

Chien-Juh Gu

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Sociology
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5257

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
M.A. Sociology (*ranked 1st in class*), National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan
B.A. Sociology (*summa cum laude*), National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

POSITIONS HELD

Professor, Department of Sociology, Western Michigan University. 2018-present
Fulbright-Visiting Professor of Social Sciences, University of Vienna, Austria. 2025.
Guest Lecturer, Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology, Bielefeld University, Germany. Summer 2018.
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Western Michigan University. 2012-2018.
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Western Michigan University. 2007-2012.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

- Sociology of Gender
- Social Psychology
- International Migration
- Sociology of Health and Illness
- Social Inequality

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Gu, Chien-Juh. In prep. *From Religious Minority to Racial Minority: Burmese Christian Diaspora in America's Heartland* (under contract with Bristol University Press).

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2018. [*The Resilient Self: Gender, Immigration, and Taiwanese Americans*](#). New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2006. *Mental Health among Taiwanese Americans: Gender, Immigration, and Transnational Struggles*. New York: LFB Scholarly Publishing LLC.

Refereed Articles

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2026. "[Contesting the C Word: The Diagnosis of DCIS and Women's Resistance against Overtreatment](#)." *Sociology of Health & Illness*: e70145.

- Gu, Chien-Juh and Charles Crawford. 2025. "[Hierarchical Social Distance: Social Attitudes toward Ethnic and Immigrant Groups in a Midwestern City.](#)" *Sociological Inquiry* 95(4): 662-688.
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2025. "[Treating Drunk Driving: Burmese Refugees' Alcohol Misuse and Its Implications for Social Work Practice and Education.](#)" *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work* 34(2): 105-118.
- Gu, Chien-Juh and Charles Crawford. 2022. "[The Reimagining of Criminal Justice Education: A Preliminary Study of Students' Classroom Experiences and Perceptions of Racial Justice.](#)" *Journal of Criminal Justice Education* 33(1): 1-22 (lead article)
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2021. "[Displaced Social Suffering: Burmese Christian Refugees in a U.S. Midwestern City.](#)" *Journal of Refugee Studies* 34(4): 3962-3984.
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2020. "[Qualitative Interviewing in Ethnic-Chinese Contexts: Reflections from Researching Taiwanese Immigrants in the United States.](#)" *International Journal of Qualitative Methods* 19: 1-11.
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2019. "[Bargaining with Confucian Patriarchy: Money, Culture, and Gender Division of Labor in Taiwanese Immigrant Families.](#)" *Qualitative Sociology* 42(4): 687-709. ***Finalist for the 2020 Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research**
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2018. "[Gender Morality and Emotion Work in Taiwanese Immigrant In-law Relations.](#)" *Gender, Place and Culture* 25(2): 248-267.
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2016. "[Taiwanese Immigrants' Medical Experiences: An Exploratory Study.](#)" *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies*. 4(2): 177-197.
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2015. "[Racial Glass Ceilings, Gendered Responses: Taiwanese American Professionals' Experiences of Otherness.](#)" *Sociological Focus* 48: 126-149.
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2015. "[The Gendering of Immigration Studies in the United States.](#)" *Advances in Gender Research* 20: 269-289.
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2014. "[Contextualizing Vocabularies of Motive in International Migration: The Case of Taiwanese in the United States.](#)" *International Migration* 52(2): 158-177.
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2012. "[Women's Status in the Context of International Migration.](#)" *Sociology Compass* 6(6): 458-471.
- Gu, Chien-Juh. 2010. "[Culture, Emotional Transnationalism and Mental Distress: Family Relations and Well-being among Taiwanese Immigrant Women.](#)" *Gender, Place and Culture* 17(6):687-704. (Lead article; journal ranked 6th in gender studies in 2008)

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2006. "[Rethinking the Study of Gender and Mental Health](#)." *Graduate Journal of Social Science* 3(1).

Book Chapters

Gu, Chien-Juh. Forthcoming. "Legal until Criminalized: Burmese Refugees' Alcohol Misuse and Its Impact on Integration." *Liminally Legal Asians: Consciousness Raising, Political (Re)Articulations of Belonging in the United States*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2019. "I am American! Taiwanese Immigrant Women Battling Everyday Racism." In: Brittany C. Slatton and Carla D. Brailey (Eds.), *Women and Inequality in the 21st Century*. Pp. 78-91. New York: Routledge.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2019. "Interviewing Immigrants and Refugees: Reflexive Engagement with Research Subjects." In: Steven J. Gold and Stephanie J. Nawyn (Eds.), *The Routledge International Handbook of Migration Studies* (2nd edition). Pp. 565-581. New York: Routledge.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2013. "Interviews." In: Steven J. Gold and Stephanie J. Nawyn (Eds.), *The Routledge International Handbook of Migration Studies*. Pp. 506-521. New York: Routledge.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2004. "Disciplined Bodies in Direct Selling: Amway and Alternative Economic Culture in Taiwan." In: David K. Jordan, Andrew Morris, and Marc L. Moskowitz (Eds.) *The Minor Arts of Daily Life: Popular Culture in Taiwan*, Pp. 150-172. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

Encyclopedia Articles

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2013. "Taiwanese Americans." In: Carlos E. Cortés and J. Geoffrey Golson (Eds.) *Multicultural America*. Pp. 2043-2044. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2009. "Immigration and Work-Family Concerns." In *Work and Family Encyclopedia*, edited by Stephen Sweet and Judi Casey. Chestnut Hill, MA: Sloan Work and Family Research Network. (refereed article)

Gu, Chien-Juh and Rita S. Gallin. 2004. "Taiwan." In: Carol R. Ember and Melvin Ember (Eds.) *Encyclopedia of Sex and Gender: Men and Women in the World's Cultures*, Pp. 848-885. New York: Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers.

Book Review Articles

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2021. "Handbook on Gender in Asia." *Gender & Development*, 29(1): 227-228.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2012. "Women's Movements in Twentieth-Century Taiwan." *Gender & Society* 26(1): 154-56.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2011. "Migration and Gender Identity: Chinese Women's Experiences of Work, Family, and Identity in Australia." *Gender, Place and Culture* 18(1): 141-43.

Other Publications

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2022. "[Surveillance, Guidelines, or Reflections? Research Ethics Re-considered.](#)" *Special Issue: Keep Research Ethics Dirty!: Current Debates. International Quarterly for Asian Studies* 53(4): 527-532.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2020. "Comment on Shenglin Elijah Chang's Review of *The Resilient Self*." *Contemporary Sociology* 49(1): 106-107.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 2001. "Smart Women are Ugly?" A Study of Overseas Taiwanese Ph.D. Students Regarding Beauty. In: Maxine Baca Zinn and Stanley Eitzen (Eds.) *In Conflict and Order*, p. 331. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Gu, Chien-Juh. 1996. "The Upsurge and Cause of Direct Sales in Taiwan: Decoding a New Socio-cultural Phenomena and Labor Trend in Taiwanese Society." *China Times*. 1996.7.27. (Op-Ed article in Chinese)

Gu, Chien-Juh. 1995. "The Order of Simulation." In: *The Lure of Postmodernism*, Pp. 20-30. Taipei: The Research Group of Modernity and Postmodernity, Department of Sociology, National Taiwan University. (Translation article from J. Baudrillard's work, in Chinese)

Gu, Chien-Juh. 1993. "The Fundamental Structure of Social Actions." *The Journal of National Open University* 126: 46-47 (In Chinese).

Book Manuscript in Progress

Contesting the C Word: The Diagnosis of DCIS and Women's Resistance to Overtreatment (scholarly work with original research)

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Awards and Honors

- 2024 **U.S. Fulbright Scholar Award to Austria** (2024-25).
Visiting Professor of Social Sciences at the University of Vienna (2025)
- 2020 **Finalist for the Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research.** Given by the Center for Families at Purdue University and the Boston College Center for Work & Family to recognize 4 best articles in work-family research, selected from over 2,500 articles in 83 leading journals around the world.
- 2020 Nominated by Sociology Graduate Student Association for the Golden Broncos Advisor of the Year Award. Western Michigan University
- 2018 **Guest Lecturer.** Invited to teach a graduate seminar for doctoral researchers of the Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology at Bielefeld University, Germany
- 2017 **Faculty Achievement Award in Research and Creative Activity.** College of Arts and Sciences, WMU

- 2017 **Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor.** Sociology Graduate Student Association, Department of Sociology, WMU
- 2016 **Faculty Achievement Award in Teaching.** College of Arts and Sciences, WMU (nominated by students).
- 2014 Inducted to the Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society
- 2010 **Gender Scholar Award,** College of Arts and Sciences Women's Caucus, WMU (first winner at WMU)
- 2007 Erwin O. Smigel Award, Society for the Study of Social Problems
- 2000 Winner of the Graduate Student Paper Competition, North Central Sociological Association
- 1999 Honor Student, the Honors Program of American Sociological Association
- 1999 S.C. Lee Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University
- 1998 S.C. Lee Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University
- 1998 Inducted to the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars
- 1994 Inducted to the Phi Tau Phi Scholastic Honor Society, Taiwan

External Grants

- 2024 Research Grant (\$3,500), Midwest Sociological Society.
- 2020 Research Grant (\$3,500), Midwest Sociological Society.
- 2016 Research Grant (\$2,500), Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Chicago.
- 2015 Research Grant (\$2,500), Midwest Sociological Society.
- 2009 Junior Scholar Grant (\$20,000), Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation

Internal Grants

- 2024 CAS Discovery and Dissemination Award (\$1,000), Western Michigan University
- 2024 Support for Faculty Scholars Award (\$2,000), Western Michigan University
- 2023 CAS Discovery and Dissemination Award (\$500), Western Michigan University
- 2020 Support for Faculty Scholars Award (\$2,000), Western Michigan University
- 2020 CAS Discovery and Dissemination Award (\$1,000), Western Michigan University
- 2020 Grant for Publication of Papers and Exhibition of Creative Works (\$750), WMU
- 2018 **Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award** (\$10,000), WMU
- 2018 CAS Discovery and Dissemination Award (\$750), Western Michigan University
- 2017 Grant for Publication of Papers and Exhibition of Creative Works (\$750), WMU
- 2017 International Education Faculty Development Fund (\$1,200), WMU
- 2015 Support for Faculty Scholars Award (\$2,000), Western Michigan University

- 2015 CAS Discovery and Dissemination Award (\$1,500), Western Michigan University
- 2014 Grant for Publication of Papers and Exhibition of Creative Works (\$466), WMU
- 2013 Professional Development Grant (\$500), CAS Women's Caucus, WMU
- 2012 Research Development Award (\$2,500), WMU (additional \$1,000 from the CAS)
- 2012 College of Arts and Sciences Teaching and Research Award (\$1,000), WMU
- 2011 Support for Faculty Scholars Award (\$2,000), Western Michigan University
- 2008 **Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award** (\$10,000), WMU

RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 "Contesting the C-Word: Women's Resistance against the Overtreatment of Breast Cancer." American Sociological Association conference. Chicago.
- 2024 "Bring Self In: Reframing the Study of Gender and Immigration." American Sociological Association Conference. Montreal, Canada.
- 2023 "Treating Drunk Driving: Burmese Refugees' Experiences in the Sobriety Court, Alcohol Addiction Counseling, and Ethnic Church." American Sociological Association Conference. Philadelphia.
- 2020 "Reflexivity in Qualitative Interviewing at the Crossroads of Methods and Culture." American Sociological Association Conference. San Francisco.
- 2019 "Burmese Refugees' Alcohol Misuse and Its Impact on Integration." American Sociological Association conference. New York.
- 2019 "Qualitative Interviewing with Taiwanese Immigrants: A Reflexivity Methodology." International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. University of Urbana-Champaign (May 15)
- 2018 "Legal until Criminalized: Burmese Refugees' Substance Abuse and Its Impact on Integration." Mini-Conference on "Liminally Legal Asians: Consciousness Raising, Political (Re) Articulations of Belonging in the United States. Brown University (September 28).
- 2018 "Gendered Immigration, Work, and Self: A Life-History Study of Taiwanese American Women." American Sociological Association conference. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2018 [Author Meets Critics] "The Resilient Self: Gender, Immigration, and Taiwanese Americans." International Sociology Association World Congress. Toronto, Canada. (July 18). **Featured by ISA Research Committee 32 as a recent publication that makes significant contributions to sociology with a focus on women.**

Select Invited Talks

- 2025 "[Rethinking Gender and Immigration: A Feminist Standpoint Approach.](#)" Gender Talks. Office of Gender Research, University of Vienna, Austria.

- 2019 “The Resilient Self: Gender, Immigration, and Taiwanese Americans.” Featured talk at the Books and Beer event, the Center for the Humanities, WMU.
- 2018 “The Resilient Self: Gender, Immigration, and Taiwanese Americans.” Global Migration as the New Social Question Colloquium Series. Sociology of Transnationalization, Development and Migration. Bielefeld University, Germany (June 20)
- 2008 “Gender, Immigration, and Psychological Well-being,” speech given at the Gender Scholar Award ceremony, Western Michigan University (April 14).
- 2010 “Family Relations and Psychological Well-being among Taiwanese Immigrant Women,” **keynote speech** delivered at the annual conference of National Council on Family Relations Illinois Chapter (DeKalb, IL, March 26).
- 2007 “Transnational Struggles at Home: Taiwanese Immigrant Women’s Family Experiences,” **keynote speech** delivered at the Women’s Resource Center and Presidential Commission, Northern Illinois University (March 8).

SERVICE

Professional Organizations

- 2015-26 Mini-conference organizer, American Sociological Association International Migration Section
- 2025 Session organizer, Gender Dynamics of Immigration, American Sociological Association annual meeting (invited to serve). Chicago, IL.
- 2023 Session organizer, “Immigration and Gender,” American Sociological Association annual meeting (invited to serve). Philadelphia, PA.
- 2022 International Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research Committee member (invited to serve).
- 2019 Roundtable discussant at the 2019 ASA pre-conference for department chairs. (invited by the ASA to share my experience working with honors students).
- 2017-19 Honors Program Advisory Panelist, American Sociological Association (ASA) (appointed by the ASA Council).
- 2017-19 Council Member-At-Large. North Central Sociological Association (invited and elected to serve).
- 2016 Session organizer, “Immigration and Gender,” American Sociological Association annual meeting, Seattle, WA.
- 2015 Distinguished Book Award Committee, American Sociological Association Sex and Gender Section (invited to serve).
- 2015 Judge, Mental Health Division Student Paper Competition, Society for the Study of Social Problems (invited to serve).
- 2014-16 International Committee, Sociologists for Women in Society
- 2014-16 Global Feminist Partnerships Committee, Sociologists for Women in Society
- 2013 Session Co-organizer, “Gender and Reproduction in a Global Context” American Sociological Association annual meeting, New York, NY.

- 2013 Session Organizer and discussant, “Gender and Power: Theorization and Empirical Studies.” Midwest Sociological Society annual meeting, Chicago, IL.
- 2011 Panel discussant and chair, Negotiating Female Embodiment/Empowerment, Association of Asian American Studies annual meeting, New Orleans, LA
- 2010 Session organizer and chair, Immigrant Communities/Families, American Sociological Association annual meeting, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2000-2001 **President**, North American Taiwan Studies Association (NATSA).

Journal Editorial Board Member

Gender, Place & Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography
International Journal of Qualitative Methods

Journal Reviewer

American Sociological Review
Social Forces: International Journal of Social Research
Gender & Society
Gender, Place and Culture
Sociology of Education
Global Networks: A Journal of Transnational Affairs
International Migration Review
Journal of Contemporary Ethnography
Asian Women
Social Problems
Social Currents
Qualitative Sociology
International Journal of Qualitative Methods
Ethnic and Racial Studies
Emotion, Space and Society
Asian and Pacific Migration Journal
Sociological Perspectives
Sage Open
Taiwanese Sociology
Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies
Gender, Work & Organization
Asian Studies Review
European Journal of East Asian Studies
Women’s Studies International Forum
Population, Space and Place

Book Manuscript Reviewer Routledge; Sage; Polity; Oxford University Press

Grant Reviewer National Geographic Society

Advisory Board Member Department of Development Studies, National University of Sciences and Technology, Pakistan.

External Reviewer for Promotion and Tenure

University of Minnesota, Northern Arizona University, Indiana University-Kokoma

University Committees

2025-present Advisory Board, The Study of Ethnicity in Society. WMU
2023 Council for Undergraduate Research, Innovation, and Creative Scholarship
2022 Global and International Studies review committee
2019-2020 Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities Committee, College of Arts and Sciences
2016-2017 Faculty Mentor, Graduate Students Teaching Intensive Program
2016-2018 Co-Chair, Women's Caucus Steering Committee, College of Arts and Science
2014-2018 Diversity and Inclusion Committee, College of Arts and Sciences
2012-2018 Women's Caucus Steering Committee, College of Arts and Sciences

Department Committees

2025 Tenure and Promotion Committee Chair, Department of Sociology, WMU
2022-present Chair of the Sociology Program Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2022 Chair of the Tenure and Promotion Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2018-2019 Search Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2018-2020 Central Graduate Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2018-present Faculty Advisor, Sociology Club, WMU
2017-present Kercher Colloquium Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2017-2018 Ph.D. Working Group, Department of Sociology, WMU
2017-2018 Adjunct Faculty Appointment Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2016-2017 Chair of the Executive Council, Department of Sociology, WMU (elected to serve)
2016-2020 Central Undergraduate Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2015-2017 Executive Council, Department of Sociology, WMU
2014-present Faculty Advisor, Epsilon Chapter, Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society
2012-present Power and Inequality Area Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2012-2013 Kercher Colloquium Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2012-2013 Search Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2011-present Director of the Social Psychology Program, Department of Sociology, WMU
2011-present Race and Ethnicity Area Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2010-2012 Social Theory Area Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2009-2012; 2021- present Sabbatical Leave Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2008-2012 Central Graduate Committee, Department of Sociology, WMU
2007-2012 Social Psychology Area Committee, Department of Sociology, Western Michigan University (Chair during 2010-2012)
2007-Present Gender and Feminism Area Committee, Department of Sociology, Western Michigan University (Chair during 2010-12)

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

2021 "[Unveiling Marginalized Refugee Communities](#)" in *WMU College of Arts and Sciences Magazine* (p.19). Featured story about my research.
2018 *WMUK 102.1, Between the Lines*, on my new book, *The Resilient Self*.

- 2013 *The Battle Creek Enquirer* (11/20/2013) on cultural differences of mental illness and suicide prevention
- 2011 *WMU News* (2/3/11) On the “Tiger Mom” phenomenon
- 2008 *The World Journal* (8/2/08) On my research about immigrant women’s life histories

COURSES TAUGHT

Immigration and Social Inequality (graduate course. WMU, University of Vienna, Austria)

Immigration and Gender: Theory, Methods, and Analysis (doctoral seminar. Graduate School of History and Sociology, Bielefeld University, Germany)

Medical Sociology (graduate course. WMU)

Gender and Health (graduate course. WMU, University of Vienna, Austria)

Self and Social Identities (graduate course. WMU)

Social Psychology of Sex and Gender (graduate course. WMU)

Advanced Sociology (WMU)

Introduction to Social Psychology (Michigan State University, National Taiwan University, Western Michigan University)

Methods of Data Collection (WMU)

Sex and Gender (Michigan State University)

Self and Society (WMU)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Research Networks

2016-present Asian Americans Advancing Justice Chicago-Midwest Collaboratory.

2013-present West Michigan Social Research Consortium

2012-present Medical Humanities Workgroup, Western Michigan University

2008-present Work and Family Research Network

Association Memberships

American Sociological Association

Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society

LANGUAGES

Taiwanese (native speaking), Mandarin Chinese (professional), English (professional), German (B1 level)

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES (AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)