

Minju Choi

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

2024-Present Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Global Sociology, *Berlin Social Science Center (WZB)* and *Contestations of the Liberal Script (SCRIPTS) Cluster of Excellence*

EDUCATION

2025 Ph.D. in International and Comparative Education; Sociology of Education, *Stanford University*

- Dissertation title: Global Shifts in the Purposes of Schooling: Examining Human Rights, Human Capital, and (Non-)Citizenship
- Dissertation committee: Patricia Bromley, Francisco O. Ramirez, Kiyoteru Tsutsui, and Asad L. Asad

2023 M.A. in Sociology, *Stanford University*

2015 M.S.Ed. in International Educational Development, *University of Pennsylvania*

2014 B.A. in International Relations; East Asian Languages and Civilizations, *University of Pennsylvania*

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Global and transnational sociology; comparative and international education; sociology of education; organization theory and neo-institutionalism

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

(Equal authorship marked with an asterisk*)

Journal Articles

2025 **Choi, M.***, Lucy, L.*, Bromley, P., & Bamman, D. “Othering” through War: Depiction of Asians/Asian Americans in U.S. History Textbooks. *Educational Researcher*.

- Media mentions in *San Francisco Chronicle* ([link](#)), *Stanford Graduate School of Education*’s Research Stories ([link](#))

2024 **Choi, M.**, & Lerch, J. C. Portrayal of Immigrants and Refugees in Textbooks Worldwide, 1963-2011. *International Sociology*, 39(4), 399-421.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/02685809241250306>.

- 2024 **Choi, M.** Human Rights and Human Capital Discourse in National Education Reforms: 1960-2018. *Comparative Education Review*, 68(1), 15-40. <https://doi.org/10.1086/728394>.
▪ Highlighted as a featured article in the issue
- 2023 Bromley, P., Furuta, J., Kijima, R., Overbey, L., **Choi, M.**, & Santos, H. Global Determinants of Education Reform. *Sociology of Education*, 96(2), 149-167. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00380407221146773>.
- 2021 **Choi, M.***, D'Apice, H. K. *, & Skinner, N. A.* The Rise of Organizational Society in Canadian and U.S. Textbooks: 1836-2011. *Globalisation, Societies, and Education*, 19(1), 7-22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14767724.2020.1814700>.

Book Chapters

- 2024 Song, J., **Choi, M.**, & Ramirez, F. O. Educational Contestations in a Changing World Society. *Annual Review of Comparative and International Education*.
- 2024 Ramirez, F. O.* & **Choi, M.*** Educational Expansion and Human Rights. In M. Berends, S. Lamb, & B. Schneider (Eds.), *The Sage Handbook of Sociology of Education*. Sage.
- 2023 **Choi, M.***, D'Apice, H. K. *, Skinner, N. A. *, & Bromley, P. World Culture, Education, and Organization. In P. Mattei, X. Dumay, E. Mangez, & J. Behrends (Eds.), *Oxford Handbook on Education and Globalization*. Oxford University Press.

Manuscripts Under Review

(Drafts available upon request)

Choi, M., Nachtigal, T., Yang, M., Song, J., Overbey, L., & Bromley, P. "Reformism" and the Liberal Culture: Global Trends in Education Reform, 1970-2019.

Choi, M., Schofer, E., Bromley, P., Longhofer, W., Lerch, J. C., & Santos, H. Aid Under Attack: How the Global Diffusion of Foreign Funding Restrictions to NGOs Shape the Landscape of Aid Worker and NGO Safety, 1995-2015.

Manuscripts in Progress

Choi, M. & Lerch, J. C. Narrating War and Conflict in Social Studies Textbooks Worldwide, 1950-2011.

Choi, M. Extending the Constitutional Right to Education for Non-Citizens in the World, 1789-2021.

Choi, M. A Comparative Case Study of Post-Soviet Republic States and Their Constitutional Right to Education for Non-Citizens.

Choi, M. The Global Construction of Early Childhood in Education Reform Discourse, 1960-2019.

Choi, M., Soysal, Y. N., Lerch, J. C., & Kou, Y. The Institutional Effects on Individuals' Level of Trust in Universities, 2010-2023.

Nachtigal, T., Yang, M., Song, J., & **Choi, M.** A Tool for Legitimacy? The Right to Education in Education Reforms by Autocratic Regimes.

Lerch, J. C., **Choi, M.**, & Soysal, Y. N. The Heterogeneous Effects of Tertiary Enrollment in Different Study Fields on Societal Outcomes.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Popular Press

- 2025 **Choi, M.** Bildung in illiberalen Zeiten: Herausforderungen für die Produktion und die Vermittlung von Wissen [Education in illiberal times: Challenges for the production and transfer of knowledge]. *WZB-Mitteilungen*, Nr. 187: *Veränderung* ([link](#)).
- 2022 Bromley, P. & **Choi, M.** It's time to expand our thinking about what works in education reform. *The Hechinger Report* ([link](#)).
- 2022 **Choi, M.** Anti-Asian hate is still on the rise. Ending it has to start in the classroom. *San Francisco Chronicle* ([link](#)).

Policy Briefs and Reports

- 2019 Crouch, L. A., Merseth, K. Devercelli, A. E., **Choi, M.**, Denboba, A. D., & Gurgel, A. A. *Over-enrollment in the Early Grades: Early Learning Partnership (ELP) Series*. The World Bank ([link](#)).
- 2018 Casap, L., Miyamoto, K., & **Choi, M.** *Training Assessment Project (TAP): Moldova*. The World Bank ([link](#)).
- 2018 Borisova, I., **Choi, M.**, Llewellyn, D., Hyson, M., & Lin, H-C. *Learning through Play: Strengthening Learning through Play in Early Childhood Education Programmes*. UNICEF ([link](#)).
- 2016 Putcha, V., Upadhyay, A., Neuman, M., **Choi, M.**, & Lombardi, J. *Financing Early Childhood Development: An Analysis of International and Domestic Sources in Low- and Middle-Income Countries*. Results for Development Institute ([link](#)).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Summer 2025 Current Research Problems and Controversies in Comparative and International Education, *Humboldt University of Berlin*
- Guest presenter (virtual) for graduate-level colloquium in comparative education.
 - On “How to measure change, ‘reform’, and/or ‘policy adoption’: Legal and comparative perspectives and complications.”
- Spring 2023, Education and Society (EDUC 120C/220C, SOC 130/230), *Stanford University*
Spring 2022
- Teaching assistant for undergraduate-and graduate-level course on the sociology of education, cross-listed in Sociology and Education departments.
- Fall 2022, Introduction to International and Comparative Education (EDUC 202), *Stanford*
Fall 2021 *University*
- Teaching assistant for graduate-level course on theories in international and comparative education, including cross-national and historical comparisons of educational phenomena.
- Spring 2022 Education in a Global Context, *University of Toronto*
- Guest presenter (virtual) for undergraduate-level course for the Education and Society minor.
 - On “Human rights and human capital discourse in national education reforms, 1960-2018.”

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2016-2019 Education Global Practice Consultant, *The World Bank*
- Conducted a case study and produced a brief on the topic of over-enrollment in the early grades of primary school, in partnership with RTI International.
 - Compiled a global financial portfolio review of World Bank projects with activities related to early childhood development, student learning assessment, and inclusive education.
 - Assisted grant management and donor relations for the Early Learning Partnership (ELP), a multi-donor trust fund managed by the World Bank.
 - Reviewed and edited country reports for the Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) Engaging the Private Sector team.
- 2016-2017 Early Learning Consultant (remote), *UNICEF*
- Contributed to developing a theory of change for early learning strategies targeted at UNICEF country offices, based on UNICEF’s global and national early childhood development strategies.

- Conducted a literature review and drafted an advocacy brief on the benefits of learning through play.

2016 Early Childhood Care and Education Consultant (remote), *UNESCO Asia and the Pacific Regional Bureau for Education*

- Synthesized and conducted preliminary analysis of 34 country reports submitted to UNESCO Bangkok for the policy forum on early childhood care and education.
- Produced a synthesis report and prepared a PowerPoint presentation with major findings and policy-oriented messages for the forum participants.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

2024 Small Grant (\$2,000), *Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society*

2024 Small Grant (\$2,000), *Scandinavian Consortium for Organizational Research*

2024 Dissertation Support Grant (\$5,000), *Stanford Graduate School of Education*

2023-2024 PhD Fellowship (\$51,417 for full academic year of support, including stipend, tuition, and health insurance), *Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society*

2022-2023 Conference Travel Grant (\$2,100), *Stanford Graduate School of Education*

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS

2025 1st Annual Interdisciplinary WZB Conference on “The Future of Democracy.” *Berlin Social Science Center (WZB)* (Berlin, Germany).

2025 Panel session on “Global Perspectives on Citizenship, Governance, and Constitutional Change.” *American Political Science Association Annual Meeting* (Vancouver, BC, Canada).

2025 Workshop on “Civil Society and the Diffusion and Translation of Foreign Funding Restrictions.” *Södertörn University* (Södertörn, Sweden)

2025 Workshop on “‘Agentic citizens,’ ‘stakeholders,’ and social accountability in the era of e-governance.” *Humboldt University in Berlin* and the *SCRIPTS Cluster of Excellence* (Berlin, Germany).

2025 Asian American and Native American Pacific Islanders Heritage Month webinar on “Asian American Voices in Education: Examining U.S. history textbooks from California and Texas.” *Stanford Asian Staff Forum (ASF)* and *Filipino-American Community at Stanford (FACS)* (virtual).

- 2024 Participation in the Scandinavian Consortium for Organizational Research (SCANCOR)'s 20th PhD Workshop on Institutional Analysis, Hamburg, Germany
- 2024 Regular session on "Transnational Processes." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* (Montreal, QC, Canada).
- 2024 Symposium session on "Looking backward to see beyond: Recent developments in the study of worldwide trends in educational reform." *American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting* (Philadelphia, PA, United States).
- 2024 Panel session on "Global Education Reforms: Discursive Trends and Policy Impact, 1960-2020." *Comparative and International Education Society Annual Meeting* (Miami, FL, United States).
- 2024 World Education Reform Database (WERD) Mini-Workshop. *Stanford University* (Stanford, CA, United States).
- 2023 Roundtable session on "The Right to Education for Newcomers and Refugees." *Comparative and International Education Society-Western Regional Conference* (Pacific Grove, CA, United States).
- 2023 Regular session on "New Directions in Education Research." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting* (Philadelphia, PA, United States).
- 2023 Panel session on "World Education Reforms to Improve Learning and Teaching." *Comparative and International Education Society Annual Meeting* (Washington, DC, United States).
- 2022 Early career breakout session on "Sites of Cultural Change: Textbooks." *The Future of World Society Theory Pre-Conference* (Pomona, CA, United States).
- 2022 Panel session on "The Idealism of Reform: Trends and Impact of Education Reforms." *Comparative and International Education Society Annual Meeting* (Minneapolis, MN, United States).
- 2021 Panel session on "Education Reform in Changing Social and Cultural Contexts." *Comparative and International Education Society Annual Meeting* (virtual).

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Professional Organizations

Review activities for *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*; *Sociological Perspectives*; *Social Sciences & Humanities Open* (varies by year)

Panel Organizer, *Comparative and International Education Society Annual Meeting* (2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022)

University and Department

Academic Council Representative of the International Politics and Law Unit, *Berlin Social Science Center (WZB)* (2025-present)

Founding and Support Member, Education Across and Beyond Borders: A Learning Collective on Im/migration and Education, *Stanford Graduate School of Education* (2023-2024)

- Awarded \$2,100 from the Students' Collaborative Learning Fund

Founding Member, Lead Editor (Blogs), and Coordinator, Public Scholarship Collaborative, *Stanford Graduate School of Education* (2021-2023)

- Supported by the Spencer Foundation Mentoring Grant (faculty advisor: Prof. Alfredo J. Artiles)
- Awarded \$2,300 from the Students' Collaborative Learning Fund

Co-Leader, Women of Color Collective, *Stanford Graduate School of Education* (2020-2022)

- Received the Stanford Community Impact Award
- Awarded \$6,350 from the Students' Collaborative Learning Fund

Mentor, New Students Mentorship Program, *Stanford Graduate School of Education* (2020-2021)

Co-Leader, Education in Emergencies Interest Group, *Stanford Graduate School of Education* (2019-2020)

- Awarded \$1,200 from the Students' Collaborative Learning Fund

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association; Comparative and International Education Society; International Studies Association; American Educational Research Association; American Political Science Association (varies by year)

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Patricia Bromley

Associate Professor of Education, at the Doerr School of Sustainability, and (by courtesy) of Sociology at Stanford University

pbromley@stanford.edu

Yasemin Soysal

Research Professor of Global Sociology at the Berlin Social Science Center (WZB), University Professor at the Free University of Berlin, and Deputy Co-Director of the SCRIPTS Cluster of Excellence

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Kiyoteru Tsutsui

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