

PHILLIPA K. CHONG

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Sociology
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Academic Positions

Assistant Professor, *Department of Sociology, McMaster University, 2015 - Present*

Visiting and Post-doctoral Fellow, *Department of Sociology, Harvard University, 2014-2015*

Ph.D., Sociology, *Department of Sociology, University of Toronto, 2014*

Areas of Specialization

Cultural Sociology	Sociology of Knowledge	Evaluation
Race, Gender, and Class	Media and Popular Culture	Professions/Expertise

Publications

Book

In Progress Chong PK. *How Reviewing Works: Book Reviewers in an Age when Everyone's a Critic.*
(under advanced contract with Princeton University Press)

Chapters and Articles

- 2016 Beljean, S, Chong, PK and Lamont, M. "A post-Bourdieuian sociology of valuation and evaluation for the field of cultural production." *Routledge International Handbook of the Sociology of Art and Culture.* Hanquinet, L. and Savage, M. (eds). Routledge. 38-48
- 2015 Chong, PK. "Playing Nice, Being Mean, and the Space In Between: Book Critics and the Difficulties of Writing Bad Reviews" In *Moments of Valuation: Exploring Sites of Dissonance.* Antal, B and Hutter, M., and Stark, D. (eds). Oxford University Press. 133-146
- 2014 Johnston J., Rodney A., and Chong, PK. "Making Change in the Kitchen? A study of celebrity cookbooks, culinary personas, and inequality". *Poetics.* 47:1-22.
- 2013 Chong, PK. "Legitimate Judgment in Art, the Scientific World Reversed?: Critical Distance in Evaluation". *Social Studies of Science.* 43 (2): 265-281.
- **Richard A. Peterson Award for Best Student Paper** in the Sociology of Culture, American Sociological Association (2013)
 - **Hacker Mullins Best Student Paper Award** in the Section on Science, Knowledge and Technology, American Sociological Association (2013)
 - Honorable mention for **Daniel G. Hill Prize for Best Graduate Paper in Sociology**, University of Toronto (2014)
- 2011 Chong, PK. "Reading Difference: How Race and Ethnicity Function as Tools for Critical Appraisal." *Poetics: Journal of Empirical Research on Culture, the Media and the Arts.* 39 (1): 68-84.
- **Best Student Paper Award** (Overall Prize), Canadian Sociological Association (2009)

Teaching

Courses taught at McMaster:

Art, Culture, and Inequality Sociology of Culture
Social Inequality Graduate Seminar Case Studies in Inequality – A Sociology of Success
Gender, Globalization, and Social Change

Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of Toronto

“Sociology of Culture.” (Spring 2010 & Spring 2011)

Lecturer, Faculty of Liberal Studies, OCAD University

“Gender, Globalization, & Social Change.” (Summer 2007 & Summer 2008)

Teaching Assistant, University of Toronto

Introduction to Sociology (2009 & 2010) Globalization (Fall 2011)
Economic Sociology (Summer 2013) Communications & Ethics in the Media (Spring 2014)

Invited Guest Lecturer

“The Economic Outcomes of High-Skilled Immigrants: Exploring Skill-Mismatch in the Canadian Labour Market.” for Labour Studies 1C03: Voices of Work, Resistance & Change. McMaster University. (2009)

“Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods in the Social Sciences.” for Graduate Research Methods Seminar. Faculty of Liberal Studies, OCAD University. (2008)

Selected Academic Awards, Grants, and Scholarships

2015 Arts Research Board Research Competition, *McMaster University*
Project: "The Value of Expert vs. Public Opinions in a Creative Market: Measuring authority in the literary field". \$6,955.00

Graduate Awards

2013 Al Miller Memorial Award, UofT Faculty Association: university-wide award given one graduate student for demonstrated leadership in the university community
2013 Richard A. Peterson Best Student Paper in the Sociology of Culture Section. American Sociology Association.
2013 Hacker Mullins Best Student Paper Award in the Section on Science, Knowledge and Technology, American Sociological Association
2012 Ontario Graduate Scholarship. Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities. \$10,000.
2011-12 Doctoral Completion Award, Faculty of Arts & Science, UofT. \$18,000.
2010 Canada Graduate Scholarship – Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. \$6000.
2009 Best Student Paper Award (Overall). Canadian Sociological Association.
2008-11 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) \$105,000
2008 Barbara Frum Memorial Award in Canadian Studies. Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto. \$3000.
2007 University of Toronto Open Fellowship. \$11,100.
2006 Canada Graduate Scholarship - Master’s Program, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Canada. \$17,500.

2006 Ontario Graduate Scholarship. Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities \$15,000. (*declined*)

Conference and Seminar Presentations

2016 "The Interest Gap: Gender, Homophily, and Inequality in Book Reviewing". Presented in "Cultural Dimensions of Gender, Love, and Work" at the *American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting*. August 19-23. Seattle, WA.

"Who's to Say: Dissent, Disagreement, and Professional Uncertainty in Book Reviewing". Presented in "Sociology of Knowledge" at the *American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting*. August 19-23. Seattle, WA.

2015 "A Post- Bourdieusian Sociology of Valuation and Evaluation for the Field of Cultural Production". (with Stefan Beljean) Presented in panel in "Evaluation Processes" at the *American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting*. August 22-25. Chicago, IL.

"Cultural Practices and Boundaries" and "Arts and National Boundaries". Invited commentator for conference on *National Identity and Cultural Diversity: Art, Culture, and Politics*. Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Canada Program. Harvard University. May 5-6, 2015. Cambridge, MA.

2014 "Book Reviewing in an Age when Everyone is a Critic". Presented in panel in "Aesthetic Choices (and Constraints): From Creation to Mediation" at the *American Sociological Association (ASA) annual meeting*. August 16-19. San Francisco, CA

"Capturing worlds of worth: fiction reviewing, management consulting and scholarly evaluation compared." (with Michele Lamont and Alaric Bourgojn). Presented in "Valuation Devices: STS Approaches to the Sociology of Worth" at the *American Sociological Association annual meeting, August 16-19, San Francisco, CA*

"Comparing Domains of Excellence Using the Nobel Prize." (with Vaughn Schmutz) Culture and Social Analysis Workshop. Harvard University. April 14, 2014. Cambridge, MA.

"Getting it 'Just Right': Goldilocks positioning as professional boundary work." Presented in panel on "*Doing Good Work: Establishing Worth, Competency, and Expertise at Work*" at *Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society*. February 20-22. Baltimore, MD.

2013 "Culinary Personas and the World of Celebrity Chefs: A study of cookbooks and cultural inequality." (with Josee Johnston and Alexandra Rodney). Presented in panel on "*Popular Culture*" at *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association*. August 10- 13. NY, NY.

"Emergent Ethics: Managing Conflicts of Commitment in Freelance Reviewing." Conference for *Valorizing Dissonance: Cultural Perspectives on Newness*. Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB) June 26-June 28. Berlin, Germany.

2012 "A Method for Critical Distance: How Book Reviewers Secure the Validity of Their Aesthetic Evaluations." Presented in session on "*Cultural Intermediaries in Action*" at *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association*. August 17 - August 20. Denver, Colorado.

"How Book Critics Think." Erasmus Research Centre for Media, Communication and

- Culture Seminar. *Erasmus University Rotterdam*. May 15. Rotterdam, Netherlands.
- 2011 “The Place of Emotions and Morals in Appraisal: A Case Study on Book Reviewers.” Presented in “Performances, Values, and Mores” at *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association*. August 20 - August 23. Las Vegas, Nevada.
- “Why Cook? A Study Of Cookbooks, Celebrity Chefs And Persona-Based Brands.” (with Josée Johnston). Presented at meeting of *Consumer Studies Research Network*, August 19). University of Nevada, Nevada.
- 2010 "Everyone's a Critic: Book Reviewers on Bad Practices in Book Reviewing." *Tufts University English Graduate Conference*. October 21. Cambridge, MA
- “Reading Difference: How Race and Ethnicity Function as Tools for Critical Appraisal.” Culture and Social Analysis Workshop. Harvard University. March 8, 2010. Cambridge, MA.
- 2009 “Reviewing Novels and Novelists: The Influence of Race and Ethnicity on the Valorization of Fiction.” Presented in “Racial and Ethnic Minorities” at *Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association*. Aug 8 -11. San Francisco, CA.
- “Race, Ethnicity, Nation, and Worth: Examining Race and Ethnicity as Tools For Critical Appraisal.” Presented in session on “Sociology of Culture” at *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Sociological Association*. May 26 – May 29. Carleton University, Ottawa.
- 2008 “Immigration, Inequality, & Space: How Immigration is Changing Canada’s Social Landscape.” Presented at *Centre for Excellence in Research on Immigration and Settlement (CERIS) Ontario Metropolis Centre Annual Graduate Conference*. April 17 - 18. York University, Toronto.
- 2007 “At the Margins? Ethnic Diversity within Canada's Muslim Population.” (with Monica Boyd). Presented at the *Canadian Population Society Annual Meetings*. May 31– June 2. University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan.

Other Research Experience

- Summer 2013 **Qualitative Methodologist and Research Manager**, Professor Bart Bonikowski, - Present *Harvard University*
- Qualitative training of undergraduate research assistants including how to design interview questions, practical interviewing techniques, discourse analysis, and thematic analysis
 - Consulting with PI on designing qualitative research instruments and informing research focus drawing on my own familiarity with the literature on ethnic identity, immigration, religious identity, and inequality.
- Spring 2012 **Visiting Research Collaborator**, *Erasmus University’s School of History, Culture and Communication, Rotterdam*
- invited External Reviewer for Honor theses proposed on topic of “Ethnic Inequality in Art and Culture”
- 2006-08 **Research Assistant**, Professor Monica Boyd, *University of Toronto*.

- primary statistical analyst of 2002 Ethnic Diversity Survey (SAS) on project examining experiences of discrimination among ethnically-differentiated Muslim communities in Canada
- literature reviews on topics of ethnic identity, immigration, and the impact of religious identities on Canada's social cohesion

2007 **Research Assistant**, *The Wellesley Research Institute*.

- Created urban health research database with focus on studies of accommodating ethnic diversity in health service provision in Toronto-area

2006 **Research Assistant**, *Moorelands Community Services*.

- created original data set and conducted preliminary analysis (SPSS)
- contributed to program evaluation report for at-risk youth summer camp programming

Service

- Co-organizer, Roundtables for ASA section on Inequality, Mobility, and Poverty meetings 2015
- Organizer for ISF research working group, Harvard University 2013-2014
- Student Coordinator, Department of Sociology (UofT) Speaker Series 2012-2013
- Founder and Organizer, UTCulture Research Working Group 2010-2013
- Junior Fellow (Elected), Massey College 2010-2013
- Student Councilor (Elected), *Canadian Population Society* (demography association) 2008-2010
- Affiliate and Student Caucus Member, Centre for Excellence for Research on Immigration and Settlement - Toronto (CERIS) 2008 – 2010
- Reviewer for Sociological Journals: *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *Gender & Society*, *Poetics*, *Professions and Professionalism*, *Social Forces*, *The Sociological Quarterly*, *Sociological Theory*,