



**De La Salle University – Dasmariñas**

**GRADUATE PROGRAM**

**Stances in Trade War Related News Report:**

**An Appraisal Discourse Analysis**

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**ABSTRACT**

To date, research on the stance of news discourse has primarily focused on the theory of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), with little attention paid to the Appraisal Theory (AT) with regard to the stance of news discourse. Based on the Framework of Appraisal Theory, this study analyzed the stance features to unveil the hidden stance behind language of news reports related Sino-US trade war, as well as the factors that influenced their stance.

By means of qualitative method, this study analyzed the process of stance building and stance realization. The findings of the study revealed that the Chinese news reports commonly employed relatively subjective emotional Appraisal Pattern (Attitude) to evaluate the news affairs while American news reports focused on the relatively objective multi-voice (Engagement) to construe the news stance. Moreover, the finding indicated that the Chinese and American media held opposite stances about the trade war, namely the strongly negative stance for Chinese news reports and relative positive stance for American news reports. Therefore, the evaluation and stance of media reflected the ideology of party or government, especially influenced greatly by political, economic and national interests.

As a result, this study has implications not only for enriching the appraisal function of Appraisal Theory but it also provides a model of news discourse text for academic writing as reference for English writers.