

MAYLING BIRNEY

London School of Economics and Political Science • Department of International Development
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2010-present London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE)
Assistant Professor, Department of International Development
Affiliate, Department of Government
- 2007-2010 Princeton University
Wilson-Cotsen Postdoctoral Fellow, Princeton Society of Fellows
Lecturer in Public & International Affairs, Woodrow Wilson School

EDUCATION

- 2001-2007 Yale University, PhD, Political Science
1998-1999 London School of Economics and Political Science, MSc, Economics
1997-1998 University of Cambridge, Postgraduate Diploma, Economics
1990-1994 Harvard University, BA, Government

PRE-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

- 2006-2007 The Brookings Institution, Brookings Research Fellowship in Foreign Policy Studies
2004 (year) University of Oxford, Nuffield College, Doctoral Student Fellowship

POLICY & POLITICS WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2000-2001 Freelance Economic Policy Consultant: for various non-profits in DC and NYC
1999-2000 Bill Bradley for President (U.S. election campaign): National Volunteer Coordinator
1995-1996 Office of United States Senator Bill Bradley: Legislative Aide, Legislat. Correspondent

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Birney, Mayling. "Decentralization and Veiled Corruption Under China's Rule of Mandates." *World Development*, Volume 53, January 2014, pp. 55-67. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2013.01.006>

Birney, Mayling. Book Review of *Village China Under Socialism and Reform: A Micro-History, 1948-2008* by Huaiyin Li. *Perspectives on Politics*, Volume 8, Issue 02, June 2010, pp. 642-643.

Birney, Mayling, Ian Shapiro, and Michael J. Graetz. "The Political Uses of Public Opinion: Lessons from the Estate Tax Repeal." In *Divide and Deal: The Politics of Distribution in Democracies*, ed: Ian Shapiro & Peter Swenson. New York University Press (2008). ♦ Republished in *The Real World of Democratic Theory* by Ian Shapiro. Princeton University Press (2011).

Birney, Mayling, Michael J. Graetz, & Ian Shapiro. "Public Opinion and the Push to Repeal the Estate Tax." *National Tax Journal*, September 2006, Volume LIX, No. 3, pp. 439-461.

MAYLING BIRNEY

BOOK MANUSCRIPT

The Rule of Mandates: How China Governs

This book unravels the puzzle of how China really governs: by priorities rather than by laws. This metainstitution, which I call a “rule of mandates” in contrast to a “rule of law,” has benefits but also growing costs. I show original evidence that it has helped promote stability and growth, and yet also veils corruption, hampers rule of law and democratic openings, and skews justice. I argue that China’s future progress hinges on the ability to reform and adapt this governing approach.

WORKING PAPERS

“The Rule of Mandates: Governance and Political Stability without Rule of Law in China.”

“The Sustainability of Performance-Based Legitimacy: Evidence from China.”

“Survey Analysis of Politically Sensitive Matters in Authoritarian Regimes: How Reliable are Responses?” (with *Pierre Landry & Jie Yan*)

INVITED ACADEMIC TALKS

2013 Stanford University, Center for East Asian Studies Lecture Series
2013 University of California at Berkeley, Center for Chinese Studies Lecture Series
2013 University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Workshop on Authoritarianism in China
2013 SOAS, Department of Politics & International Studies Seminar Series
2013 King’s College London, Lau China Institute Seminar Series
2012 University of Leiden, Conference on China’s New Strategies for Authoritarian Rule
2011 LSE, Conference on Responding to the Crisis in International Development
2010 University of Oxford, China Centre, Workshop on the State of the Local State in China
2008 University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Center for Chinese Studies Lecture Series
2008 Yale University and the American Bar Foundation, Workshop on the Rule of Law & Justice
2008 Princeton University, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics Seminar
2007 Princeton University, Project on Democracy & Development Seminar
2007 Yale University, Leitner Seminar in Political Economy
2005 University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Conference on Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy
2005 Yale University, Conference on Distributive Politics: A New Initiative in Political Science
2003 Princeton University, Conference on Inequality, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics

INVITED POLICY TALKS AND INTERVIEWS

2011 Magnum Foundation Emergency Fund, Politics of China’s Environment for *Traces* Exhibition
2011 The Frontline Club and Public Business, Panel on Investigating Business in China
2008 The Ford Foundation-China and Horizon Research-China, Citizen Evaluations of Public Service
2007 Brookings Institution, Thornton China Center & the Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies
2003 Carnegie Corporation, New York Headquarters Brown Bag Lunch Series on Current Research

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PANELS

American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meetings 2013 – 2003
Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Meetings 2013, 2010
Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conferences, 2010, 2008-2006

MAYLING BIRNEY

PRESS COVERAGE

Research cited by: *The New York Times*
The Economist
LinkTV Link Asia
The New Yorker

COURSE TEACHING

China in Comparative Perspective: The Political Economy of Development (Summers 2014, 2013)
International Development: Development Management, LSE (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14)
Wealth, Well-being & the Dynamics of Development, LSE-PKU Summer School (Summer 2012)
Contemporary Politics & Policy in China, Princeton University (Spring 2010, Fall 2008, Spring 2008)
Comparative Democratic Change & Authoritarian Resilience, Princeton Univ. (Fall 2009, Fall 2007)
Thesis Advising: LSE (2010-present), Princeton (2007-2010)
English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher, Shanghai High School (China) (Summer 1993)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Member, National Committee on United States – China Relations (NCUSCR)
External Reviewer for: *American Political Science Review*
World Politics
Perspectives on Politics
China Quarterly
Comparative Politics
Comparative Political Studies
Journal of Development Studies

GRANTS AND AWARDS

LSE Seed Fund Research Grant, 2013-14
LSE Suntory & Toyota Intl Ctr for Economics & Related Disciplines (STICERD) Grants, 2012, 2011
Princeton U. Committee on Research in the Social Sciences & Humanities Grants, 2009, 2008, 2007
Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies (PIIRS) Research Grant, 2008
Blakemore Foundation Refresher Grant for Advanced Academic Language Study in Beijing, 2008
Robert M. Leylan Prize Dissertation Fellowship in the Social Sciences, Yale University, 2006
Yale MacMillan Center for International & Area Studies Dissertation Research Fellowship, 2005
Yale Council on East Asian Studies Dissertation Research Fellowship, 2005
John F. Enders Dissertation Research Fellowship, Yale University, 2005
US Department of Education Foreign Language & Area Studies Grant, 2005
Richard Light Fellowship for Chinese Language Study, Yale University, 2003
Yale Graduate School of Arts & Sciences Summer Research Grant, 2002, 2003
Leitner Program in International Political Economy Research Grant, Yale University, 2001-2003
Wrenbury Scholarship in Political Economy, University of Cambridge, 1998 (declined)
University of Cambridge Faculty of Economics Research Award, 1998 (declined)
Distinction, Diploma in Economics, University of Cambridge, 1998
Harvard College Scholar, Harvard University, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994
All-Ivy League Scholar-Athlete (for Varsity Fencing), 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994