

Chun-Yi SUM

curriculum vitae

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POSITIONS

- 2016-Present Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico
- 2014-2016 Adjunct Lecturer (Cultural Anthropology, History, and East Asian Studies), Boston University, Clark University, Emerson College, and Northeastern University

EDUCATION

- 2015 Ph.D., Cultural Anthropology, Boston University
Dissertation: *“Therefore I am made indifferent”: Morality and Agency among University Students in China*
Examination Fields: Civil Society, Youth and Education, China
- 2011 M.A., Cultural Anthropology, Boston University
Thesis: *An Exercise for the People’s Republic: Order and Discipline in the Morning Ritual of a Chinese Primary School*
- 2008 B.A., Sociology and Anthropology (Honors in Anthropology), Washington and Lee University, summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, University Scholar

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Morality, Youth, Identity, Ethnicity, Family and Kinship, Emotion, Education, Nationalism, Governance, Social Inequality, Civil Society, Psychological Anthropology, Political Anthropology, Mosuo, China

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Sum, Chun-Yi. 2018. “From Water to Tears: Extracurricular Activities and the Search for Substance in China’s Universities,” *Children’s Geographies* 16(1):15-26. (doi:10.1080/14733285.2017.1380166)
- Sum, Chun-Yi. 2018. “A Great Leap of Faith: Limits to China’s University Cities,” *Urban Studies* 55(5). (doi: 10.1177/0042098017716845)
- Sum, Chun-Yi. 2017. “Suffering and Tears: Authenticity and Student Volunteerism in Post-Reform China,” *Ethos* 45(3): 409-429. (doi: 10.1111/etho.12172)

Book Reviews

- Sum, Chun-Yi. In Press. Review of Jing Xu, *The Good Child: Moral Development in a Chinese Preschool* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2017). *Journal of Anthropological Research*.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- “Our Platform, Our Stage: Extracurricular Organizations and the Remaking of University Students in China,” book manuscript in preparation.
- “Whose Civilizing Project? Ethnicity from the Mosuo Perspective,” journal article in preparation.
- “A Multidimensional Investigation of the Dynamics of Market Transition and Social Change in Rural China,” data collection, data analysis, and manuscript preparation.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2017 Engaged Anthropology Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research
2011-2012 Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research
2011-2012 Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship, Boston University
2008-2014 Presidential Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Boston University
2004-2008 Shelby Davis United World College Scholarship for Undergraduate Studies

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2010 Theodore C. Bestor Prize for Outstanding Graduate Paper, Society for East Asian Anthropology, American Anthropological Association
2008 First Place, Student Paper Competition, Southern Anthropological Society
2008 The Emory Kimbrough Jr. Prize in Sociology and Anthropology, Washington and Lee University
2007 Junior Fellow, the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

- 2017 Postdoctoral Fieldwork among the Mosuo (Na) minority in Yunnan, China
Conducted demographic surveys with 505 households in seven months. Currently conducting both quantitative and qualitative analysis to examine the relationships between market integration and social inequality.
- 2010-2012 Ph.D. Dissertation Fieldwork in Guangzhou city, China
Totalling eighteen months of mixed-methods research investigating morality and civic responsibility among student participants in extracurricular activities in a Chinese university.
- 2009 Exploratory Fieldwork in rural Hunan, China
Two months of participant-observation exploring civic education and discipline in a primary school.
- 2007 Undergraduate Honors Thesis Fieldwork in Chicago, USA and Hong Kong
Three months of multi-site research examining expressions of identity and belonging in diasporic communities.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught

Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
Introduction to East Asian Studies
Sex and Gender in a Global Perspective
China: Traditions and Transitions
Confucianism, Daoism, Buddhism: Intellectual History of China

Teaching Assistantship

Introduction to Biological Anthropology
Ethnicity and Identity
Anthropology of Muslim Cultures and Politics

Advisement Experience

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor, Department of History, Clark University

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 "Democracy in Action? Electoral Experiments in Post-Tiananmen China," October 31,

Rajawali Fellows Seminar Series, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

- 2016 “Does Market Integration Give Rise to Social Inequality? the Case of Mosuo in Southwestern China,” October 28, Departmental Seminar, Department of Anthropology, Boston University, Massachusetts, USA
- 2016 “Vote of No Confidence: Elections and Democracy in a Chinese University,” September 22, Departmental Seminar, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA
- 2015 “From Water to Tears: In Search for Substance in China’s Universities,” February 4, Department of Anthropology, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, USA
- 2014 “College Students in China,” February 25, Asian Studies Initiative at Boston University, Boston, USA
- 2012 “A Higher Platform? Hopes and Disappointments in On-Campus Organizational Activities among College Students in China,” December 11, Song Qingling Center for Education in Philanthropy, Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai, China
- 2012 “Research Methods: on Ethnographic Interview,” July 11, Summer Research Program on Grassroots China, Liao Bingxiong Humanity Development Fund, Guangzhou, China

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

Organized Sessions

- 2016 Panel Organizer (with Gil Hizi), “Ideals and Practices of Self-Cultivation in East Asian Societies,” June 24-27, Association for Asian Studies (Asia) Conference, Kyoto, Japan
- 2015 Panel Organizer (with Hwuy-min Lucia Liu), “The Social Production of Tears: Perspectives from Chinese Societies,” March 26-29, Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, USA

Refereed Presentations (Selected)

- 2017 “Identity and Community in a Mosuo Dance Ritual,” December 3, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, USA
- 2016 “Freedom and Agency in China’s Moral Crisis,” November 16-20, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, USA
- 2016 “The Ethics of Time Management among Chinese University Students,” June 19-22, Society for East Asian Anthropology, Hong Kong
- 2016 “Paradoxical Ethics in Youth Volunteerism among Chinese University Students,” June 24-27, Association of Asia Studies (Asia) Conference, Kyoto, Japan
- 2016 “The Survey Boxes Left Unchecked: Learning about Aspirations among Chinese University Students,” February 26-27, Annual Ethnography in Education Research Forum, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA
- 2015 “We Are a Happy, Loving Family: Kinship and Emotion in Extra-Curricular Organizations in Chinese Universities,” November 18-22, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, USA
- 2015 “Land-Use Contestations in a ‘University City’ in China,” May 8-9. Urban China Research Network, Conference at Brown University, Providence, USA

- 2015 “Negotiating Moral Responsibilities: Plagiarism and Cheating in a Chinese University,” April 9-12, Society for Psychological Anthropology Biennial Meetings, Boston, USA
- 2014 “From Water to Tears: In Search for Substance in China’s University,” May 5-6, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, Singapore
- 2013 “The Changing Faces of *Lei Feng*: State-led Volunteerism among College Students in China,” November 19-24, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, USA
- 2012 “We are Just Waiting Around: Political Participation among China’s ‘Apathetic’ Generation,” July 6-8, East Asian Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Hong Kong

Poster Presentation

- 2008 “Brewing the Diasporic Nation: Nation Building in Cha Chaan Teng in Hong Kong and Chinatown in Chicago,” November 19-23, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, USA

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIP

American Anthropological Association
Association for Asian Studies
Society for East Asian Anthropology
Society for Psychological Anthropology

LANGUAGES

Cantonese Chinese – native
Mandarin Chinese – fluent
English – fluent
German – basic

PROFESSIONAL AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES

External Reviewer, *Ethos* (2017) and *Human Organization* (2018)
Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee, Department of History, Clark University (2016)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

Training Transformational Teachers Program, Emerson College, Boston. 2014.
Certificate, *Development Project Management Institute*, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey. 2006.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2013 – 2015 Research Assistant, Center for Mobile Communication Studies, College of Communication, Boston University
- 2009 - 2013 Freelance Columnist, Hong Kong Economic Journal and Ming Pao Newspaper
- 2009, 2010 Language Interpreter, Summer Institute for the Study of Global Religions in China, Fudan University, Shanghai, China
- 2007 Researcher and Volunteer, Chinese American Service League, Chicago, IL.
- 2006 Practicum in Development Project Management, PACT Ecuador