

Yilia Yijia Qu

University of California, Irvine
Film and Media Studies Department
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Film and Media Studies

University of California, Irvine
Advisor: Braxton Soderman

Expected June 2031

Irvine, CA

M.A in Media, Culture, and Communication

New York University
Advisor: Natasha Schüll

May 2025

New York, NY

B.A (with Honors) in Cinema and Media Studies, Women's and Gender Studies

Wellesley College
Advisor: Nicholas Gutierrez

May 2023

Wellesley, MA

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Queer and Feminist Studies, Game Studies, Digital Media, Media Technology, Platform Studies, Domesticity and Domestic Labor, Home Space

FELLOWSHIPS AND ACADEMIC AWARDS

NYU Digital Humanities Graduate Fellowships, Jun 2024

Wellesley College Cinema and Media Studies Prize for Community Initiative, May 2023

PUBLICATIONS

Qu, Yilia Yijia, Vesper Keyi Long, Jamie Wong, and Graham M. Jones. "'I Need a New Name': Confessions of a Chinese Fangirl." In *Naming and Being*, pp. 102-114. Routledge, 2026.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Bringing the Abroadness Home: New Family, Haigui, and Ambivalent Internationalism in 2000s Chinese TV," Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA) Conference, Seattle, WA, Nov 12, 2026.

"Gender, Care, and Control in Parenting Simulation Games," Society For Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, March 29, 2026

"Temporalities, Programming Logic, and the Simulation of Care in Parenting Simulation Games," NYU Neil Postman Media, Culture, and Communication (MCC) Graduate Student Conference, New York, NY, October 18, 2024

"Queering Patriarchal Apocalypse: The Queer Temporality in *Neon Genesis Evangelion*," NYU Cinema Studies Graduate Student Conference, New York, NY, February 24, 2024.

“I Need a Name’: Confessions of a Chinese Fangirl,” MIT SHASS Undergraduate Research Showcase, Virtual, May 10, 2022.

“Producing Short Film “The Rainbow Bus” for the 2021 Pride Month in China.” Wellesley College Tanner Conference, Wellesley, MA. October 13, 2021.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant **Sep 2026-Present**
UCI Film and Media Studies *Irvine, CA*

TA for undergraduate course: Radio TV History (FLM&MDA 101D)
Hold weekly discussion sessions and office hours.
Grade student papers and provide feedback.

Course Assistant **Jan-May 2025**
NYU Media, Culture, and Communication *New York, NY*

CA for undergraduate course: Platforms and Society (MCC-UE 1039)
Grade student papers and provide feedback.

Essay Tutor, Research Advisor **Aug 2024 - Aug 2025**
Stoooges Institution *Virtual*

Provide one-on-one guidance and feedback for high school and undergraduate independent research projects and application essays.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Independent Research Fellow **Jun-Aug 2024**
NYU Digital Humanities *New York, NY*

Conducted independent research on how temporality in Parenting Simulation Games (PSG) impacts the simulation of kinship.
Independently developed a Twine game based on research results that explores an alternative way of simulation by incorporating a non-linear topographic time.

Research Assistant, Undergraduate Fellow **2020-2023**
MIT Language and Technology Lab *Cambridge, MA*

Research Assistant, Advisor: Graham M. Jones (MIT, Anthropology Dept.)
Collect ethnographic data on Chinese social media platforms.
Attend weekly group meetings and monthly lab meetings to present current research.
Write research memos through a media studies and gender studies perspective.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Organizer **Apr 2026-Present**
The Queerness and Games Conference (QGCon)

Social Chair **Mar 2026-Present**
Film and Media Graduate Student Association, UCI

Event Coordinator
Graduate Student Organization, NYU

Sep-Jun 2023

CERTIFICATE

Improv for Teaching

July 2026