

CURRICULUM VITAE

Siyu (Louise) Gao

School of Social Work

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EDUCATION

August 2023	Ph.D. The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities <i>College of Education and Human Development</i> <i>School of Social Work</i>	GPA: TBD
June 2023	AM The University of Chicago <i>Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice</i> <i>Concentration: Social Administration (Advanced Standing Program)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dean's Distinguished Leadership Award (\$16,000)• Crown Family School Community and Leadership Award (\$650)	GPA:3.92/4.0
May 2022	BSW The University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign <i>School of Social Work (Minor in Arabic Studies)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• James Scholars Honors Program• Sharon Gray Memorial Award recipient (\$1,000)	GPA:3.73/4.0

EXPERIENCE

Research

August, 2023 - Current	Research Assistant <i>The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (Supervisor: Dr. Marti DeLiema)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help with data extraction, management and interpretation through the application of SAS, R, Excel, and critical thinking• Categorized survey questions into theory of routine activities and review of the related literature
January, 2023 - Current	Book Chapter Project <i>The Impact of Anti-Asian Racism on the Psychosocial Wellbeing of Older Asian Americans: A Systematic Review of Empirical Evidence</i> <i>PI: Sun Fei, PhD, Michigan State University</i>
June, 2022 - August, 2023	Research Assistant <i>The University of Chicago, Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice (Mentor: Zhiying Ma, Ph.D.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage qualitative data collected (a project about persons with disabilities in China), code and analyze data, and write reports of the findings derived from the analysis• Compose an IRB proposal for a research project which investigated the peer support services for persons with severe mental illnesses in China• Work with a Chinese disability advocacy organization called <i>One Plus One</i> and help to evaluate the peer mentoring services for persons with visual impairment• Help <i>One Plus One</i> to develop the orientation and mobility training program for visually impaired individuals by networking with <i>The Chicago Lighthouse</i> (outreach, funding, and research proposal)

- Co-facilitated group interviews and surveys for visually impaired persons and collect their feedback on the programs
- Provides regularly progress updates via email and in-person meeting; completes as-needed administrative tasks

**May, 2020 -
February, 2023**

Research Assistant | *College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UIUC*
Supervisor: Sulagna Chakraborty, Ph.D. candidate

- Assisted with a systematic review to examine if cattle have an impact on human health with respect to vector-borne diseases, performed targeted searches in scientific and medical databases to find relevant peer-reviewed journal articles
- Enhanced skills in reading and extracting scientific and medical articles, performing study quality assessments, synthesizing data, and writing manuscripts

**August, 2021 -
January 2022**

Research Assistant | *School of Social Work, UIUC*
Supervisor: Flavia Andrade, Ph.D.

- Assisted in a research project on the living arrangement of older adults in Brazil
- Developed an understanding of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies

Practice

**October, 2022 -
May 2023**

Social Work Intern | *Behavioral Health and Clinical Services (BHCS) Department of Chinese American Service League Chicago, IL*
Supervisor: Winnie Lam, LCSW, CDP, MoCA Certified Rater

- Assist in planning, writing and editing grant proposals for funding to support sustainable, innovative and evidenced-based services, outreach and training (ACL 1M & DOJ 150K Grant)
- Provide in-take assessments for new clients with behavioral health issues (e.g. early screening questionnaires and checklists), assist with case management of each client, and conduct brief motivational interviewing sessions
- Co-developed bilingual (English and Chinese) resource packages to target populations (e.g., Chinese American older adults and persons with disabilities)
- Facilitate a community workshop on medical management and organize a *Memory Café* for the caregivers of Chinese American older adults with memory loss
- Assisted to conduct an internal survey on trauma-informed care practice utilizing a self-assessment tool, co-facilitated agency-wide discussion session, and developed an initial evaluation report with suggestions on policy implementation
- Participate in the BHCS marketing discussion and promote new programs to the community
- Reach out to various community organizations, agencies, and institutions to establish partnerships.

**January, 2022 -
May, 2022**

Social Work Intern | *CRIS Healthy Aging Center (CRIS) Urbana, IL*
Supervisor: Amber Richardson, Director of Community Health Systems

- Assisted to provide *STAR-Caregivers (STAR-C)* Training programs to the caregivers of older adults (with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia), offered support to reduce the caregivers' mental stress, and wrote journal articles about this program
- Completed *Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)* and *Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE)* certification and helped clients with tax letters & other documents
- Facilitated other Memory Care programs (*Memory Café* presentation, monthly seminars, info sessions, etc.) for clients and helped supervisor with program referrals, phone inquiries, flyer design, and brochure translation (English to Chinese)

- Reached out to local organizations (e.g. hospitals, police departments, senior care centers, advocacy groups) to promote the services offered by CRIS

Teaching

- July, 2019 - August, 2019** **English Language Learning Assistant** | *Supreme Education* *Shenzhen, China*
- Mentored 25+ beginner ELL students (aged 11-28), made study plans tailored to individual needs, followed up students' progress, and reported to students' caregivers
 - Prepared course materials (lecture slides & handouts), provided tutoring to students having learning difficulties, and taught lessons for ELLs at the beginner level

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- September, 2021 - January, 2022** **Intern** | *United Way-Service Learning Project* *Champaign, IL*
- Collected the information of individuals & non-profit agencies that need assistance
 - Interviewed volunteer leaders & staff and wrote reports about the interview
 - Planned events for the 100th anniversary of United Way with the information collected
- August, 2018 - March, 2020** **Volunteer** | *Twin City Bible Church* *Champaign, IL*
- Coordinated weekly events and make schedules based on the children's performances
 - Cooperated with colleagues, developed positive relationships with children, and provided support and care for children's mental and physical health

PUBLICATION

- Manuscript** Chakraborty, S., **Gao, S.**, Allan, F.B., Smith, L.R. Effects of Cattle on Vector-borne Disease Risk to Humans: A Systematic Review
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.02.08.23285683>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Languages:** mandarin Chinese (native), English (advanced), Arabic (intermediate)
- **Computer skills:** Knowledge of PC; Proficient in *SPSS, MS Word, Excel* and *PowerPoint*
- **Certificates:** *VITA/TCE* certification; *CITI Program* certification; *Mandated Reporter* certification