Sunmin Kim

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Appointments

2020- Assistant Professor of Sociology, Dartmouth
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
(November 2025, 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." *Journal of Asian American Studies* 28(3): 446-463.
(equal contribution)

2025 "Reconstructing Bourdieusian Political Sociology: Legitimacy and Legibility in *Distinction* and *On the State*." *Korean Journal of Sociology* 59(4): 317-355.
(in Korean)

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.

(reviewed and accepted for publication before the editorial transition)

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. "Heterogeniety 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

Domesticating the Racial Other: Social Science in the WW II Japanese American Concentration Camps
(under contract with the University of Chicago Press)

"We Will *Still* Not Be Used: Asian Americans in an Age of Democratic Breakdown" (with Taeku Lee)
(forthcoming in an edited volume by Stanford University Press)

"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)

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 ($75,000)
2025 Faculty Research Grant, Ethics Institute, Dartmouth ($5,000)
2025 Faculty Research Grant, The John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth ($1,000)
2025 Faculty Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies (finalist)
2024 Arts Integration Grant, The Hopkins Center for Arts, Dartmouth ($20,000, with Sujin Eom)
2023 SOCY 76: Asian American Student Activism at Dartmouth, Dean of Interdisciplinary Studies, Dartmouth ($25,000)
2022 Mellon Research Grant, Dartmouth ($9,000)
2019 Faculty Research Grant, Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Public Policy, Dartmouth ($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

”We Will *Still* Not Be Used: Asian Americans in the Age of Democratic Breakdown” (with Taeku Lee)
2025 Asian American Research Center, Stanford

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

”Efficacy of Facts-Based Advocacy”: Immigration Politics Past and Present
2024 Social Science History Association

”The Unruly Facts of Race: The Politics of Knowledge Production in the Early 20th Century Immigration Debate”
2024 Graduate School of Digital Humanities and Computational Social Sciences, Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology; Chunbuk National University

”Heterogeneity Among Asian Americans”(with Nolan Yee ’25)
2024 Association for Asian American Studies

“Quantifying the Inscrutable: The Question of Japanese American Loyalty During the Internment”
2024 Association of Asian American Studies
2024 American Sociological Association; Korea University
2022 Social Science History Association

“Paper Students: Early Korean Immigrants Eluding the American State”(with Carolyn Choi)
2023 Social Science History Association; American Sociological Association; Cal State Long Beach
2022 Comparative Historical Sociology Pre-conference, American Sociological Association

“Reading the World in a Teacup: Thoughts from Single-Case Studies”
2021 Comparative Historical Analysis and Theory (CHAT) Flash Talk

“Fault Lines among Asian Americans: Convergence and Divergence in Policy Opinions”
2019 Russell Sage Foundation

“Where is the Archive in Historical Sociology? A Case for Ethnographic Disposition”
2018 American Sociological Association
2017 D-Lab, UC Berkeley

“Blinded by the Facts: Confusion, Contradiction, and Immigration Policy in the Dillingham Commission (1907-1911)”
2020 Korea University
2019 UCLA; Eastern Sociological Association
2018 Social Science History Association; Massachusetts Historical Society
2017 Law and Society Association; American Sociological Association
2016 UC Irvine; Stanford; Junior Theorist Symposium; American Sociological Association; Social Science History Association
2014 Social Science History Association
2013 International Sociological Association

"Making Opinions Public: Polling and Democratic Responsiveness in South Korea" (with Taeku Lee)"

2016 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 UC Irvine

2012 Purdue; 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 Graduate Center, CUNY

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 Benjamin Southworth '26 "The Head under the Hat: How Do Anti-Proletarian Movements Attract and Maintain Mass Popular Support"

2025 Nina Bouche '27 "Japanese Latin Americans during World War II"

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

2022-2023 Member, Faculty Hiring Committee, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth

2021-2023 Organizer, Junior Faculty Writing Group, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth

2021-2022 Member, Faculty Hiring Committee, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth

2020-2024 Member, Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth

2020-2024 Member, Colloquium Committee, Department of Sociology, Dartmouth

2020- Faculty associate, The Dartmouth Consortium of Studies in Race, Migration, and Sexuality

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

Professional Membership

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