

# Rhoda Jiang

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Edinburgh, the UK** 09/2024-

PhD of Social Work

**Main Modules:**

Advanced Research Design and Methods; Research Skills in the Social Sciences: Data Collection; Homelessness and Inclusion Health; Qualitative Data Analysis

**Training sessions:**

Python for Data Science; Introduction to Text Analysis with Python; Introduction to Topic Modelling with Bert; Using API for Research; Advanced uses of LLM; Introduction to Machine Learning

**University College London, the UK** 09/2022-04/2024

Master of Science

**Main Modules:**

Understanding the Policy Process; Research Engagement, Participation and Impact; Social Problems and Intervention; Systematic Review Design and Planning; Approaches to Systematic Review Synthesis; Systematic Reviews for Complex Policy Issues; Evidence for Policy and Practice

**Peking University, China** 09/2018-07/2020

Master of Social Work

**Main Modules:**

Advanced Clinical Social Work; Social Policy Analysis; Social Work Theory; Social Research Methods; Social Service Management; Social Programme Management and Evaluation; Social Problems and Policy Agenda

**Southwest University of Political Science & Law, China** 09/2013-06/2017

Bachelor of Management

**Main Modules:**

Principles of Economics; Introduction to Finance; Introduction to Law; Introduction to Sociology; Local Government Studies; Theory and Methods of Social Investigation; Community Administration; Quantitative Analysis for Management; Social Policy Studies

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

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Tutorial Tutor 09/2025-12/2025

Course name: Social Work: Making A Difference

- ❖ Design tutorial materials and activities based on the theme and learning objectives to encourage active participation and critical discussion among students.
- ❖ Mark students' presentations, provide constructive feedback, and assign grades in line with the course marking criteria.
- ❖ **Impacts:** Acting as an effective facilitator, I promoted student engagement, peer discussion, and reflective learning during tutorials. Through these efforts, I contributed to building an inclusive and supportive learning environment that values diversity and encourages active participation. I also shared reflective feedback and practical suggestions with the teaching team, helping to co-create a more engaging and responsive tutorial structure for future cohorts.

Applied AI Researcher

06/2025-

**Independent project – AI-driven ethical decision support for youth homelessness services**

- ❖ Created a personal GitHub page to document the project Reinforcement Learning with Targeted Human Feedback.
- ❖ Designed AI models to align decision-making with human ethical values, with a focus on trauma-informed practice.
- ❖ Developed training support tools for frontline housing staff and unqualified workers assisting young people experiencing homelessness.
- ❖ **Planned impacts:** This project is designed to support the training of frontline housing staff and unqualified workers to respond to young people experiencing homelessness with a trauma-informed and ethically responsible approach.

Research Assistant

02/2025-05/2025

**Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression, Edinburgh, the UK**

- ❖ Designed and implemented automated web scraping workflows (using Python with BeautifulSoup and Scrapy) to extract publicly available policies and guidance related to academic freedom and freedom of expression from over 20 universities.
- ❖ Analysed study characteristics using Python-based tools and databases; identified preliminary themes through Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) modelling and refined them through manual review to ensure contextual accuracy and depth of interpretation.
- ❖ Conducted a scoping review of published academic research on academic freedom and freedom of expression, identifying key issues studied, research designs and tools used, and major findings and conclusions.
- ❖ **Impacts:** Provided a policy analysis baseline for examining academic freedom and freedom of expression at the University of Edinburgh. Guided future research focus through a scoping review of key academic studies and methodologies.

Social Work Supervisor (Full-time)

07/2020-07/2021

**Guangdong Lveng Social Work Development Center, Guangdong, China**

- ❖ Outreached to service sites monthly to provide in-person supervision.

- ❖ Worked with community workers to design activity plans and employed oral history to record the village's development, fostering shared memories and enhancing the villagers' collective sense of identity and belonging.
- ❖ Wrote one chapter of a localised social work textbook based on the social worker training programme.
- ❖ **Impacts:** This textbook along with approximately 30 training video tutorials, which serve as valuable and efficient resources for the vocational training of 30,000 social workers in Guangdong province.

**Chongqing Minyue Social Work Service Agency, Chongqing, China**

03/2018-08/2018

Social Worker (Intern)

- ❖ Conducted casework management.
- ❖ Delivered counselling services to children in the community.
- ❖ Designed a series of parent-child activities to promote parent-child communication and improve children's communication skills.
- ❖ Connected public resources to the most vulnerable individuals in the community.
- ❖ Organised children's group activities and theme activities daily.
- ❖ **Impacts:** My services reached half of the households in the community, including elderly individuals and children, and have received satisfaction ratings of over 95%.

**CONFERENCE PAPERS**

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**The European Social Work Research Association Conference 2026, Aberdeen** 15/04/2026

- ❖ *Youth Homelessness and Social Work: A Scoping Review to Guide Research and Practice (Selected for a Poster Presentation)*

**The 2026 Digital Research Conference, Edinburgh** 26/02/2026

- ❖ *From Social Work Values to AI Practice: Fine-Tuning Large Language Models for Trauma-Informed Homelessness Support (Selected for a Lightning Talk)*

**Annual homelessness conference 2025 programme, Perth** 27/10/2025

- ❖ *A Study of Social Work's Role in Responding to Youth Homelessness in Scotland (Selected for a Poster Presentation)*

**SGSSS Impact Competition 2025, Edinburgh** 14/05/2025

- ❖ *Going Further: A Critical Examination of Social Work's Involvement in Preventing Youth Homelessness in Scotland (Poster Presentation and Video Speech)*

**SKILLS**

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- ❖ Language: Chinese(native); English(proficient); German(limited)
- ❖ Programming language: Python(intermediate)
- ❖ Software: OpenRefine(proficient); SPSS(proficient); NVivo(proficient); Covidence(proficient); EPPI Reviewer(proficient)