

Abstract of thesis entitled *Communication Research in China: A Comparison of Mainland China and Overseas Communication Journal Articles from 1995 to 2005*

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Abstract

This is a descriptive study of the research fields, research methods, and article structures in Chinese communication research published articles. A comparison has been made between the journal articles in mainland and overseas journals on research field focusing on, research methods and the development of article structure over time.

This research applied content analysis to code 833 articles from five academic communication journals from 1995 to 2005. Three of the chosen journals were mainland journals. The other two were overseas journals. The coded data were analyzed in detail with descriptive statistics and multiple regressions analysis.

The results indicated that the research fields and research methods used by communication research in Chinese society lacked diversity. Mainland Chinese research articles especially unbalanced in terms of research method; they mostly used qualitative methods, and were deficient in quantitative analysis. However, this situation has improved in recent years. The results also indicated that the structure of the articles changed over time. The author's background and the reference of the article also affected the structure of the article.

Key words: journal articles, communication research, Chinese society