

Alex J. Nelson

Department of Anthropology, University of Indianapolis
017C Good Hall, 4001 Otterbein Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46227
nelsonaj@uindy.edu | 702-235-2477

Academic Appointments

August 2022-Present	Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN USA
August 2026-Present	Distinguished Professor of Service Learning, University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN USA
June 2024-July 2024	Visiting Professor, Ewha International Summer College, Ewha Womans University, Seoul, ROK
August 2021-July 2022	Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC USA
August 2020-June 2021	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC USA
August 2020-December 2020, August 2014-December 2014	Part-Time Instructor, Department of Anthropology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV USA

Education

Ph.D., May 2020, Anthropology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Dissertation Title: *Love in South Korea: Transformations of Intimacy and Gender Relations in Korean Romantic Relationships*

M.A., December 2014, Anthropology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

B.A., May 2009, Anthropology & Psychology, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

A.A., December 2006, Liberal Arts, Minneapolis Community & Technical College

Research & Teaching Interests

Gender & Sexuality; Sex Work & Human Trafficking; Love & Intimacy; Kinship & Reproduction;
Media & Technology; Psychological & Feminist Anthropology; Cross-Cultural Research; Practice
Theory; Urban Ethnography; Mixed Methods; Content Analysis; Service-Learning; Korea; U.S.A.

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Nelson, A.**, Korgan, K., Izzo, A., & Veiverberg, F. (2026). The earnings and business practices of independent escorts: Autonomy, risk, and inequality in a U.S. sex market. *Sexuality & Culture*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-026-10620-8>. ([LINK](#))
- Nelson, A.**, de Munck, V., & Jankowiak, W. (Eds.). (2026). *Love apocalypse: New intimacies and the decline of marriage and fertility*. Rutgers University Press. (Politics of marriage and gender: Global issues in local contexts series). [LINK](#).
- Nelson, A.** (2026). Love's fallout: Fertility decline, romantic precarity, and the individualization of intimacy in South Korea. In A. Nelson, V. de Munck & W. Jankowiak (Eds.), *Love apocalypse: New intimacies and the decline of marriage and fertility*. Rutgers University Press.
- Nelson, A.**, de Munck, V., & Jankowiak, W. (2026). Love “apocalypse”: Global concerns about marriage and fertility decline. In A. Nelson, V. de Munck & W. Jankowiak (Eds.), *Love apocalypse: New intimacies and the decline of marriage and fertility*. Rutgers University Press.
- Nelson, A.** (2025). Sacrifice and the agapic love gender gap in South Korean romantic relationships. In C. Mayer & E. Vanderheiden (Eds.), *International Handbook of Love: Transcultural and Transdisciplinary Perspectives* (pp. 1013-1027). Springer. (First edition published in 2021).
- Jankowiak, W., & **Nelson, A.** (2025). The state of ethnological research on love: A critical review. In C. Mayer & E. Vanderheiden (Eds.), *International Handbook of Love: Transcultural and Transdisciplinary Perspectives* (pp. 23-39). Springer. (First edition published in 2021).
- Nelson, A.**, & Jankowiak, W. (2025). Love's ethnographic record: Beyond the love/arranged marriage dichotomy and other false essentialisms. In C. Mayer & E. Vanderheiden (Eds.), *International Handbook of Love: Transcultural and Transdisciplinary Perspectives* (pp. 41-57). Springer. (First edition published in 2021).
- Glazer, E. & **Nelson, A.** (2024). Paying for gender (in)equality: The individualization of commodified dating rituals in South Korea. *Anthropological Quarterly*, 97(4), 735-765.
- Nelson, A.**, McBride, B., & Yu, Y. (2024). “Whorearchy:” Racial earnings disparities in webcam modeling. In B. Barton, B. Brents, & A. Jones (Eds.), *Sex work today: Erotic labor in the 21st Century*. (119-129). New York University Press.
- Jankowiak, W., & **Nelson, A.** (2023). Archeology of love: A review of the ethnographic exploration of love around the world. In D. Buss (Ed.), *Handbook of Human Mating* (pp. 447-465). Oxford University Press.

Lee, S., Kim, M., Lee, D., Yon, K., & **Nelson, A.** (2022). Living up to parental expectations, psychological separation, and life satisfaction. *Emerging Adulthood*, 11(2), 403-414. doi: [10.1177/21676968221114584](https://doi.org/10.1177/21676968221114584).

Nelson, A., Korgan, K., Izzo, A., & Bessen, S. (2020). Client desires and the price of seduction: Exploring the relationship between independent escorts' marketing and rates. *The Journal of Sex Research*, 57(5), 664-680. doi: [10.1080/00224499.2019.1606885](https://doi.org/10.1080/00224499.2019.1606885).

Nelson, A., & Yon, K. (2019). Core and peripheral features of the cross-cultural model of romantic love. *Cross-Cultural Research*, 53(5), 447-482. doi: [10.1177/1069397118813306](https://doi.org/10.1177/1069397118813306).

Book Reviews

Nelson, A., & Jankowiak, W. (2015). *Fathers in cultural context*. D. Shwalb, B. Shwalb, and M. Lamb (Eds). Routledge. 2013. *Ethos*, 43: E24–E25. doi: [10.1111/etho.12091](https://doi.org/10.1111/etho.12091).

Editor-Reviewed Publications

Jankowiak, W., & **Nelson, A.** (2021). Does love always come before marriage?, *Sapiens*. <https://www.sapiens.org/culture/love-and-marriage/>.

Nelson, A., Yu, Y., & McBride, B. (2020). Sex work during the COVID-19 pandemic, *Society for the Anthropology of Work*. doi: [10.21428/1d6be30e.3c1f26b7](https://doi.org/10.21428/1d6be30e.3c1f26b7).

Korgan, K., **Nelson, A.**, & Izzo, A. (2019). The coercive impact of FOSTA on consensual adult sex workers. *The Gender Policy Report*, <https://genderpolicyreport.umn.edu/the-coercive-impact-of-fosta-on-consensual-adult-sex-workers>.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Nelson, A. (In preparation). *Seoul mates: The precarity of love in contemporary South Korea*. Monograph manuscript targeted at Rutgers University Press.

Nelson, A., Korgan, K., & Izzo, A. (In preparation). *Erotic entrepreneurs: Independent sex workers navigating the law and the market in the U.S.* Co-Authored book targeted at Palgrave Macmillan (Palgrave Advances in Sex Work Studies Series).

Nelson, A & Thompson, M. (In preparation). *Decriminalizing sex work*. University of Vermont Press (Janus Debates Series). Under Contract.

Invited Conference Presentations, Lectures, and Workshops

Introduction to Cross-Cultural Research Methods Using the Human Relations Area Files (eHRAF), Department of Anthropology, Seoul National University, Seoul, ROK, July 22, 2026.

Engendered Romantic Love and Gender Friction in Contemporary South Korea, Global Korea Agenda Roundtable, Dating and Intimacy in South Korea: Diverse Stories, James Joo-Jin Kim Center for Korean Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA, November 7, 2025.

Seoul mates: The anthropology of love, marriage & fertility decline in South Korea, Institute for Korean Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA, October 3, 2025.

Love, gender friction, and fertility decline in South Korea, Ewha Womans University, Seoul, ROK, July 11, 2023.

Love, marriage, and fertility decline in South Korea, Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures Seminar Series, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Virtual, May 8, 2023.

Requiem for romantic love, marriage and children?: Explorations in intimate relations in China, Japan and South Korea, Vilnius University, Virtual, February 25, 2021.

Love and gender relations in pre-modern Korean folklore, DePaul University, Virtual, April 7, 2020.

Romantic love in South Korea: A cross-cultural perspective, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA, USA, February 28, 2018.

Love and marriage in popular media, Seoul National University, Seoul, ROK, May 8, 2017.

Refereed Conference Presentations

Presenter / Author / Co-Author

Maltempi, H., Fernandez, P., Nelson, A., Yu, Y., Evans, E., & West, L. Censorship and transgender adult webcam models' social media use, Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, San Francisco, CA, May 29, 2026

Nelson, A. Neoliberal love and the decline of marriage and fertility in South Korea. Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Vancouver, CA, March 13, 2026.

Su, Y., Wang, Z., Kim, K., Nelson, A., & Yu, Y. Chinese love influencers: A content analysis of Chinese Bilibili influencers' relationship advice. The 3rd International Conference on Love and Relationship Studies, Online, March 8, 2026.

Park, Y., Kim, K., Nelson, A., Yu, Y., & Su, Y. Korean love influencers: A content analysis of Korean YouTube influencers' relationship advice. The 3rd International Conference on Love and Relationship Studies, Online, March 8, 2026.

Nelson, A. Love, Gangnam style: What Gendered Constructions of Romantic Love Reveal about Marriage and Fertility Decline in South Korea. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, November 21, 2025.

- Nelson, A. Weighing the costs of love: Sacrifice and reciprocity in Korean romantic relationships. SEAA-SNU Anthropology 2025 Conference, Seoul, ROK, July 15, 2025
- Nelson, A., Douglas, A. Fernandez, P., Maltempi, H., Veiverberg, F., & Yu, Y. Third-party platforms and adult content creators: Implications of racial & regional stratification in (virtual) sex work, Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Chicago, IL, May 22, 2025.
- Nelson, A. "I can't do that, but I expect my boyfriend to": Discourses of love, sacrifice and selfishness in South Korea, The Second International Conference on Love Studies, Virtual, March 14, 2025.
- Nelson, A., & Glayzer, E. Love, reciprocity, and the gendered division of dating costs in South Korea. Annual Conference of the National Women's Studies Association, Detroit, MI, November 15, 2024.
- Han, Y., Yu, Y., & Nelson, A. The impact of the 'Act on the Punishment of Commercial Sex Acts' on female sex workers in South Korea, Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Denver, CO, June 7, 2024.
- Nelson, A., Cox, E., Douglas, A., Fernandez, P., Hall, M., Maltempi, H., & Veiverberg, F. Adult content creators, social media, & client interactions, Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Denver, CO, June 7, 2024.
- Nelson, A. Agapic love, gender friction, & fertility decline in South Korea, International Conference on Love Studies, Las Palmas, ES, January 3, 2024.
- Nelson, A., & Glayzer, E. Paying for gender (in)equality: The individualization of commodified dating rituals in South Korea, AAS-in-Asia Conference, Daegu, ROK, June 25, 2023.
- Nelson, A., Yu, Y., Cox, E., Maltempi, H., Douglass, A., & McBride, B. De-platforming and streamers' use of Twitter: A comparison of cam models and Twitch streamers, Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, San Juan, PR, June 2, 2023.
- Nelson, A., Renegotiating the patriarchal bargain: Love and reciprocity in Korean romantic relationships, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Seattle, WA, November 15, 2022.
- Nelson, A., McBride, B., Yu, Y., Parker, N., Cox, E., & Maltempi, H. "I'm online!": The strategies and implications of cam models' use of twitter, Global Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Lisbon, PT, July 14, 2022.
- Yu, Y., & Nelson, A., The ethno-erotic capital and pricing power of East Asian cam models, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, MD, November 21, 2021.
- Nelson, A., Love's fallout: Fertility decline and the individualization of intimacy in South Korea, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, MD, November 18, 2021.

- Nelson, A., McBride, B., & Yu, Y., Measuring racial inequality in a virtual sexual economy: A mixed methods approach, Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Virtual, May 27, 2021.
- Korgan, K., Nelson, A., & Izzo, A., Safer together: Social capital as risk management for online escorts, Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Virtual, May 27, 2021.
- Nelson, A., Yu, Y., Wolcott, E., Ringoen, J., Hill, E., & Eyer, A., Racial and ethnic inequality in the adult webcam modeling industry, Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Virtual, May 31, 2020.
- Korgan, K., Nelson, A., & Izzo, A., Legal liminality: Opportunity and risk for online escorts pre- and post-FOSTA, Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Virtual, May 28, 2020.
- Nelson, A., Conspicuous intimacy: Gender, sexuality and public displays of affection in South Korea, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, CA, November 21, 2019.
- Nelson, A., "Love is an emotion, marriage is reality": Pragmatic love and fragile breadwinner masculinities in South Korea, International Convention of Asia Scholars, Leiden, NL, July 18, 2019.
- Nelson, A., Izzo, A., & Korgan, K., Criminalizing collaboration: Socialization, safety, and social networks among U.S. escorts, Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Washington, DC, June 2, 2019.
- Korgan, K., Izzo, A., & Nelson, A., Re-reading FOSTA/SESTA: Online escorts' perceptions of risk and strategies for safety, Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Washington, DC, May 30, 2019.
- Nelson, A., Intra-cultural variation in the meaning of romantic love in South Korea, Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, March 20, 2019.
- Nelson, A., The transformation of sacrifice: Agapic love in South Korean romantic relationships, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, November 17, 2018.
- Nelson, A., Korgan, K., & Bessen, S., What clients want and what providers need: Online escort marketing and valuations of market niches in the U.S., Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Toronto, ON, CA, June 9, 2018.
- Nelson, A., Intimate speech: Linguistic negotiations of hierarchy, intimacy and respect in South Korean marriage and courtship, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 30, 2017.
- Korgan, K., Nelson, A., Izzo, A., Bessen, S., & Lopez-Embury, S., Displacing client anonymity: Power, politics, safety and the dynamics of vetting practices among independent online escorts,

‘Displacing Sex for Sale’ Conference by COST Action ProsPol, Copenhagen, DK, March 29, 2017.

Nelson, A., Love, capital and marriage strategies in South Korea, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, November 17, 2016.

Korgan, K., & Nelson, A., The erotic entrepreneurs project: Independent, top tier, online escort trends and rates, Desiree Alliance 6th Biennial Conference, New Orleans, LA, July 15, 2016.

Korgan, K., Nelson, A., & Izzo, A. Liminal sex & markets: The business practices of elite online escorts, SASE (Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics) Annual Meeting, Berkley, CA, June 25, 2016.

Korgan, K., Nelson, A., & Izzo, A., Sex in the gig economy: The tyranny & opportunity of online platforms for independent escorts, SASE (Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics) Annual Meeting, Berkley, CA, June 25, 2016.

Korgan, K., Nelson, A., & Izzo, A., TERribly unequal: Asymmetrical availability of information between internet sexual service providers and prospective clients, Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, CA, April 2, 2016.

Korgan, K., Nelson, A., Izzo, A., & Bessen, S., Business strategies of erotic entrepreneurs: Scripting desire through social, cultural & sexual capital, Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Oakland, CA, March 31, 2016.

Korgan, K., Nelson, A., & Izzo, A., Erotic entrepreneurship: An analysis of the business practices of independent online escorts in the United States, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 18, 2015.

Korgan, K., Nelson, A., & Izzo, A., Sex work and commerce in late capitalism: Online escorts as erotic entrepreneurs, ‘Troubling Prostitution: Exploring Intersections of Sex, Intimacy and Labour’ Conference by COST Action ProsPol, Vienna, AT, April 17, 2015.

Nelson, A., Serious drinking games: Christian men’s negotiation of corporate drinking practices and religious identity in South Korea, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, December 4, 2014.

Nelson, A., The liquor dilemma: Origins and repercussions of Christian drinking prohibitions on men’s religious identity and social relations in South Korea, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 24, 2013.

Organizer / Co-Organizer

“Seoul Mates: Transformations of Gender and Intimacy in Contemporary South Korea.” Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Vancouver, CA, March 13, 2026.

- “Cyborg Intimacies: Explorations in the Technological Mediation of Intimate Relationships.” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, November 21, 2025.
- “CRN6 New Books in the Field.” Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Chicago, IL, May 23, 2025.
- “CRN6 New Books in the Field.” Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Denver, CO, June 6, 2024.
- “Author-Meets-Reader: Gender, equity and social justice: Anti-trafficking, sex work and migration law and policy in the EU.” Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, San Juan, PR, June 2, 2023.
- “Transformations of intimacy in contemporary East and South Asia.” AAS-in-Asia Conference, Daegu, ROK, July 25, 2023.
- “Complicating the history of love and intimacy in East and Southeast Asia.” AAS-in-Asia Conference, Daegu, ROK, July 24, 2023.
- "A Day of Dialogue (Between Portuguese service providers & CRN6)," Law & Society Association CRN6 Pre-Conference Workshop, Lisbon, PT, July 12, 2022.
- "Love 'Apocalypse': New Intimacies and the Decline of Marriage and Fertility," Panel at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 18, 2021.
- "Intimacy, Sexuality and Gender Performance in East Asia's 'Love Apocalypse'," Panel at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, CA, November 21, 2019.
- "A Day of Dialogue: Criminalization of Online Sex Work, Impacts & Strategies," Law & Society Association CRN6 Pre-Conference Workshop, Washington, DC, May 29, 2019.

Chair / Co-Chair

- “Seoul Mates: Transformations of Gender and Intimacy in Contemporary South Korea.” Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Vancouver, CA, March 13, 2026.
- “Modern Love and Social Media.” The 3rd International Conference on Love and Relationship Studies, Online, March 8, 2026.
- “Cyborg Intimacies: Explorations in the Technological Mediation of Intimate Relationships.” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, November 21, 2025.
- “CRN6 New Books in the Field.” Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Chicago, IL, May 23, 2025.

“CRN6 New Books in the Field.” Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Denver, CO, June 6, 2024.

“Author-Meets-Reader: Gender, equity and social justice: anti-trafficking, sex work and migration law and policy in the EU.” Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, San Juan, PR, June 2, 2023.

“Troubling Carceral Approaches to Regulating Sex Work,” Panel at the Global meeting of the Law & Society Association, Lisbon, PT, July 14, 2022.

"Love 'Apocalypse': New Intimacies and the Decline of Marriage and Fertility," Panel at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 18, 2021.

"Bringing Sex Workers' Expertise to the Fore: Grassroots Activism, Community Development, and Knowledge Uptake," Panel at the Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Denver, CO, May 28, 2020.

"Intimacy, Sexuality and Gender Performance in East Asia's 'Love Apocalypse'," Panel at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, CA, November 21, 2019.

"The Socio-Political Implications of Gender Identity in Asia," Panel at the Eleventh International Convention of Asia Scholars, Leiden, NL, July 18, 2019.

"Third Parties, Criminalization and Other Forms of Social Control," Panel at the Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, Washington, DC, May 31, 2019.

“Intimate Asia: Romantic and Familial Entanglements,” Panel at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, November 17, 2018.

“Marriage and Family in Asia.” Panel at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, November 17, 2016.

Discussant/Reader

“Cyborg Intimacies: Explorations in the Technological Mediation of Intimate Relationships.” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, November 21, 2025.

“Midwest Korean Studies Graduate Student Conference.” Institute for Korean Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, November 15, 2025.

“Transformations of intimacy in contemporary East and South Asia.” AAS-in-Asia Conference, Daegu, ROK, July 25, 2023.

“Author-Meets-Reader: Gender, equity and social justice: anti-trafficking, sex work and migration law and policy in the EU.” Annual Meeting of the Law & Society Association, San Juan, PR, June 2, 2023.

“Love ‘Meets’ Politics” a panel for the [On Matters of Love Seminar](#), Virtual, May 17, 2023.

“In and Out: Remittances and Transnational Ties in South Korea,” Panel at the Association for Asian Studies’ AAS-in-Asia Conference, Seoul, South Korea, June 26, 2017.

Awards

2024-2025 Emerging Scholar Award, University of Indianapolis, 2025

2023-2024 Education for Service Award, University of Indianapolis, 2024

Outstanding Dissertation Award, Department of Anthropology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 2020

Robert F. Spencer Award for Outstanding Work in Cultural Anthropology by an Undergraduate, Department of Anthropology, University of Minnesota, 2009

Professional Development

2026 – Present UIndy Honors Faculty Fellows Program

2025 – 2026 UIndy Vocational Fellows Program | \$500

2022 - 2023 UIndy Interdisciplinary Service-Learning Faculty Learning Community | \$1000

Research Experience

Content analysis of influencer relationship advice in Korea and China, 2025-Present

Content analysis of romantic relationships in Korean television dramas, 2021-Present

Ethnographic research on marriage and fertility decline in South Korea, 2018-Present

Mixed-methods research on stratification in the webcam modeling industry, 2019-2025

Mixed-methods ethnographic dissertation research on love, gender and marriage in Korea, 2016-2018

Mixed-methods research on the business strategies of erotic escorts in the U.S., 2014-2020

Pilot ethnographic research on masculinity and homosocial intimacy in Seoul, summer 2015

Pilot ethnographic research on Korean Christian masculinity and alcohol in Seoul, summer 2013, 2014

Undergraduate ethnographic research on Korean Christian evangelization in the U.S., 2008-2009

Undergrad. cultural psych. lab research on Korean transnational adoption in the U.S., 2008-2009

Grants and Fellowships

2026 UIndy Zerfas Travel Grant | \$2,500

UIndy Faculty Scholarship Grant | \$3,200

2021 App State Virtual Initiatives Program Award in Global Virtual Exchange Pedagogy | \$1,000

2019 UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$394

UNLV Friends of World Anthropology Travel Grant | \$750

UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$350

2018 UNLV Friends of World Anthropology Travel Grant | \$659

UNLV Summer Doctoral Research Fellowship | \$7,000

UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$750

2017 UNLV Edwards & Olswang Grant | \$2,000

UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$500

2016 UNLV Edwards & Olswang Grant | \$1,430

UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$1,250

UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$347

2015 UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$421

UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$500

2014 UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$400

UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$1,250

2013 UNLV Friends of World Anthropology Research Grant | \$1,000

UNLV GPSA Graduate Research Travel Grant | \$765

2008 Ewha Womans University Office of Global Affairs' Excellence Award | \$1,000

Courses Taught

University of Indianapolis

ANTH 100: Cultural Anthropology (In-person & Online) [Gen-Ed]

ANTH 229: East Asia Through Ethnography & Film (In-person) [Gen-Ed]

ANTH 240: Human Sexuality & Intimacies (In-person) [Gen-Ed]

ANTH 310: Witchcraft, Ritual & Religion (In-person) [Gen-Ed]

ANTH 320: Anthropology of Crime and Criminalization (In-person) [Service-Learning]

ANTH 410: Ethnographic Field Research (In-person) [Capstone/Service-Learning/Research Methods]

ANTH 430: Ethnographic Writing & Theory (In-person) [Capstone/Independent Study]

ANTH 340: Human Migration & Trafficking (In-person) [Service-Learning Course]

ANTH 445: Cross-Cultural Research (In-Person) [Research Methods]

ANTH 475: Ethnographic Writing (In-Person) [Capstone/Service-Learning/Research Methods]

ANTH 580: Advanced Ethnographic Field Research [Graduate/Research Methods]

ST 299: Exploring South Korea (10-day Spring Term Travel Course to Seoul, ROK) [Gen-Ed]

ST 299: Exploring East Asia – Japan (10-day Spring Term Travel Course to Japan) [Gen-Ed]

Ewha Womans University

EISC 11494: Contemporary Issues in Korean Culture (In-person)

Appalachian State University

ANT 1415: Understanding Culture (In-person, Online, & Hybrid) [Gen-Ed]

ANT 2100: East Asia through Ethnography (In-person & Hybrid) [Gen-Ed]

ANT 2215: Cultural Anthropology (In-person & Hybrid)

ANT 2420: Gender, Race and Class (In-person, Online, & Hybrid) [Gen-Ed]

ANT 3533: Anthropology of Crime and Criminalization (Online)

ANT 3533: Complicating Human Trafficking (In-Person & Hybrid)

ANT 4535/6: Outlaw Worlds (In-Person) [Capstone/Honors Course]

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

ANTH 101: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (In-person & Online) [Gen-Ed]

Institutional Service – University of Indianapolis

Senator, Faculty Senate, 2026-Present

Faculty Supervisor, Global Scholars LLC, 2026-Present

Member, Academic Misconduct Review Ad Hoc Committee, 2025-Present

Member, [University] Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2025-Present

Member, Service-Learning Council, 2023-Present

Chair, Shaheen Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2024-2025, 2026-Present

Member, Shaheen College Applied Liberal Arts Faculty Working Group, 2024

Rep., Shaheen Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2023-2025

Professional Associations

American Anthropological Association	CRN#6: Sex, Work, Law and Society
Society for East Asian Anthropology	International Society for Korean Studies
Law and Society Association	Society for Anthropological Sciences
Association for Asian Studies	

Professional Service

Advisory Board Member, International Institute of Love Studies, 2025-Present
 Co-Chair, CRN#6 Organizing Committee, Law and Society Association, 2020-Present
 Judge, Nancy Abelman Graduate Student Paper Prize, Society for East Asian Anthropology, 2026
 Co-Editor, CRN#6 Monthly Newsletter Compiling New Sex Work Publications and CFPs, 2021-2026
 Peer-Reviewer, Society for East Asian Anthropology, Nancy Abelman Graduate Paper Prize, 2026
 Reviewer and Pro-D speaker, Midwest Korean Studies Graduate Conference, 2025
 Teaching Team Member, EASA Anthropology of Crime and Criminalisation Network, 2021-2022
 Senior Thesis Content Specialist, Caldwell Academy, 2021-2022
 Organizer, CRN#6: Sex, Work, Law & Society, Law and Society Association, 2018-2020
 Anthropology Dept. Representative, UNLV Graduate & Professional Student Association, 2013

Peer Referee

Human Organization	Comparative Studies in Society and History
Disability Studies Quarterly	Errantes – Journal of Social and Cultural Anthropology
Feminist Economics	Computers in Human Behavior
Qualitative Psychology	International Review of Psychiatry
Sage Open	International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy
Mitacs Accelerate	International Journal of Gender, Sexuality and Law
Evolutionary Psychology	Behavioral Sciences
Archives of Sexual Behavior	Social Sciences
Current Sociology	Belonging
Human Nature	Sexes

Languages

English: Native speaker

Korean: High Intermediate (Spoken & Written)

Community Service, Outreach & Consulting

Consultant, Data Analysis & Research Guidance, Rouge Support Network (USA), 2025-Present

Grader/Reviewer, World Refugee Day Essay Competition, BACI, 2024-2026

Consultant / Expert Interviewee, Consumer Trends Research, ReD Consulting (Denmark), 2024

Consultant / Expert Interviewee, Consumer Trends Research, Samsung Electronics (South Korea), 2024

Instructor, Service-Learning Projects, Burmese American Community Institute, 2024-Present

Volunteer Consultant, Sex Worker Outreach Project – Behind Bars, 2020-2022

Director of Research / Anthropologist, Yongsan Legacy Project, 2017-2018

Fellow, Wikipedia Fellows, 2018

EFL Tutor, Korea International Volunteers, Somang Regional Children's Center, 2016-2018

EFL Tutor, People for Successful Corean Reunification (PSCORE), 2011-2012

ESL Instructor, Family Opportunities for Living Collaboration (FOLC), 2008

Related Professional Experience

February 2013-May 2020	Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Anthropology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV
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August 2010-Aug. 2012	Native English Teacher, Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education, Kwanak High School, Seoul, ROK
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August 2009-Jun. 2010	Foreign English Teacher, Beijing New Oriental Foreign Language School at Yangzhou, Yangzhou, PRC
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Professional References**Dr. Christopher Schmidt**

Professor; Chair

Department of Anthropology, University of Indianapolis

Email: cschmidt@uindy.edu | Phone: 317-788-2103

Address: 4001 Otterbein Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46227

Knowledge: Dr. Schmidt has served as my department chair since I was hired at UIndy in the fall of 2022 and can speak to my teaching, research, service contributions, and collegiality.

Dr. Kathryn Hausbeck Korgan

Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs; Associate Professor
Graduate College, Department of Sociology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Email: kate.korgan@unlv.edu | Phone: 702-895-0446
Address: Office: GTW 214, Mail Code 1017, 4505 S. Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89154, USA

Knowledge: Dr. Korgan was one of my dissertation committee members and my supervisor for 7.5 years at UNLV while I worked with her as a GRA on the Erotic Entrepreneurs Project. She is also my fellow co-chair of CRN6: Sex, Work, Law & Society. She can speak best to my qualities as an employee, a colleague, a scholar, a manager of student RAs, and a co-chair of CRN6.

Dr. Yeon Jung Yu

Associate Professor; Assistant Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Anthropology, Western Washington University
Email: yjy.anthropology@gmail.com; yuy2@wwu.edu | Phone: 360-650-2182
Address: Office: AH 311, 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225, USA

Knowledge: Dr. Yu and I have known each other as colleagues since 2013 and have worked together on the Virtual Sexual Economies Project since 2019. Dr. Yu can speak best to my qualities as a teacher, a mentor to students, and as a scholar.

Dr. Krista Lewis

Professor, Department Chair
Department of Anthropology, Appalachian State University
Email: lewiska5@appstate.edu | Phone: 828-262-7404
Address: 349J Ann Belk Hall, 224 Joyce Lawrence Lane, Boone, NC 28608, USA

Knowledge: Dr. Lewis was department chair during my year as a visiting professor at Appalachian State University (2021-2022) and so can best speak to the quality of my teaching and services contributions, as well as my collegiality.