

KEN CHIH-YAN SUN

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Education

Brandeis University

Sociology, Ph.D., 2011

Dissertation Title: *Aging Across Borders: The Case of Older Taiwanese Immigrants in the United States and their Return Counterparts in Taiwan*

Committee Members: Karen V. Hansen (chair), Wendy Cadge, Nazli Kibria, Sara Shostak, Mary C. Waters

Brandeis University

Joint M.A., 2009, Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies

National Taiwan University

M.A., 2004, Graduate Institute of Journalism

National Tsing-Hua University

B.A., 2001, Linguistics

Academic Employment

2014-present	Assistant Professor of Sociology, Hong Kong Baptist University
2013-2014	Postdoctoral Fellow, Nanyang Technological University
2012-2013	Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica
2011-2012	Visiting Instructor, Sociology Department, College of William and Mary

Areas of Research

Families and Inequalities; International Migration; Global and Transnational Sociology; Race and Ethnicity; Aging and Life Course Studies; Asian and Asian American Studies; Qualitative Research Methods

Publications (Peer-reviewed Journal Articles)

2018	Ken Chih-Yan Sun. "Global South No More? How Return Taiwanese Migrants Negotiate Social Membership Back Home." <i>Current Sociology</i> , forthcoming.
2017	Ken Chih-Yan Sun. "Managing Transnational Ambivalence: How

- Stay-behind Parents Grapple with Family Separation Across Time.” *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*, 24 (5): 509-605. (Special Themed Issue Entitled: “Ageing in Transnational Contexts.”)
- 2017 Karen V. Hansen, **Ken Chih-Yan Sun**, and Debra Osnowitz. “Immigrants as Settler Colonists: Boundary Work between Dakota Indians and White Immigrant Settlers.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 40 (11): 1919-1938.
- 2017 **Ken Chih-Yan Sun** and Jill Smith. “Parenting, Uncertainty and Expert Advice: How Advantaged American Families Collaborate with Private Counselors in their Children’s College Race.” *Symbolic Interaction*, 40 (1): 3-24.
- 2016 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Professional Remittances: How Aging Taiwanese Returnees Seek to Contribute to the Homeland.” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 42(14): 2413-2429.
- 2016 Jill Smith and **Ken Chih-Yan Sun**. “Privileged American Families and Independent Academic Consultants They Hired.” *Sociological Forum*, 31(1): 159-180. **(Equal contribution)**
- 2014 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Reconfigured Reciprocity: How Aging Taiwanese Immigrants Transform Cultural Logics of Elder Care.” *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 76(4): 875-889.
- 2014 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Transnational Healthcare Seeking: How Aging Taiwanese Return Migrants Think about Homeland Public Benefits.” *Global Networks* 14(4): 533-550.
- 2014 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Transnational Kinscription: A Case of Parachute Kids and Their Parents in Taiwan.” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 40(9): 1431-1449.
- 2013 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Rethinking Migrant Families from a Transnational Perspective: Experiences of Parents and Their Children.” *Sociology Compass* 7(6): 445-458.
- 2013 **Ken Chih-Yan Sun** and Wendy Cadge. “How Do Organizations Respond to New Immigrants? Comparing Two New England Cities.” *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies* 11(2): 157-177.
- 2012 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Fashioning Reciprocal Norms of Elder Care: A Case of Immigrants in the United States and their Parents in Taiwan.” *Journal of Family Issues* 33(9): 1240-1271.
- 2011 Karen V. Hansen and **Ken Chih-Yan Sun**. “Locating Transnational Norwegians: Exploring Nationalism, Language, and

- Labor Markets in early Twentieth Century North Dakota.”
Norwegian-American Essays 13: 73-108.
- 2008 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Masculinity and Work Practices of Photojournalists in Taiwan.” *Chinese Journal of Communication Research* 13: 75-115 (in Chinese).
- 2007 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Discourse, Power and Maintenance of Occupational Sex Segregation of a Photojournalist’s Work in Taiwan.” *Journal of Mass Communication Research* 91: 125-169 (in Chinese).

Other Publications (Book Chapters)

- 2016 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Changing Notions of Home: How Aging Taiwanese Return Migrants Rethink Their Relationship to the Homeland Across the Lifecycle,” Pp. 126-138 in *Rethinking Home: Transnational Migration and Older Age*, edited by Katie Walsh and Lena Näre. New York: Routledge.
- 2016 Ken Chih-Yan Sun. “Constructing Networks of Elder Care across Borders: The Experiences of Taiwanese Immigrants in the US and their Parents in the Homeland,” in *Aging and Elder Care in East Asia: Beyond Filial Piety*, edited by Jeanne L. Shea and Hong Zhang. New York: Berghahn, Forthcoming.

Works in Progress

- Aging across Borders: How Older Taiwanese Immigrants and Returnees Manage Care in Daily Lives (Book Manuscript in Progress)
- “Technologies of Intimacy: How Parents and Children Negotiate the Use of Information and Communication Technologies During Family Time” With Kathleen Jenkins (Under Review)
- “Logics of Social Right: How Aging Taiwanese Immigrants Think About Public Benefits Available in Destination Society” (In Progress)
- “Crowding Out Dad: How Kin Support Shapes American and Canadian Men’s Use of Paternal Leaves.” With Erin Rehel (In Progress)

Honors and Awards

- 2018 Early Career Teaching Award, Hong Kong Baptist University
- 2017 Early Career Research Award, Hong Kong Baptist University
- 2014 Distinguished Postdoctoral Research Award, National Science Council. Paper titled “Transnational Healthcare Seeking: How Aging

- 2011 Taiwanese Return Migrants Think about Homeland Public Benefits”
Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award, Youth, Aging, and the
Life Course (YALC) Division, Society for the Study of Social
Problems. Paper titled “Remaking the Culture of Elder Care: The
Case of Aging Taiwanese Americans”
- 2010 Distinguished Student Scholarship Award, Honorable Mention,
International Migration Section, American Sociological Association.
Paper titled “Fashioning the Ethics of Aging in the Transnational
Social Field: A Case of Immigrants in the United States and their
Parents in Taiwan”
- 2009 Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award, Youth, Aging, and the
Life Course (YALC) Division, Society for the Study of Social
Problems. Paper titled “Negotiating the Ethics of Care in the
Transnational Field: A Case of Immigrants in the U.S. and their
Parents in Taiwan”
- 2009 Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Graduate School of Arts &
Sciences, Brandeis University
- 2009 Isak Kazes Prize for Distinguished Graduate Student, Women’s and
Gender Program, Brandeis University
- 2009 Berkowitz Award, Sociology Department, Brandeis University.
Paper titled “Overseas Kinships and Parenting within Transnational
Families: Comparing Taiwanese American Families with Taiwanese
Parachute Kids’ Families”
- 2008 Sachar Award, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Brandeis
University. Paper titled “Medicalizing Depression in the
Transnational Field: A Case Study of Taiwan”
- 2005 Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award, Chinese
Communication Society. Paper titled “Unbearable Heaviness of
Work? Gendering a Photojournalist’s Work in Taiwan”

Fellowships and Grants

External Funding:

- 2017-19 Early Career Scheme, the University Grant Committee (Hong
Kong’s equivalent of National Science Foundation in the United
States) (834,000 HKD, approximately 107,533 USD) Project Titled:
“Aging Parents and Their Caregivers Back Home: The Case of
Mainland China.”
- 2013 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Nanyang Technological University

- 2013 Travel Grant for Outstanding Postdoctoral Researchers, Foundation for the Advancement of Outstanding Scholarship (80,000 TWD, approximately 2,500 USD)
- 2013 Travel Grant for International Conferences, National Science Council (Taiwan's Equivalent of National Science Foundation in the United States) (80,000 TWD, approximately 2,500 USD)
- 2013 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica
- 2012 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica (declined)
- 2010-2011 Andrew Mellon Dissertation Year Fellowship
- 2010 Visiting Associate, Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica
- 2009 Dissertation Fellowship, Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation
- 2009 Dissertation Fellowship, Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica (declined)

Internal Funding

- 2016-2017 Faculty Research Grant, Hong Kong Baptist University (148,680 HKD, approximately 19,170 USD) Project Titled: "How Left-behind Parents Negotiate Care: The Case of Mainland China."
- 2016 Departmental Research Fund, Hong Kong Baptist University (20,000 HKD, approximately 2,578 USD) Project Titled: "How Transnational Siblings Negotiate Caregiving Responsibility: The Case of Taiwan."
- 2014-17 Start-up Grant, Hong Kong Baptist University (100,000 HKD, approximately 12,893 USD)
- 2011 Provost's Dissertation Support Award, Brandeis University (1,000 USD)
- 2011 Research Circle Grant, Brandeis University (1,000 USD)
- 2010 Phoebe and Dr. Donald Giddon Grant for Research on Women and Health, Women's and Gender Studies Program, Brandeis University (500 USD)
- 2009 Grant for Graduate Research in Women's and Gender Studies, Women's and Gender Studies Program, Brandeis University. Project titled: "Mothering and Transnational Kinship Networks: Comparing Parents-Present and Parents-Absent Taiwanese American Families" (500 USD)
- 2009 Mellon-Sachar Dissertation Research Grant, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Brandeis University. Project titled: "Managing the

- Emotional Experiences of ‘Growing Old’ in the Transnational Field: A Case of Aging Ethnic Chinese Population in the U.S and Taiwan” (5,000 USD)
- 2008 Global Brandeis Fund, the Office of Global Affairs, Brandeis University. Project titled, “Colloquium on Transnational Family Theory and Method” (with Professor Karen V. Hansen) (3,000 USD)
- 2005-2009 Teaching Fellowship, Brandeis University
- 2003 Research Grant, Women’s and Gender Studies Program, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan. Project titled: “Unbearable Heaviness of Work? Gendering a Photojournalist’s Work in Taiwan” (20,000 TWD, approximately 624 USD)

Invited Talks and Colloquia

- 2015 “Aging across Borders: How Older Taiwanese Immigrants and Returnees Manage Care in Daily Lives.” Colloquium. Anthropology Department, Chinese University of Hong Kong. (November 27)
- 2015 “Second Gendered Transition? How Aging Taiwanese Immigrants Negotiate Spousal Relationships.” Voices and New Approaches in China Gender Studies Workshop, Fairbank Center, Harvard University. (March 6)
- 2014 “Transnational Health Care Seeking: How Older Taiwanese Returnees Remake Consider Their Homeland Public Benefits.” Colloquium. Sociology Division, Nanyang Technological University. (May 9)
- 2014 “Aging in the Transnational Social Field: How Older Taiwanese Immigrants and Returnees Manage Care in Later Lives.” Colloquium. Sociology Department, National Taipei University. (March 4)
- 2014 “Aging Across Borders: How Older Taiwanese Immigrants and Returnees Make Home Transnationally.” Colloquium. Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica. (March 3)

Selected Conference Presentations

- 2017 Negotiating Transnational Ambivalence: How Aging Parents Grapple with Family Separation Across Time. Presented in the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association.

- 2017 Technologies of Intimacy: How Families Negotiate Spirituality and Technology in a Sacred Place. Presented in the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association.
- 2017 Constructing Networks of Elder Care across Borders: The Experiences of Taiwanese Immigrants in the US and their Parents in the Homeland. Presented in the Global Care Summit, University of Massachusetts Lowell.
- 2016 Remaking Gender and Intimacy: Changing Power Dynamics between aging Taiwanese Americans and their Spouses. Presented in the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association.
- 2016 Immigrants as Settler Colonists: Boundary Work between Dakota Indians and White Immigrant Settlers. Presented in the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association. (With Karen V. Hansen and Debra Osnowitz)
- 2015 Crowding Out Dad: How Kin Support Influence the Configuration of Fatherhood. Presented in the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association. (With Erin Rehel)
- 2015 Shadow Privilege: How Independent Educational Consultants Help Advantaged Families to Negotiate Access to Higher Education. Presented in the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association. (With Jill Smith)
- 2015 Intimacies of Racialization: Everyday Citizenship among Dakota Indians and Scandinavian Immigrants. Presented in the Annual Meeting of Eastern Sociological Society. (With Karen. V. Hansen and Debra Osnowitz)
- 2014 Going Home to Contribute: How Aging Taiwanese Return Migrants Engage in Home-country Development. Presented in the 11th International Etmu Days Conference, University of Helsinki, Finland.
- 2013 Transnational Healthcare Seeking: How Aging Taiwanese Return Migrants Think About Homeland Public Benefits. Presented in the Annual Meeting of American Anthropological Association.
- 2013 Logics of Social Right: How Senior Taiwanese Immigrants Think About Public Benefits Available in the United States. Presented in the Annual Meeting of Eastern Sociological Society.
- 2012 Transforming Cultural Logics of Care: How Aging Returnees in Taiwan Think About Intergenerational Reciprocity. Presented at International Symposium for Young Sociologists, Kobe University,

- Japan.
- 2012 Remaking Reciprocal Rules of Geriatric Care: The Case of Aging Taiwanese Immigrants. Presented at the Annual Meeting of 2012 Eastern Sociological Society.
- 2011 The Encounter between Post-1965 Immigrants and Organizations in New Destinations: Comparing Two New England Cities. Presented at the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association (with Wendy Cadge)
- 2011 Remaking Reciprocal Rules of Geriatric Care: The Case of Aging Taiwanese Immigrants. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems.
- 2010 Transnationalizing Norwegian Immigration: Exploring the Cross-border Connections in early Twentieth Century North Dakota. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. (with Karen V. Hansen)
- 2009 Overseas Kinships and Parenting within Transnational Families: Comparing Taiwanese American Families with Taiwanese Parachute Kids' families. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association.
- 2009 Negotiating the Ethics of Elder Care in the Transnational Field: A Case of Immigrants in the U.S. and their Parents in Taiwan. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems.
- 2008 Negotiating Filial Piety across National Borders: A Case of Taiwanese Transnational Families. Presented at the Colloquia on Transnational Families: Theory and Method, Brandeis University.
- 2008 Working like a "Man": Gender, Masculinity and a Photojournalist's Work in Taiwan. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association.
- 2008 The Changing Meaning of 'Home:' How Han Chinese Immigrants Negotiate Boundaries between "Us" and "Them." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems.
- 2007 Negotiating the Sexual Boundaries in Workplaces: The Case Study of Photojournalists' Work in Taiwan. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems.
- 2006 The Mutual Shaping of Asian Men's Bodies and Medical Technology A Case Study of the Development of Viagra in Taiwan. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society.

- 2005 Bring the Body Back in: The Gendering of Photojournalists' Practice and Identities. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Chinese Communication Society. Taipei, Taiwan.

Teaching Experiences: Instructor

Hong Kong Baptist University (all the courses are taught in English):

- Work and Families in Comparative Perspectives (Fall 2014)
- Contemporary Sociological Theories (Spring 2015 and Spring 2016)
- Children, Youth and Aging (Fall 2015 and Spring 2017)
- Sociology of Culture (Spring 2016)
- Introduction to Sociological Thinking and Writing (Fall 2016 and Fall 2017)
- Honors Project Workshops (Fall 2015, Fall 2016, and Fall 2017)

College of William and Mary:

- Freshman Seminar: Families and Inequalities (Fall 2011)
- Families and Kinship (Spring 2012)
- American Society: International Migration (Fall 2011 and Spring 2012)
- American Society: Gender, Race and Class (Summer 2012)

Teaching Experiences: Assistantships

- Order and Change in Society (Spring 2009 and Spring 2007 for Professor David Cunningham), (Spring 2006 for Professor Peter Conrad)
- Sociology of Body and Health (Fall 2008 for Professor Sara Shostak)
- Health, Community and Society (Fall, 2007 for Professor Peter Conrad)
- Sociology of Religion (Spring 2008 for Professor Wendy Cadge)
- Globalization and Media (Fall 2006 for Professor Laura Miller)
- War and Possibilities of Peace (Fall 2005 for Professor Gordon Fellman)

Professional Activities

Association Memberships

- American Sociological Association, Society for the Study of Social Problems, International Sociological Association, Eastern Sociological Society, American Anthropological Association

Professional Organization Services

- 2016 Discussant, the Session in the Hong Kong Conference of the Society for East Asian Anthropology (American Anthropological Association), "Migrant Mobilities and Identities in East Asia:

- Ethnographic Inquiries into Subjectivities and Experiences.”
- 2014 Organizer (with Erin Rehel), the Regular Session of Families Section in the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association, “Families, Inequalities and Globalization.”
- 2011 Moderator, the Session in the Annual Meeting of Eastern Sociological Society, “Immigration, Poverty and Welfare.”
- 2010 Discussant, the Regular Session of Families Section in the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association, “Marriage, Divorce and Well-being in a Global Context.”

Journals

Reviewer: *Journal of Marriage and Family*; *Journal of Family Issues*; *Ethnic and Racial Studies*; *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*; *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*; *Sociological Forum*; *Sociological Inquiry*; *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*; *Journal of Family Studies*; *Journal of Population Studies*; *Journal of Pacific Rim Psychology*; *Sojourner*; *Mass Communication Research*

Services to Hong Kong Baptist University

- 2017-2018 Postgraduate Program Committee
- 2016-2018 Faculty Task Force on Faculty Bulletin
- 2015-2018 MA Global Society Program Management Committee (PMC)
- 2015-2018 Departmental Examination Committee
- 2015-2018 Student External Studies Committee
- 2015-2017 Faculty Mentor for International Students
- 2014-2015 Scholarly Activities Committee
- 2014-2015 Distribution Requirement for Complementary Studies Program & General Education Program
- 2014-2015 Departmental Examination Committee
- 2014-2015 One-semester Off Campus Program
- 2014-2015 Vetting Committee for Undergraduate Summer Research Program & Travelling Allowance for Postgraduate Overseas Attachment Program

Research Advising

MPhil Thesis Committee Member:

Huan Ma (Sociology, Hong Kong Baptist University)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor (Hong Kong Baptist University):

Huixian Huang (Sociology and China Studies) (2017-2018)
Yuen Shan Chau (Sociology) (2017-2018)
Yi Kwan Lo (Sociology) (2017-2018)
Yan Yan Sin (Sociology) (2017-2018)
Yibing Wang (Sociology) (2017-2018)
Tianxiaoshan Yu (Sociology) (2017-2018)
Nga Yan Chan (Sociology and China Studies) (2016-2017)
Man Sze Cheung (Sociology) (2016-2017)
Ka Lok Choi (Sociology) (2016-2017)
Jiayi Liu (Sociology) (2016-2017)
Yin Yung Wong (2016-2017)
Yuen Hoi Ling (2016-2017)
Siu Cheong Li (Sociology) (2015-2016)
Chongmin Yang (Sociology) (2015-2016)
Cho Yi Chang (Sociology) (2015-2016)
Chun Yun Chan (Sociology) (2015-2016)
Wing Leong Tse (Sociology) (2015-2016)
Ju Lin Yu (Sociology and China Studies) (2015-2016)
Ting Hin Ma (Sociology) (2014-2015)
Chung Kay Ching (Sociology) (2014-2015)
Becky Liu (Sociology) (2014-2015)
Ching Man Cheung (Sociology) (2014-2015)

Languages

Fluent in Mandarin Chinese, English, Cantonese and Taiwanese (written, spoken and reading)

References

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Karen V. Hansen

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Gender Studies

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