

Sunmin Kim

Department of Sociology, Dartmouth

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Appointments

- 2026- Associate Professor of Sociology, Dartmouth
- 2020-2026 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

- 2026 *The Unruly Facts of Race: The Politics of Knowledge Production in the Early Twentieth Century Immigration Debate*
(The University of Chicago Press)
- Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award, History of Sociology and Social Thought Section, American Sociological Association

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 prior to the editorial transition of January 1, 2024)
- 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

- 2026 Kim, Sunmin. "Review of Christian Michelle, *The Global Journey of Racism*." *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* 55(4): 326-328.
- 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

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)

"Limits of Facts: Social Science and Immigration Debate Past and Present." (revised and resubmitted, *Social Science History*)

"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

- 2026 Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award, History of Sociology and Social Thought Section, American Sociological Association
- 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

- 2026 Gordon Russell 1955 Fellowship, Dartmouth (\$2,000)
- 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

"The Unruly Facts of Race: The Politics of Knowledge Production in the Early 20th Century Immigration Debate"
 2027 NYU
 2026 Cornell, UC Berkeley, U of Oregon, Stanford, Social Science History Association
 2025 Law and History Society, Harvard, Hunter College (CUNY)
 2024 Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology; Chunbuk National University

"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

"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

2018	"Where is the Archive in Historical Sociology? A Case for Ethnographic Disposition"
2017	American Sociological Association D-Lab, UC Berkeley
2020	"Blinded by the Facts: Confusion, Contradiction, and Immigration Policy in the Dillingham Commission (1907-1911)"
2019	Korea University
2018	UCLA; Eastern Sociological Association
2017	Social Science History Association; Massachusetts Historical Society
2016	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
2016	"Making Opinions Public: Polling and Democratic Responsiveness in South Korea" (with Taeku Lee)
2015	Institute of East Asian Studies, UC Berkeley
2014	Center for Korean Studies, UC Berkeley; the Boalt School of Law, UC Berkeley
2013	Institute of East Asian Studies, UC Berkeley
2013	"Rethinking Models of Minority Political Participation: Inter- and Intra-group Variation in Political "Styles"
2012	UC Irvine
2012	Purdue; American Sociological Association
2013	"Assimilation in Market and Politics: Exit and Voice for Children of Immigrants"
2012	American Sociological Association
2011	American Sociological Association; Society of Advancement of Socio-economics
2011	Graduate Center, CUNY

Teaching

- "Numbers, AI, and Society"
- "Race, Politics, and Power: Asian American Student Activism at Dartmouth"
- "Race, Politics, and Power"
- "Politics of Immigration"
- "Constructing Social Theory"

Research Supervision

2026	Nina Bouche '27 "Latino Identity and Politics in Miami"*
2026	Benjamin Southworth '26 "Making Sense in Trump's America: How material concerns and affective reactions are used to construct motivated realities"*
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

- 2026 Member, Ibn Khaldun Distinguished Career Award Committee, Section on Comparative Historical Sociology, American Sociological Association
- 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*, *American Sociological Review*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *British Journal of Sociology*, *International Migration Review*, *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Sociological Forum*, *Social Currents*, *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*, Russell Sage Foundation

Professional Membership

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