

June 2026

Hortense Fong

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Academic Appointment

Columbia Business School	
Assistant Professor, Marketing Division	January 2023 – Present
Instructor, Marketing Division	July – December 2022

Education

Yale School of Management	
Ph.D. in Marketing	2022
M.A. & M.Phil. in Marketing	2019
The Pennsylvania State University, University Park	
Master in Applied Statistics	2013
B.S. Finance, B.S. Mathematics (Schreyer Honors College)	2013

Research Interests

Methodological: Deep Learning, Machine Learning, Unstructured Data, LLMs, Field Experiments
Substantive: Emotion, Audio, Advertising, Donor Behavior, Fairness in AI

Journal Publications

Tianyi Peng, Melanie Brucks, George Gui, ..., Hortense Fong, ..., Olivier Toubia (2026), “Digital Twins as Funhouse Mirrors: Five Key Distortions” (forthcoming at *Science Advances*)

Dante Donati and Hortense Fong (2025), “The Cost of Banning TikTok: Implications for the Digital Advertising Market” (*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*)

Hortense Fong, Vineet Kumar, K. Sudhir (2024), “An Explainable Theory-based Deep Learning Architecture for Music Emotion” (*Marketing Science*)

- Winner of 2021 MSI Alden G. Clayton Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Award
- Winner of 2022 ASA Section on Statistics in Marketing Best Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Award
- Winner of 2025 Frank M. Bass Dissertation Paper Award

Working Papers

K. Sudhir, Hortense Fong, Yonat Zwebner, and Subroto Roy (2026), “Thank You, Now What? How to Ask for More from Donors” (Revise and Resubmit at *Marketing Science*)

Hortense Fong, George Gui, and Bo Yang (2026), “Modeling Story Expectations: A Generative Framework Using LLMs” (under review)

Hortense Fong, Vineet Kumar, Anay Mehrotra, and Nisheeth Vishnoi (2023), “Fairness for AUC via Feature Augmentation”

- Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency - FAccT (2022)

Works in Progress

“Designing Personality through Audio,” with Ankit Sisodia and Jingyi Zhang

“Ad-first Content Creation,” with Xinyu Wei and Olivier Toubia

“Contextual Advertising based on Emotion,” with Ravi Dhar

Conference Proceedings (Peer Reviewed)

“Music Speaks in Emotions,” 2021. Hortense Fong and Vineet Kumar, The Workshops of the Thirty-Fifth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence.

“Using Domain Knowledge to Enhance Deep Learning for Emotional Intelligence,” 2020. Hortense Fong and Vineet Kumar, The Workshops of the Thirty-Fourth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence.

Invited Seminar Talks

University of California Berkeley, Haas School of Business	Scheduled October 2026
Amazon GMAC Science Seminar	Scheduled June 2026
University of California Davis, Graduate School of Management	February 2026
Technical University of Munich, GenAI Lab	July 2025
Erasmus, Rotterdam School of Management	June 2025
TikTok, New York City	June 2025
University of Chicago Kilts Brown Bag, Booth School of Business	March 2025
Temple University, Fox School of Business AIBA Workshop	February 2025
American Statistical Association Marketing Section Webinar	November 2024
University of Texas at Austin, McCombs School of Business	March 2024
University of Michigan, Ross School of Business	March 2024
Duke University, Fuqua School of Business	February 2024
TikTok, New York City	February 2024
University of Toronto, Rotman School of Management	February 2024
Rutgers, Business School	February 2024
Virtual Quant Marketing Seminar	November 2023
Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad CDSA	April 2023
Pennsylvania State University, OR Colloquium	April 2023
Imperial College, Business School	March 2023
Marketing Modelers Group, New York	March 2023
University of Chicago, Booth School of Business	February 2023
Temple University, Fox School of Business AIBA Workshop	February 2023
European Quant Marketing Seminar	January 2023
London Business School	January 2023
UCLA, Anderson School of Management	October 2022

University of Cambridge, Judge Business School	November 2021
University of Florida, Warrington College of Business	November 2021
University of North Carolina, Kenan–Flagler Business School	November 2021
University of Maryland, Robert H. Smith School of Business	November 2021
University of Texas at Dallas, Naveen Jindal School of Management	November 2021
Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business	October 2021
New York University, Stern School of Business	October 2021
Washington University in St. Louis, Olin Business School	October 2021
Stanford University, Graduate School of Business	October 2021
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Gies College of Business	October 2021
Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management	October 2021
Columbia University, Columbia Business School	October 2021
Cornell University, Johnson Graduate School of Management	October 2021
Harvard University, Harvard Business School	October 2021
University of British Columbia, Sauder School of Business	October 2021
University of Hong Kong, Faculty of Business and Economics	September 2021
University of Virginia, Darden School of Business	September 2021
Boston College, Carroll School of Management	September 2021
North Carolina State University, Poole College of Management	September 2021
University of Miami, Herbert Business School	September 2021
Rice University, Jones Graduate School Of Business	September 2021
University of Notre Dame, Mendoza College of Business	September 2021
National University of Singapore, Business School	August 2021

Conference & Workshop Presentations

Designing Personality Through Audio

- Yale InsightsOn Conference, New Haven 2026
- AIML Conference, NYC 2025
- GenAI in Marketing & Advertising Roundtable, NYC 2025
- TUM Workshop on Generative AI in Marketing, Heilbronn 2025

Modeling Story Expectations: A Generative Framework using LLMs

- EMAC, Bath 2026
- Marketing Dynamics Conference, Paris 2026
- Conference on AI and Consumer Decisions at CMU, Pittsburgh 2026
- ARF AUDIENCExSCIENCE Conference, NYC 2026
- Winter AMA, Madrid 2026
- Marketing Science Conference, D.C. 2025
- Four School Conference, NYC 2025
- Junior Faculty Forum in Marketing at WashU, St. Louis 2025
- AIML Conference, New Haven 2024
- Meta + Columbia GenAI in Marketing and Advertising Roundtable, NYC 2024
- Marketing Science Conference, Sydney 2024
- Symposium on Artificial Intelligence in Marketing, Madison 2024

Greedy or Grateful: Asking for More Donations When Thanking Donors

- China India Conference, Hong Kong 2024

Using Theory to Understand AI Emotion Models

- ARF - Creative Effectiveness, NYC 2023
- MSI - Wharton Analytics, Philadelphia 2023

An Interpretable Theory-based Deep Learning Architecture for Music Emotion

- Joint Statistical Meetings, Washington D.C. 2022

Targeting Digital Ads On Emotional Context

- Marketing Science Conference, Virtual 2022

Using Audio Data

- SCP Conference Research Skills Workshop, Virtual 2022

Music Speaks in Emotions

- AAAI Affective Content Workshop, Virtual 2021

Charitable Giving on an Online Crowdfunding Platform: Designing Effective Multimodal Content Asks

- Marketing Science Conference, Virtual 2020

Using Domain Knowledge to Enhance Deep Learning for Emotional Intelligence

- AAAI Affective Content Workshop, NYC 2020

Teaching Experience

Instructor *Columbia Business School*

Marketing Analytics (MS)

Fall 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

Instructor *Penn State World Campus*

Elementary Statistics (undergraduate; web-based)

Spring 2016

Awards & Honors

Frank M. Bass Dissertation Paper Award	2026
2025 Junior Faculty Forum in Marketing	2025
Kilts Center Visiting Fellow	2025
ISMS Early Career Scholars Camp Fellow	2023
ASA Section on Statistics in Marketing Best Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Award	2022
MSI Alden G. Clayton Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Award	2022
Redleaf Fellowship	2022
Harry and Heesun You Fellowship	2021
Yale GSAS Doctoral Fellowship	2016-2022
ISMS Doctoral Consortium Fellow	2017
Outstanding Master of Applied Statistics Student Award	2013
Milton J. Bergstein Student Community Service Award	2013
Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society	2013

Academic Service

Ad Hoc Reviewer: Management Science, Marketing Science, Journal of Marketing, Journal of Marketing Research, Production and Operations Management, Journal of Advertising Research, International Journal of Research in Marketing, ASA Marketing Section Dissertation Award, MSI Alden G. Clayton Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Competition

Conference/Seminar Organization:

- Session Co-organizer, “AI & Economics,” EMAC, June 2026
- Virtual Quant Marketing Seminar Co-organizer, September 2025 - Present
- Program Chair for JSM ASA Marketing Section, August 2025
- Co-organizer for Gen AI in Marketing and Advertising Roundtable with Meta, November 2024, November 2025
- Session Organizer & Chair, “Generative AI/Content Creation in Marketing,” ISMS Marketing Science Conference, June 2024
- Session Organizer & Co-Chair, “Ad Content and Market Outcomes I & II,” ISMS Marketing Science Conference, June 2022

Discussant/Program Committee: Program Committee for Workshop on Platform Analytics 2026, Discussant at Bass UT Dallas Conference 2023

PhD Committee:

- Jasmine Yang - Columbia Business School 2025 (CUHK)
- Sibel Zorlu - Columbia Business School 2023 (UNC Chapel Hill)
- Ankit Sisodia - Yale SOM 2023 (Purdue)

Industry Experience

Deloitte Consulting, Pittsburgh, PA
Strategy & Operations Consultant

2013-2015

Columbia Business School requires its faculty members to disclose any activities that might present a real or apparent conflict of interest: None.