

## ALEX JONG-SEOK LEE

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Chao Center for Asian Studies  
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### CURRENT POSITION

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Fall 2018- Academy of Korean Studies Postdoctoral Fellow in Transnational Korean Studies, Chao Center for Asian Studies, Rice University

### EDUCATION

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2018 PhD, Anthropology, Minor in Asian American Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Dissertation Committee Chair: Dr. Ellen Moodie (Former Committee Chair: Dr. Nancy Abelmann-deceased)  
*Dissertation:* "Serving to Secure 'Global Korea': Gender, Mobility, and Flight Attendant Labor Migrants"  
2003 BA, Ethnic Studies, University of California, San Diego

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Labor migration, Feminist, gender, and sexuality studies, Transnational race and ethnic studies, Security, Mobility, Ethics, and Kinship

### AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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2015 Social Science Research Council Korean Studies Dissertation Workshop - Honorable Mention  
2013 US Department of Education Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship in Arabic, Academic Year - \$15,000  
2012 UIUC Department of Anthropology Joseph B. Casagrande Research Award - \$1,000  
2012 UIUC Department of Anthropology Summer Research Award - \$1,000  
2012 Social Science Research Council and MIGRINTER Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship - \$5,000  
2011 US Department of Education Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship in Korean, Academic Year - \$15,000  
2011 US Department of Education Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship in Korean, Summer - \$2,500

### PUBLICATIONS - REFERRED ARTICLES

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2018 Global Identifications: The Social Identity Behind the Globalised Sociocultural Anthropologist (Special Issue: Nativity Seen in the Anthropocene: Contemporary Fieldwork and Subjective Challenges). *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology* 19(3):214-230.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14442213.2018.1454502>

## **PUBLICATIONS - BOOK CHAPTER**

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- 2017 Dirty Work, Glamorous Migrant: Cosmopolitan South Korean Emirates Airlines Flight Attendants and the Reproduction of Global Racial Hierarchies. In *Cosmopolitanism and Tourism: Rethinking Theory and Practice*. Robert Shepherd, ed. Pp. 115-139. Lanham: Lexington Books (a division of Rowman & Littlefield)

## **PUBLICATIONS - BOOK REVIEWS**

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- 2018 Review of *Trespassing?: Asian Americans and the Battle for Suburbia*. *City & Society* 30(2). <http://doi.org/10.1111/ciso.12164>

## **PUBLICATIONS - OTHER**

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- 2017 Review of *Gendered Entanglements: Revisiting Gender in Rapidly Changing Asia*. Association for Feminist Anthropology (May). <http://afa.americananthro.org/book-review/gendered-entanglements-revisiting-gender-in-rapidly-changing-asia/>
- 2016 Les origines du christianisme coréen et le succès de la visite du pape François (English Translation: The Social and Intellectual Origins of Christianity in South Korea as a Means to Understanding Pope Francis' 2014 Visit). *Korea Analysis* (French language publication), Issue 11 (Feb). [https://f-origin.hypotheses.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/3723/files/2017/03/Korea\\_Analysis\\_111.pdf](https://f-origin.hypotheses.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/3723/files/2017/03/Korea_Analysis_111.pdf)

## **MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED**

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- 2018 Asia's Colored Men: Masculinity and Meaning in Contemporary South Korea. *Kalfou* (A Journal of Comparative and Relational Ethnic Studies) (Under Review - Aug.)

## **MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS**

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- 2019 Security Narratives: Korean Flight Attendants Serving to Secure Self and Nation (Expected Submission to *Anthropological Quarterly* - March)

## **PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP**

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- 2017 Podcaster, Fieldnotes: The Power to Communicate and Influence through the Way We Choose to Dress. AnthroTalks (Sponsored by the Association for the Practice of Anthropology): Ep. 1 Dressing the Part (July 9). <https://anthrotalks.org/2017/07/09/dressing-the-part/>
- 2016 "Paul C. Taylor: What is Philosophical Race Theory?" UIUC Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory Lecture Series blog: <http://unitcrit.blogspot.com/2016/11/paul-c-taylor-what-is-philosophical.html>

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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- 2019 Co-Instructor, Chao Center for Asian Studies, Rice University (Spring)  
**ASIA 295 "Introduction to Transnational Asian Studies"** with Dr. Sonia Ryang and Dr. Sohoon Yi
- 2017-2018 Teaching Assistant, Department of Asian American Studies, UIUC (Fall 2017 / Spring 2018)

- AAS 100 “Introduction to Asian American Studies”** with Dr. Soo Ah Kwon / Dr. A. Naomi Paik  
*(\*Ranked “Excellent by their Students,” as well as “Outstanding” or top 10% among Teaching Assistants: <http://citl.illinois.edu/docs/default-source/teachers-ranked-as-excellent/tre-2018-spring.pdf>)*
- 2016-2017 Instructor, Department of Anthropology, UIUC (Fall 2016 / Summer 2017)
- 2015-2016 **ANTH 103 “Anthropology in a Changing World”-online course**  
 Teaching Assistant, Department of Anthropology, UIUC (Fall 2015 / Summer 2016)
- ANTH 143 “The Biology of Human Behavior”** with Dr. Kathryn Clancy  
**ANTH 103 “Anthropology in a Changing World”-online course** with Dr. Emily Metzner
- 2010-2011 Teaching Assistant, Department of Asian American Studies, UIUC (Fall 2010 / Spring 2011)
- AAS 120 “Introduction to Asian American Popular Culture”** with Dr. Kent Ono / Dr. Caroline Yoon
- 2009-2010 Teaching Assistant, Department of Asian American Studies, UIUC (Fall 2009 / Spring 2010)
- AAS 100 “Introduction to Asian American Studies”** with Dr. Esther Kim Lee / Dr. Yoon Pak
- 2009-2011 Guest Lecturer, “Race and Gender within South Korean Popular Culture,” **AAS 100 “Introduction to Asian American Studies”** & **AAS 120 “Introduction to Asian American Popular Culture”**: UIUC Department of Asian American Studies (Fall 2009 / Spring 2010 / Fall 2010 / Spring 2011)

#### **INVITED TALKS, LECTURES & KEYNOTES**

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- 2018 Panel Discussant, “Comments on ‘J.S.A. Joint Security Area’,” Korean Movie Night, Rice University-Korean Graduate Student Association and Korean Consulate General in Houston, Rice University, Houston, TX (Nov. 2)
- 2015 Keynote Speaker, “Spring, Summer, Fall... and Winter,” Korean Film Discussion, East Asian Film and Lecture Series, Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, IL (Oct. 8)
- 2011 Lecturer, “Global Ethnic Studies and Racial Formation in South Korea,” Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL (Nov. 1)

#### **CONFERENCE ORGANIZING**

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- 2019 Co-organizer and Chair, “Global Model Minority Discourse and Asian Diasporic Subjects,” Association for Asian Studies in Asia Conference, Bangkok, Thailand (forthcoming July 1-4).
- 2018 Organizer and Chair, “Se-cura: Security as the Absence (and Presence) of Care,” Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA (Nov. 17)
- 2016 Organizer and Chair, “Proof and the Personal: Revisiting the Self-Other Binary Debate Within Claims of Evidence,” Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN (Nov. 20)
- 2012 Co-organizer with Dr. Virginia Dominguez and Dr. Jane Desmond, “The

Presence of 'America' in India: Where and How Does 'America' Appear and What are the Effects?" UIUC International Forum for U.S. Studies Conference (April 5-7)

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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- 2019 Presenter, "Asia's Colored Men: Masculinity and Meaning in Contemporary South Korea," Association for Asian Studies in Asia 2019 Conference: "Asia in Motion: Asia on the Rise?" Bangkok, Thailand (forthcoming July 1-4)
- 2019 Presenter, "Se-cura: Security as the Absence (and Presence) of Care," Society for Applied Anthropology, Portland, OR (forthcoming March 19-23)
- 2018 Presenter, "Security Narratives: Korean Flight Attendants Serving to Secure Self and Nation," Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA (Nov. 17)
- 2018 Guest Speaker, "Se-cura: Security as the Presence and Absence of Care among Feminized South Korean Flight Attendant Labor," Transnational Asia Research Initiative Seminar Series, Chao Center for Asian Studies, Rice University, Houston, TX (Oct. 31)
- 2017 Presenter, "'Surrogate Whiteness' in the Ivory Tower? Alternating Alterities within Asian/Americanness," 116th Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., (Dec. 3)
- 2017 Presenter, "Non-Natives Not the Same: New Discoveries in Old Korean Culture Debates," Global Korean Studies and Writing Korean Culture Conference, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea (Sept. 22)
- 2017 Presenter, "Dirty Work, Glamorous Migrant: South Korean Flight Attendants and Reproducing Color Hierarchies in Inter-Asia," Worlding Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Conference, Sungkonghoe University, Seoul, South Korea (July 29)
- 2017 Presenter, "Dirty Work, Glamorous Migrant: South Korean Flight Attendants and Reproducing Racial, Gender, and National Hierarchies," International Conference of NextGen Korean Studies Scholars, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (May 13)
- 2017 Presenter, "Dirty Work, Glamorous Migrant: South Korean Flight Attendants and Reproducing Racial, Gender, and National Hierarchies," Women's and Gender History Symposium at UIUC, Urbana, IL (March 3)
- 2017 Presenter, "Dirty Work, Glamorous Migrant: South Korean Flight Attendants and Reproducing Racial, Gender, and National Hierarchies," Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Toronto, Canada (March 19)
- 2017 Presenter, "Dirty Work, Glamorous Migrant: South Korean Flight Attendants and Reproducing Racial, Gender, and National Hierarchies," Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Santa Fe, NM (March 28)
- 2016 Presenter, "Non-Natives Not the Same: New Discoveries in Old 'Nativity' Debates," Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN (Nov. 17)
- 2016 Presenter, "South Korea's Brand of "World-Class" Worker: Labor, Gender and (Im)mobility among South Korean Flight Attendants," International Studies Association Asia-Pacific Conference, Hong Kong (June 25)

- 2016 Presenter, "Serving to Secure 'Elite' Status: Flight Attendants, Labor, and (Im)Mobility in Contemporary South Korea," Society for East Asian Anthropology Annual Conference, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong (June 19)
- 2015 Presenter, "'World-Class' Worker: Labor, Gender and (Im)mobility within the Flight Attendant Occupation in South Korea," American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO (Nov. 22)
- 2015 Presenter, "'World-Class' Worker: Labor, Gender and (Im)mobility within the Flight Attendant Occupation in South Korea, Center for East Asian Pacific Studies, UIUC Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Symposium, Urbana, IL (Nov. 6)
- 2015 Presenter, "'World-Class Worker: Labor, Gender and (Im)mobility among South Korean Flight Attendants." Institute of Cultural Studies and Department of Anthropology Research Affiliates Brown Bag Lunch Talk, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea (May 18)
- 2013 Presenter, "Flight Status Unknown: Dubai-based South Korean Female Flight Attendants and the Global Making and Unmaking of Class," UIUC Korean Family in Comparative Perspective Workshop, Urbana, IL (Oct. 11)
- 2011 Presenter, "Digesting the other 'Western' Other: International Chinese Students' Negotiations with 'Asian America.'" Association for Asian American Studies Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, May 20)
- 2010 Chair and Presenter, "Re-orienting the Boundaries of 'Oriental' Masculinity: Ethnography of Heterosexual Asian American Women at UIUC." Association for Asian American Studies Annual Meeting, Austin, TX (April 11)
- 2009 Presenter, "'Race' in (East) Asia: Thoughts on a Global Racial Order." Ethnic Studies 40 Years Later International Conference, San Francisco, CA (Oct. 10)

#### **SERVICE (PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY)**

- 2018 Chair, "Narratives of (Il)legibility in East Asia," Society of East Asian Studies at UIUC Graduate Student Symposium (May 5)
- 2018 Co-organizer, "Homeless, Abandoned: Affective Lives in Postindustrial South Korea" by Dr. Jong Bum Kwon, UIUC Center for East Asian Pacific Studies Speaker Series (April 6)
- 2017 Co-organizer, "Migratory Surveillance and Strategic Resistance in Hong Kong" by Dr. Nicole Constable, UIUC Center for Advanced Study Lecture Series (April 28)
- 2017- Media Strategist, *City & Society*, the journal of the Society for Urban, National and Transnational/Global Anthropology (Aug. 2017-Present)
- 2013 Discussant and Co-organizer, "Days of Love and Labor" by Dr. Michael Fisch, UIUC Korea Workshop (March 29)
- 2013 Manuscript Referee, *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies Journal* (Spring)
- 2012 Discussant and Co-organizer, "Occupation and Disorientation" by Dr. Jong Bum Kwon, UIUC Korea Workshop (March 29)
- 2012 Co-organizer, "Unmanned: Reading of a Work-in-Progress—A New Play about Drone Pilots" by Dr. Robert Myers, UIUC International Forum for U.S. Studies (March 7)

- 2011 Co-organizer, “Brain Drain or Exchange: International Students” by Dr. Madeline Y. Hsu, UIUC Korea Workshop (Sept. 12)
- 2011 Discussant and Co-organizer, “Family Businesses in South Korea” by Dr. Antti Leppanen and “Tongdaemun Market Families” by Dr. Seoyoung Park, UIUC Korea Workshop (Sept. 11)
- 2011 Co-organizer, “The Internationalization of U of I Undergraduates” by Dr. Katharyne Mitchell, UIUC Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities (Jan. 25)
- 2011-2012 Secretary-Treasurer, National Association of Student Anthropologists of the American Anthropological Association
- 2009 Discussant and Co-organizer, “Koreans and Race from Seoul to LA” by Dr. Nadia Y Kim, UIUC Korea Workshop (Sept. 11)

**SERVICE (DEPARTMENT AND COLLEGE)**

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- 2018-2017-2018 Host Friend Mentor, International Friends at Rice, Rice University
- 2017-2018 Supplemental Educational Content Creator, “Bittersweet Joke,” “People are the Sky,” and “So Long Asleep: Waking the Ghosts of a War” (Korean Studies documentaries), UIUC Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies
- 2017 Presenter, “Teaching Diverse Classrooms: ‘Domestic’ Duties at ‘International’ Illinois,” Graduate Academy for College Teaching Training Conference, UIUC Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (Aug. 24)
- 2017 Presenter, “Online Teaching Tips,” Graduate Academy for College Teaching Training Conference, UIUC Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning (Aug. 23)
- 2017 Presenter, “Online Teaching Tips,” Graduate Academy for College Teaching Training Conference, UIUC Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning (Jan. 11)
- 2017 Graduate Student Judge, “Undergraduate Research Symposium,” UIUC Office of Undergraduate Research (April 27)
- 2016-2017 Member, UIUC La Colectiva Immigrant Advocacy Group
- 2016 Presenter, “Participant Observation and Field Notes,” UIUC ANTH 411 Research Methods in Socio-Cultural Anthropology with Dr. Ellen Moodie (Oct. 10)
- 2016 Undergraduate Mentor, UIUC Chinese Language and International Development Society for Chinese International Studies (Fall)
- 2011 Presenter, “Reflections on a Changing American University: UIUC’s Increasing International Chinese and Korean Undergraduate Student Population,” UIUC Asian American Cultural Center Speaking Series (Nov. 29)
- 2011-2012 Undergraduate Mentor, Interlink Mentoring Program for International Students, UIUC Counseling Center
- 2010 Presenter, “ANTH 499: Un/Expected Expectations: International Chinese and Korean Students’ Experiences at UIUC,” UIUC Ethnography of the University Initiative Student Conference (Nov. 30)

**RELATED PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

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- 2010 UIUC Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning - Graduate Teacher Certificate

**LANGUAGES** (based on the Interagency Language Roundtable Scale)

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Korean: *Speaking*. General Professional Proficiency, *Reading*. Limited Working Proficiency, *Writing*. Limited Working Proficiency  
Spanish: *Speaking*. Elementary Proficiency, *Reading*. Elementary Proficiency, *Writing*. Elementary Proficiency  
Arabic: *Speaking*. Memorized Proficiency, *Reading*. Memorized Proficiency, *Writing*. Memorized Proficiency

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS**

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American Anthropological Association  
Society for Urban, National, and Transnational/Global Anthropology  
Association for Asian American Studies  
Association for Feminist Anthropology