

JUSTINE GUICHARD

Thesis: Korean national imagination faced with its contradictions

Justine Guichard graduated in 2009 from Sciences Po Research Master in Comparative Politics, with a special training in Asian studies. Her Master dissertation dealt with Seodaemun Prison History Hall and the politics of memory in South Korea, with a special emphasis on colonial past. She is now a Sciences Po Ph.D student under the supervision of Françoise Mengin, conducting research on the resilience of political imprisonment in post-1945 South Korean society. She is also Sciences Po Chair for Korean Studies' research assistant and a senior student in Korean language and civilization at Langues O (INALCO). Besides politics, society and culture in contemporary Korea and East Asia, her academic interests also include political theory, sociology of law and cultural history.



THIEN-HUONG NINH

Thesis: Transnational Religious Kinship: Vietnamese Catholic and Caodaists Cross-Border Ties Among Co-Religionists in the U.S., Cambodia, and Vietnam

I was born in Vietnam and came to San Jose, CA with my family when I was nine years old. After graduating from Andrew P. Hill High School in 2000, I entered UCLA and majored in History, Southeast Asian Studies, and Asian American Studies. Upon my graduation from UCLA in 2004, I went to [Yale University as a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow](#). There, I conducted a study examining the implications of homeland activities on the trajectory of assimilation for Vietnamese American youth leaders. After the fellowship, I moved back to Southern California and worked with the largest Vietnamese American community through my employment at the District Office of [Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez](#).

In 2005, I entered the graduate program in Sociology at the University of Southern California. I am interested in examining religion and community formation, race and ethnicity, and immigration. For my dissertation, I plan to study two transnational Vietnamese religious communities, Catholic and Caodai, in the U.S., Cambodia, and Vietnam. My committee members are: Janet Hoskins (chair), Leland Saito (cochair), Viet Nguyen, Macarena Gomez-Barris, and Jane Iwamura.



JUNE HEE KWON

Thesis: Prison of Hope: Migration, Development, Neoliberalism of Korean Chinese in Yanbian, China

PhD Candidate in Cultural Anthropology, Duke University,
Education

- 2008~ PhD Candidate, Duke University, Department of Cultural Anthropology
- 2005 MA Anthropology University of Oregon in Eugene, Oregon Thesis: *The Appropriation of Citizenship and The Experience of Illegality: Korean Chinese women Working in neo-liberal South Korea*
- 2002 MA Sociology, Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea. Thesis: Ethnic Identity of the Third Generation of Korean Residents in Japan, The Graduates from Chosen Ethnic School in Osaka and Tokyo 2000 BA Sociology, Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea



AIM SINGPENG

Thesis: Government Formation and Minority Representation: The Case of Southern Thailand

Aim Sinpeng is a PhD student at the University of British Columbia in the Department of Political Science. She is a recipient of a four-year doctoral fellowship and a 2008 UN Human Rights Essay Winner. She obtained her MA in European, Russian and Eurasian Studies at the University of Toronto with full scholarships. A native of Thailand, Aim's current research interests include the issue of democratic consolidation in Southeast Asia and Association for Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). She is also the author of articles titled "Balancing Non-Traditional Security and Human Rights - An ASEAN Experience" in Hoque, S. (Ed.) *Geopolitics vs. Global Governance: Re-Interpreting International Security*. Halifax: Centre for Foreign Policy Studies (2009) and "Democracy from Above: Regime Transition in the Kingdom of Bhutan" in *Journal of Bhutan Studies* 17: 21-47 (2007). Aim has lived and studied in four different continents and is conversant in Thai, Czech and Laotian. In the past several years, she has worked for the Government of Thailand, the World Bank and the Czech Embassy in Washington DC. Aim enjoys playing tennis, hiking and experimenting in the kitchen.



SUSAN LAMBERTH

Thesis: Reconfiguring Gender Roles: “Women Kecak Dance” in Bali

Susan Lamberth is a PhD candidate at Indiana University in the Department of Anthropology. Her dissertation research focuses on the rise of female performance groups in Bali who take on roles formerly reserved for men, particularly on the “Women Kecak Dance” that recently began to be performed in Ubud. Kecak, a popular tourist performance, is usually performed by a chorus of men, members of the local community organization (*banjar*). “Women Kecak Dance” performed by the women’s auxiliary of the banjar, not only transforms the form and narrative of the story, but also resignifies the kecak. In the current context of post-New Order government and increased regional autonomy, this research will seek to understand how women’s kecak is experienced by its practitioners through ethnographic field-based work.



COLM FOX

Thesis: Democracy, Decentralization & Ethnic Politics: Electoral Campaigning in Indonesia, 1955 - 2010

For my undergraduate I studied Communications in Ireland. Within that program I wrote and produced a documentary film thesis, which investigated the impact of new government legislation on independent radio stations. After college I immigrated to New York and worked for a few years as an Art Director on a number of multimedia projects and as a Design Director for Nickelodeon. There I oversaw a team of designers in creating and reshaping online content. I eventually returned to graduate school and while completing a Masters in International Politics at UCSD attained a regional specialty in Southeast Asian politics. After a brief stint working as a researcher for the Cambodian government in Phnom Penh, I went on to continue my studies in Political Science at George Washington University. Majoring in comparative politics, my current academic interests include Indonesian politics, democracy, ethnic politics, conflict, and political communications. Currently I am doing fieldwork in Indonesia for my dissertation with the working title, "Democracy, Decentralization & Ethnic Politics: Electoral Campaigning in Indonesia 1955 – 2010".



SYLVIA TIDEY

Thesis: State, society and reciprocal obligations in Kupang Eastern Indonesia

Sylvia Tidey started her PhD at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research (AISSR) -research school of the University of Amsterdam- in 2007. She joined a larger KNAW-funded research program, called 'In Search of Middle Indonesia'. This program aims to study various aspects of post-New Order social life in up till now not adequately investigated -but sizeable- 'intermediate towns'. Her specific project 'State, society and reciprocal morality' focuses on the struggle between different groups about access to the local state and its resources in the Eastern Indonesian town of Kupang, West-Timor. Recent processes of decentralization have moved the power to decide about the allocation of resources from the governmental center (Jakarta) to the regions. Of central interest in her research is how these recent neo-liberal changes in the national rational-legal framework have affected the interplay between formality and informality in accessing the 'state'. To answer this question she conducted twelve months of fieldwork in several government offices in Kupang. With her dissertation she hopes to offer an ethnographic contribution to anthropological debates on state-society dynamics, processes of democratization and ethnicity. In addition, she hopes to show that for a more comprehensive understanding of the relation between formality and informality in state-society dynamics, one has to take into account the embeddedness of reciprocal obligations in the social fabric of everyday life in Kupang.



EI PHYU HAN

Thesis: Gender identity formation of Karen refugees along the Thai-Burma border

The field work in Thailand will up to a year's time and I will be collaborating with the Thai-Burma Border Consortium (TBBC), WEAVE and Karen Youth Organization. Although I am now a Canadian citizen, I migrated to Canada at the age of six from Burma with my family in the aftermath of the brutal repression of peaceful demonstrations in 1988. I believe that this project is important not only for the ways that it can influence policy and resettlement program changes, and its engagement and contribution to academic knowledge but also because it is integral to learn more about the growing humanitarian crisis in Burma. I have completed my course work and have set the foundations for my fieldwork in the summer of 2009 in Chiang Mai, Thailand by making contacts with non-governmental organizations and by taking Thai language courses and will continue my study in the upcoming months. I have completed my comprehensive exams in March of 2010, will present my dissertation proposal and am aiming to start my fieldwork in the June of 2010.

I am currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Geography at York University and Dr. Robin Roth is my supervisor. Many Karen refugees find the process of resettlement in Canada to be very challenging due to the difficulties of learning one of the national languages and finding employment that is appropriate for their education and talent. Additionally, many resettlement programs do not take on account the identity shifts that occur at the multiple sites of displacement since many Karen refugees live in encampments for extended periods of time and then are assisted by the Canadian government to reside in Canada. My research seeks to address these issues by examining the process of gender identity formation of Karen refugees from Burma along the Thai-Burma border. The objective of the project is to study how gender identity is influenced by different actors and power groups at multiple sites of displacement. The research aims to demonstrate how identity is influenced by place and therefore shifts during the process of being displaced because it is continually being renegotiated. This research can help improve resettlement programs because it will demonstrate the complex nature of migration and displacement, how living in refugee camps can influence the identity of refugees and how these changes need to be taken into account to create better programs to ease the transition of life in a new nation. Additionally, my hope is that this research can play a role in future Canadian refugee policy changes.



DIANA J. MENDOZA

Thesis: A Movement within the Movement: An Inquiry into the Contemporary Women's Movement in the Philippines

Diana J. Mendoza is a PhD student at the Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong. Her current research is about the contemporary women's movement in the Philippines focusing on the impact of regime change and state transformation on women's movement activism and on feminist discourse and politics, particularly the tension between feminism and nationalism within the women's movement.

She obtained her BA Philosophy and Political Science and MA Political Science at the University of the Philippines. She is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the Ateneo de Manila University. She has published articles in the Philippine Political Science Review and the Korean Political Science Review.



SHREYA SARAWGI

Thesis: Ethnicity and Voting Behaviour in India: Research Outline

Shreya Sarawgi: I am completing my DPhil in Sociology at St. Hilda's College, University of Oxford, on ethnicity and voting behaviour in India. I hold an M.Sc in Sociology and an M.Sc in Economics, both from Oxford.

My research interests include voting behaviour, educational and occupational attainments of ethnic groups and the politics of electoral reservation, with a particular focus on India.

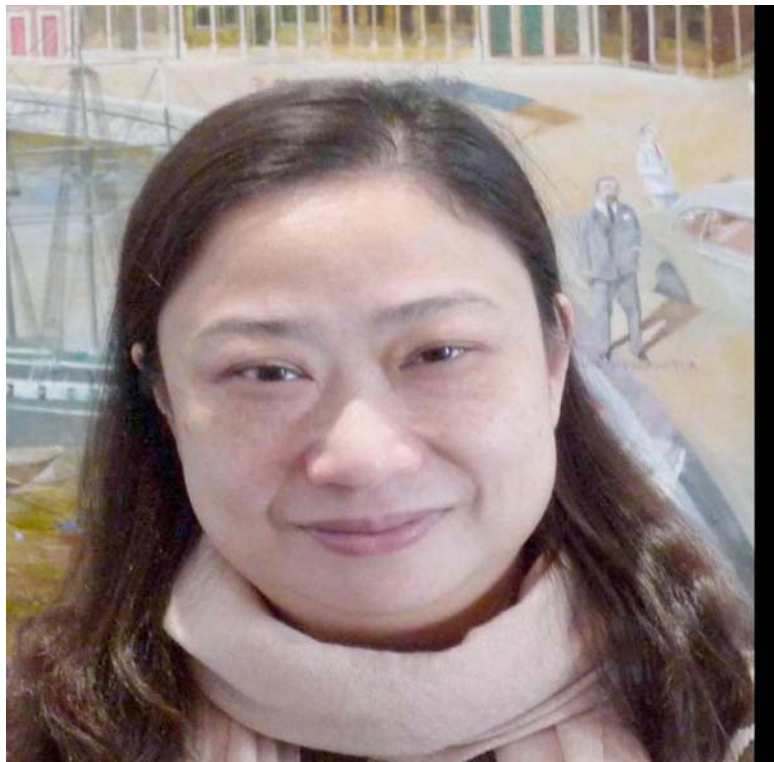


CHEE, WAI-CHI

Thesis: Migration and Education: Newly-Arrived Secondary Schoolchildren in Hong Kong

Ph.D. student Department of Anthropology , The Chinese University of Hong Kong

I am a Ph.D. student at the Department of Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Before studying full-time, I have taught in a secondary school in Hong Kong for more than a decade. When I began to study Anthropology a few years ago, I was so fascinated by the discipline that I decided to combine it with my interest in education. The topic of my research is "Migration and Education: Newly-Arrived Secondary Schoolchildren in Hong Kong." This is an ethnographic research to investigate the socialization and adaptations of the newly-arrived secondary students who enter the mainstream education of Hong Kong. While the attempt is to investigate the new arrivals disregard of their place of origin, more focus will be put on students from main-land China, who are the numerically dominant group.



SABIN NINGLEKHU

Thesis: Citizenship and Democracy Formation in Urban Nepal

I am currently a 4th year Ph D student at the Department of Geography and Program in Planning, University of Toronto. My dissertation research studies the self-governance practices of squatter communities in Kathmandu - especially in the absence of municipal citizenship rights - as a way to examine how urban citizenship is constructed locally, and how that articulates with the way state envisions citizenship and democracy.

I completed my MA degree in Geography in 2005 from the same department. My MA thesis examines the institutional politics behind the rapid formation of neighborhood associations in Kathmandu and looks at its implications for governance and planning of the city.

