

# EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY PHD PROGRAM COLLOQUIUM

## ***Advancing Psychological Research Through Innovative Methods: Social Network and Text Analyses***

***Dr. Wei Wang***

**Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
CUNY Graduate Center, Room C201**



The advancement of psychological research necessitates methodological innovation in both data analysis and collection. Indeed, the history of psychology has repeatedly witnessed how such innovations—e.g., hierarchical linear modeling, structural equation modeling for data analysis; computer-based reaction time, EEG, fMRI for data collection—influenced psychological research tremendously. With five studies, this colloquium will demonstrate the applications of contemporary methods such as social network analysis and big data text analytical techniques in psychology. Study 1 will first examine the statistical power of network autocorrelation models, Studies 2 and 3 apply the social network techniques in organizational psychology to demonstrate the incremental validity of network contagion that goes beyond the classic satisfaction-intention-turnover model. Then Study 4 utilizes text mining to examine the U.S. national trends in job and non-job related stress and happiness by analyzing 2.2 billion Tweets across 18 months. Lastly, Study 5 further applies the text analysis techniques in personnel psychology to show its potential in measuring individual differences for incremental validity over personality.

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER

*Dr. Wei Wang is an Associate Professor of Psychology at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. He is also affiliated in Industrial/Organizational Psychology at Baruch College and the Educational Psychology at the Graduate Center. Dr. Wang earned his Ph.D. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology, M.S. in Statistics, and M.A. in Social/Personality Psychology, all from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Wang's research interests primarily lie in quantitative methods and computational modeling, and their broad applications in various psychological, organizational, and educational areas. Currently, he is conducting research around three major themes: 1) social networks, 2) applied psychometrics, and 3) big data analytics and technology. Dr. Wang has received funding from the National Science Foundation and won the Best Convention Paper Award from the Management of Academy (AOM). Before joining CUNY, Dr. Wang has had professional experiences in both the academia (UCF, Northwestern University) and the applied consulting industry, where he worked as an R&D manager developing assessments (using IRT models and computer gamification simulations) on leadership skills and emotional intelligence for personnel selection and training purposes for various clients, including tech giants.*

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