Xiaochao Zheng received a B. Eng. degree (1996) and a M.S. degree in Physics (1999) from Tsinghua University, Beijing, China. She received her Ph.D. in Physics from MIT (2002). She was a postdoctoral research associate at the Argonne National Lab from 2003-2005. After a short stay with MIT as a senior postdoctoral researcher, she joined University of Virginia’s Physics Department as an Assistant Professor in 2006. She became an Associate Professor in 2012 and a Full Professor in 2018. She is currently the Teaching Committee Chair of UVA’s Physics Department.

Xiaochao Zheng’s research interests include structure of the nucleon, medium energy (using electron scattering) of the Standard Model, and applications of spin-polarized material in nuclear fusion. She was awarded Department of Energy’s Early Career Grant (2010-2014), and became a Fellow of the American Physical Society in 2015.