

Sunmin Kim

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Appointments

2020- Assistant Professor of Sociology, Dartmouth College
2018-2020 Mellon Faculty Fellow, Dartmouth

Education

2018 Ph.D. in Sociology, University of California, Berkeley
2009 M.A. in Sociology, Seoul National University
2007 B.A. in Sociology, Seoul National University

Fields of Interest

Race and ethnicity, immigration, sociology of knowledge, political sociology, historical sociology, sociology of quantification, Asian American studies

Books

The Unruly Facts of Race: The Politics of Knowledge Production in the Early Twentieth Century Immigration Debate
(forthcoming in 2025 from the University of Chicago Press)

Peer-reviewed Publications

- 2025 Kim, Sunmin, and Daniel Lin. "Collective Past as a Community-building Initiative: Teaching Asian American Studies through the History of Student Activism." (forthcoming in *Journal of Asian American Studies*) (equal contribution)
- 2025 Choi, Carolyn Areum, and Sunmin Kim. "Category Traversing: The Early Korean Immigrants Eluding the U.S. State." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 48(4): 789-811. (equal contribution)
- 2024 Kim, Sunmin. "Blinded by the Facts: Unintended Consequences of Racial Knowledge Production in the Dillingham Commission (1907-1911)." *Theory and Society* 53: 425-464.
- 2024 Kim, Sunmin, and Taeku Lee. "Making Opinions Public: Polling and Democratic Responsiveness in South Korea." *Politics and Society* 52(4): 515-546

- 2021 Kim, Sunmin. "Fault Lines among Asian Americans: Convergence and Divergence in Policy Opinions." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of Social Sciences* 7(2): 46-67.
- 2020 Lara-Millán, Armando, Brian Sargent, and Sunmin Kim. "Theorizing with Archives: Contingency, Mistakes, and Plausible Alternatives." *Qualitative Sociology* 43(3): 345-365. (equal contribution)
- 2019 Kim, Sunmin. "Rethinking Models of Minority Political Participation: Inter- and Intra-group Variation in Political Style." *The Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race* 16(2): 489-510.
- 2018 Lee, Taeku, and Sunmin Kim. "The Mechanics of Immigration Polls: A Review." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 82(1): 148-170.

Other Writing

- 2024 Kim, Sunmin. "Review of Claire Jean Kim, *Asian Americans in an Anti-black World*." *The British Journal of Sociology* 75(5): 961-962.
- 2023 Kim, Sunmin. "Edward A. Ross." Presidential Biography on the ASA website
- 2023 Kim, Sunmin. "Heterogeneity in 'Asian American.'" *Footnotes* 51(3).
- 2022 Kim, Sunmin. "Review of Michael Rodríguez-Muñiz, *Figures of the Future: Latino Civil Rights and the Politics of Demographic Change*." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 8(4): 553-554.
- 2019 Lara-Millán, Armando, Brian Sargent, and Sunmin Kim. "Where is the Archive in Historical Sociology? The Case for Ethnographic Dispositions." *Trajectories* 30.

Work in Progress

"Efficacy of Facts-Based Advocacy: Immigration Politics in the Early 20th Century." (under review for the 50th-year anniversary issue of *Social Science History*)

"From Cultural Sociology to Political Sociology: Understanding the Late Works of Pierre Bourdieu." (under review for the special issue of *Korean Journal of Sociology* on Pierre Bourdieu)(in Korean)

"Assimilation in Market and Politics: Exit and Voice for Children of Immigrants." (manuscript available)

"Boundary-Making across 22 OECD Countries: A Multi-Level Latent Class Approach." (with Inkwan Chung)

"Quantifying the Inscrutable: The Question of Japanese American Loyalty During the Internment." (with Hyunsik Chun)

"Heterogeneity among Asian Americans." (with Nolan Yee '25)

A Laboratory of Racial Governance: Engineering Inclusion in the World War II Japanese American Concentration Camps (book manuscript in progress)

Awards

- 2014 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC Berkeley
- 2012 Graduate Student Best Paper Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-economics
- 2008 Grand Prize, The 33rd University Paper Competition, Seoul National University
"Cultural Inequality and Musical Genre Preference", published in *Seoul National University News* May 31:3-4

Grants & Fellowships

- 2025 Presidential Grant, The Russell Sage Foundation (awaiting final decision after two rounds of reviews)
- 2025 Faculty Research Grant, The John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth College (\$1,000)
- 2025 Faculty Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies (finalist)
- 2024 Arts Integration Grant, The Hopkins Center for Arts, Dartmouth College (\$20,000, with Sujin Eom)
- 2023 SOCY 76: Asian American Student Activism in Dartmouth College, Dean of Interdisciplinary Studies, Dartmouth College (\$25,000)
- 2022 Mellon Research Grant, Dartmouth College (\$9,000)
- 2019 Faculty Research Grant, Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Public Policy, Dartmouth College (\$5,000)
- 2017 Short-Term Research Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society (\$2,000)
- 2017-2018 Troy Duster Fellowship, Department of Sociology, UC Berkeley (\$18,000)
- 2016-2017 Berkeley Connect Fellowship, UC Berkeley (\$22,000)
- 2016 Berkeley Center for Right Wing Studies Research Grant, UC Berkeley (\$1,000)
- 2016 Finalist, Center for Engaged Scholarship Dissertation Fellowship
- 2015 Leo Lowenthal Fellowship, Department of Sociology, UC Berkeley (\$18,000)
- 2015-2016 Berkeley Empirical Legal Studies Fellowship, Boalt School of Law, UC Berkeley (\$1,000)
- 2014-2015 Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley (\$23,000)
- 2013 Graduate Dean's Summer Research Grant, UC Berkeley (\$3,500)
- 2012, 2014 Sociology Department Research Grant, UC Berkeley (\$2,000 each)
- 2009-2014 Kwanjeong Educational Foundation Fellowship (\$50,000 per year for five years)

Selected Conference Presentations

- 2025 "A Laboratory of Racial Governance: Engineering Inclusion in the World War II Japanese American Concentration Camps"
Association of Asian American Studies

- 2024 "Efficacy of Facts-Based Advocacy": Immigration Politics Past and Present
Social Science History Association
- 2024 "The Unruly Facts of Race: The Politics of Knowledge Production in the Early 20th Century Immigration Debate"
Graduate School of Digital Humanities and Computational Social Sciences, Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology; Sociology Colloquium, Chunbuk National University
- 2024 "Heterogeneity Among Asian Americans"(with Nolan Yee '25)
Association for Asian American Studies
- 2024 "Quantifying the Inscrutable: The Question of Japanese American Loyalty During the Internment"
Association of Asian American Studies
- 2024 American Sociological Association; Sociology Colloquium, Korea University
- 2022 Social Science History Association
- 2023 "Paper Students: Early Korean Immigrants Eluding the American State"(with Carolyn Choi)
Social Science History Association; American Sociological Association; The 2nd Annual Korean American Studies Conference
- 2022 Comparative Historical Sociology Pre-conference, American Sociological Association
- 2021 "Reading the World in a Teacup: Thoughts from Single-Case Studies"
Comparative Historical Analysis and Theory (CHAT) Flash Talk
- 2019 "Fault Lines among Asian Americans: Convergence and Divergence in Policy Opinions"
Russell Sage Foundation
- 2018 "Where is the Archive in Historical Sociology? A Case for Ethnographic Disposition"
American Sociological Association
- 2017 D-Lab, UC Berkeley
- 2020 "Blinded by the Facts: Confusion, Contradiction, and Immigration Policy in the Dillingham Commission (1907-1911)"
Sociology Colloquium, Korea University
- 2019 Emerging Immigration Scholars Conference, UCLA; Eastern Sociological Association
- 2018 Social Science History Association; Massachusetts Historical Society
- 2017 Law and Society Association; American Sociological Association
- 2016 UC Irvine Immigration Conference; Berkeley-Stanford Immigration Conference; Junior Theorist Symposium; American Sociological Association; Social Science History Association
- 2014 Social Science History Association
- 2013 International Sociological Association
- 2016 "Making Opinions Public: Polling and Democratic Responsiveness in South Korea" (with Taeku Lee)
Institute of East Asian Studies, UC Berkeley
- 2015 Center for Korean Studies, UC Berkeley; the Boalt School of Law, UC Berkeley

- 2014 Institute of East Asian Studies, UC Berkeley
- “Rethinking Models of Minority Political Participation: Inter- and Intra-group Variation in Political “Styles”
- 2013 Ninth Annual California Graduate Student Conference, UC Irvine
- 2012 Politics of Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Consortium, Purdue University; American Sociological Association
- “Assimilation in Market and Politics: Exit and Voice for Children of Immigrants”
- 2013 American Sociological Association
- 2012 American Sociological Association; Society of Advancement of Socio-economics
- 2011 Debates on Belonging: A Graduate Student Conference-City University of New York

Teaching

- ”Sociology of Data and Algorithms”
- ”Race, Politics, and Power: Asian American Student Activism at Dartmouth”
- ”Race, Politics, and Power”
- ”Politics of Immigration”
- ”Constructing Social Theory”

Research Supervision

- 2025 Allison Nishi ’25 ”The Weight of History: Exploring the Influence of Conversations About Japanese-American Incarceration on Racial Identity Through the Generations”
- 2025 Jessica Yu ’25 ”Welfare Benefits and Immigrants’ Destination Choice”
- 2024 Deborah Jung ’24 ”Asian American Opposition to Affirmative Action”*
- 2023 Rachel Khang ’25 and Jessica Yang ’25 ”The Political Candidacy of Andrew Yang: Authenticity and Diasporic Heterogeneity in Asian American Politics”
- 2023 Jackeline Rodriguez ’23 ”Negotiating Their Intersectional Identities: Understanding Identity Formation and Negotiation among the Women of the Los Angeles Brown Berets Organization”*
- 2022 Deborah Jung ’24 ”Experiencing Race in a Majority White, Liberal Leaning High School”
- 2022 Daniel Lin ’23 ”Asian American Student Activism at Dartmouth”
- 2022 Ryan Penney ’24 ”Queer Theory”
- 2022 Sergio Vasquez ’22, ”Health Disparities Among Migrant Farm Workers in the Upper Valley”
- 2021 Jackeline Rodriguez ’23, ”Understanding the Identity Negotiation Process of Brown Beret Women in Chicano Movement”
- 2021 Daniel Lin ’23, ”Asian American History”
- 2021 Alayah Johnson-Jennings ’21, ”Coming Full Circle: The Facilitators and Barriers of Indigenous Methods in Academia”*

*indicates senior honor thesis supervised.

Service

Discipline

- 2025 Member, Best Graduate Student Paper Award Committee, Theory Section, American Sociological Association
- 2022-2024 Treasurer, Association of Korean Sociologists in America
- 2021-2023 Member, Ad-hoc Committee on ASA Presidential Biographies, Section for the History of Sociology and Social Thought, American Sociological Association
- 2021-2022 Member, Diversity Committee, International Migration Section, American Sociological Association
- 2021 Member, Committee for Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship for an Article or Chapter Award, Section for Political Sociology, American Sociological Association
- 2016 Co-organizer (with Taeku Lee), Election Polling and Democratic Consolidation in Korea and Taiwan, Institute of East Asian Studies, UC Berkeley
- 2014-2019 Research Associate, the National Archives of Korea

Dartmouth

- 2024-2025 Member, Undergraduate Social Committee, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth College
- 2022-2023 Member, Faculty Hiring Committee, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth College
- 2021-2023 Organizer, Junior Faculty Writing Group, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth College
- 2021-2022 Member, Faculty Hiring Committee, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth College
- 2020-2024 Member, Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth College
- 2020-2024 Member, Colloquium Committee, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth College
- 2020- Faculty associate, The Dartmouth Consortium of Studies in Race, Migration, and Sexuality

Occasional Reviewer for *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *International Migration Review*, *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*, *Critical Sociology*, *Berkeley Journal of Sociology*, *American Behavioral Scientist*, *Journal of Youth Studies*

Professional Membership

American Sociological Association
Eastern Sociological Association
Social Science History Association
International Sociological Association
Association of Korean Sociologists in America