

Mengyao Wu

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Centre for Demographic Studies, Autonomous University of Barcelona

Employment

- 2025** **Juan de la Cierva researcher**, Centre for Demographic Studies,
Autonomous University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
- 2024 - 2025** **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Sociology
University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain

Education

- 2020 - 2024** **Ph.D.**, Sociology (*Magna Cum Laude*)
University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain
- 2022 - 2023** **MSc**, Advanced Multivariate Data Analysis and Big Data
University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain
- 2019 - 2020** **M.A.**, Latin American Studies
University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain
- 2014 - 2018** **B.A.**, Spanish Language and Literature
Hebei Normal University, Shijiazhuang, Hebei, China

Fellowships & Awards

- 2024** Extraordinary PhD Award (Premio Extraordinario de Doctorado), University of Salamanca
- 2023** EAPS workshop travel funding, Federal Institute for Population Research
- 2023** Research Stay Funding, University of Salamanca
- 2022** ICFP Conference travel funding, Johns Hopkins University
- 2021** UNHCR Internship Grant, China Scholarship Council
- 2021-2025** Predoctoral Scholarship, Castilla y León Regional Government
- 2020** Matrícula de honor Award, University of Salamanca
- 2015-2016** Graduate Scholarship, Hebei Normal University

Research Interests

Immigrant families, Fertility, Demography, Transnationalism, Qualitative Methods

Work Experience

- 2021 - 2022** **Livelihoods Intern**, Field Office Pichincha, United Nations High
Commissioner for Refugees, Ecuador
- Main responsibilities: Support in updating and implementing local strategies of UNHCR livelihoods and field in Pichincha; Support in the mapping of existing programs and services that allow strengthening the route of attention to the refugee population and improve the strategy of local integration of the population.

Research Visits

2023	Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (Apr–July.)
2021-2022	Latin American University of Social Sciences, Ecuador (Sept–July.)
2016-2017	Konkuk University (undergraduate exchange program)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Wu, Mengyao, and Alberto del Rey Poveda. 2025. “Rethinking Transnational Parenting: Chinese Immigrant Parents’ Family Separation during COVID-19.” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 51 (9): 2183–2202. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2025.2455434>.

Wu, Mengyao, and Alberto del Rey Poveda. 2025. “Ideals and Realities: Chinese Singleton Daughters Negotiating Family Size Preferences and Migrant Motherhood in Spain.” *Journal of Gender Studies* 34 (2): 236–47. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09589236.2024.2366976>.

Wu, Mengyao, and Alberto Del Rey. 2025. “Reconstruction of Fatherhood in a Strange Land: Exploring Fathering Practices of Chinese Migrants in Spain.” In *Caring Fathers in the Global Context*, edited by Petteri Eerola, Katherine Twamley, Henna Pirskanen, and Pedro Romero-Balsas. Bristol University Press. <https://doi.org/10.51952/9781447372448.ch014>.

del Rey, Alberto, Jesús García-Gómez, Guillermo Orfao, and **Wu Mengyao**. 2025. “Transitions to Motherhood in a Low-Fertility Country: Timing, Type, and Order of Life Course Events”. *Comparative Population Studies* 50 (September). <https://doi.org/10.12765/CPoS-2025-10>.

Wu, Mengyao, and Alberto Del Rey Poveda. 2024. “Harsh Choices : Chinese Migrant Families’ Childcare Strategies in Spain.” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 50:4, 936-953. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2022.2159349>.

Wu, Mengyao, and Alberto Del Rey Poveda. 2023. “The Regional Response to Venezuelan Migration: A Comparative Analysis of Governmental Measures in Colombia, Argentina, and Chile (2015-2019).” *Revista Internacional de Estudios Migratorios*, 13(1), 25–56. <https://doi.org/10.25115/riem.v13i1.4944>

Seminars & Presentations

2025	ISA Forum of Sociology (Rabat, Morocco), IUSSP International Population Conference (Brisbane, Australia), ADEH (Málaga, Spain), Wittgenstein Centre Conference (Vienna, Austria)
2024	PAA (Columbus, USA), EPC (Edinburgh, Scotland), FES (Sevilla, Spain), AIDELF (Averiro, Portugal), TraFaDy-Conference “Intergenerational care in transnational families” (Berlin, Germany), ALAP (Bogota, Colombia)
2023	EAPS “Fertility and Family Dynamics in Migrant and Minority” Working Group Workshop (Wiesbaden, Germany), ISA (Melbourne, Australia), Conference of China Studies (virtual)
2022	PAA (Atlanta, USA), EPC (virtual), FES (Murcia, Spain), ICFP (Pattaya City, Thailand), ADEH (Barcelona, Spain), Migration Congress (Madrid, Spain), PopFest (virtual), International Workshop on Chinese Migration in Spain (Barcelona, Spain)
2021	IUSSP International Population Conference (virtual)

Methods Training

2023

- BaRcelona Summer School of Demography (BSSD), organized by Centre for Demographic Studies, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. Instructor: Dr. Marie-Pier Bergeron Boucher and Dr. Juan Galeano

- Data Analysis in Qualitative Methodology: Main Theories and Software Atlas Ti, organized by University of Salamanca, Spain. Instructor: Dr. Jesús Rivera Navarro.

2020

- Course on qualitative and methodological research, organized by University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain. Instructor: Dr. Angel Espina Barrio.

2019

-Summer School on Latin American Studies under a Global Perspective, organized by University of Shanghai, Shanghai, China.

Research Tools

R (*multilevel modeling; sequence analysis*), SPSS (*general linear models; longitudinal data analysis*), Atlas Ti (*qualitative data coding and analysis*), LaTeX.

Language Skills

Mandarin Chinese	Native	
Spanish	Full professional proficiency	DELE C2
English	Full professional proficiency	IELTS 7.0
Korean	Full professional proficiency	TOPIK Level 6
Portuguese	Full professional proficiency	CAPLE C2
German	Elementary proficiency	Goethe-Zertifikat B1
French	Elementary proficiency	

Professional Membership

Spanish Sociology Federation (FES)
Population Association of America (PAA)
European Association for Population Studies (EAPS)
International Sociological Association (ISA)
Spanish Association of Historical Demography (ADEH)
International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)

References

Alberto del Rey Poveda

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