democracy, According to the Autocrat: How Collective Will Legitimizes Autocratic Rule in Vietnam.* **SEAREG Winter Conference**, La Jolla, CA. (poster presentation)
- Pham, Thi Thuy Duong (December 2023). *Framing Corruption News under the Authoritarian Shadow: The Case of Vietnam.* **SEAREG Winter Conference**, Durham, NC. (poster presentation)
- Pham, Thi Thuy Duong, and Thuy Quynh Truong (April 2021). *The Making of the "China Virus": Liberal Sentimentalism in Public Opinion during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Its Outcomes for Global Governance.* **International Studies Association Annual Convention**. Online poster presentation.
- Pham, Thi Thuy Duong (November 2017). *Southeast Asian States' Hedging Strategy against China against the Backdrop of the South China Sea Dispute.* **15th Asia Pacific Conference**, Oita, Japan.

## TEACHING AND MENTORING

### Teaching Assistantship Experience

- POLI11D Introduction to Comparative Politics, ***leading discussion section****, with Prof. Karen Ferree (Fall 2022, Fall 2024, Winter 2026), Prof. Kaare Strom (Winter 2024), and Prof. Scott Desposato (Winter 2025, Fall 2025) (Department of Political Science, UCSD)*
- POLI12D Introduction to International Relations, ***leading discussion section****, with Prof. Erik Gartzke (Spring 2024) and PhD Candidate Eric Thai (Spring 2026) (Department of Political Science, UCSD)*
- POLI176 Text as Data, *with Prof. Margaret E. Roberts (Department of Political Science, UCSD)*
- POLI121D Digital Politics, *with Prof. Margaret E. Roberts (Department of Political Science, UCSD)*
- POLI103A California Government and Politics, *with Prof. Thad Kousser (Department of Political Science, UCSD)*
- POLI160AA Introduction to Policy Analysis, *with Dr. Matthew Bergman (Department of Political Science, UCSD)*
- POLI142P Crisis Areas in World Politics, *with Prof. Graham Timmins (Department of Political Science, UCSD)*
- POLI122D Abuse of Power, *with Prof. Kaare Strom (Department of Political Science, UCSD)*
- POLI143 International Conflict: Cyber, Space, UAVs, *with Prof. Erik Gartzke (Department of Political Science, UCSD)*
- GPPS400 International Relations in Asia Pacific, *with Prof. Stephan Haggard (School of Global Policy and Strategy - UCSD)*
- The Rise of China and Change in World Politics, *with Prof. Xu Xin (Peking University)*
- China in Transition 4.0, *with Prof. Xu Xin (Peking University)*
- Women in Contemporary China, *with Prof. Li Yingtao (Peking University)*
- Critical Perspectives on Modern Sino-Foreign Relations, *with Prof. Chen Li (Peking University)*
- Introduction to International Relations *(Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University)*
- Study Skills and Academic Writing *(Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University)*
- Multicultural Cooperative Workshop *(Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University)*
- International Peace Studies and Global Enhancement Competency Program *(Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University)*

- Student evaluations available at duongtpham.com/teaching

**Mentoring Experience**

- Mentor, Research Apprenticeship Program (Department of Political Science, UCSD)
- Writing Center Tutor Leader (Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University)

**Pedagogical Training**

- Introduction to College Teaching, *with Certificate of Completion (March 2022)*
- Advanced College Teaching, *Certificate of Completion (May 2025)*

## SKILLS

- **Computational:** R, Python, LaTeX, Dedoose
- **Languages:** Vietnamese (Native), English (Fluent; IELTS 8.5), Japanese (Basic), Chinese (Basic)

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