

CHRISTOPHER HU, Ph.D.

The University of Alabama
College of Education

Aatherine Lucy Hall 307A | 902 University Blvd., Box 870302 | Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
Email: chu8@ua.edu | [Profile](#)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2025– Assistant Professor of Social and Cultural Foundations of Education
Department of Educational Leadership, Policy, and Technology Studies
College of Education, The University of Alabama

EDUCATION

- 2025 Ph.D., Education – Social Foundations, University of Virginia
2020 M.Ed., Educational Psychology – Social Foundations, University of Virginia
2015 B.S., Biochemistry (minor in Education), Washington and Lee University

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

8. **Hu, C.**, & Debnam, K. (accepted). Navigating the politics of race, research, and role in a university-school district research-practice partnership. *AERA Open*.
7. **Hu, C.** (2025). Color-evasion and the production of individualist deficit accounts of educational inequality: The case of parental discourse on selective schools. *Discourse & Society*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/09579265251381840>
6. **Hu, C.** (2025). Asian American racialization in America's top-ranked public high schools: Synchronizing discourses of model minority and perpetual foreigner. *Race Ethnicity and Education*, 28(7), 1215-1229. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13613324.2023.2279298>
5. **Hu, C.** (2025). Youth using identity: The racial politics of belonging and resistance in an educational equity program. *Discourse: Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education*, 1-12.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/01596306.2025.2553755>
4. **Hu, C.**, & Hoffman, D. M. (2025). Poverty and the brain: The new/old language of cultural deficit. *Educational Researcher*, 54(9), 540-545. <https://doi.org/10.3102/0013189x251349155>
3. Chang-Bacon, C. K., **Hu, C.**, Vargas, I., & Montalvo, L. A. (2025). Language ideologies and access in a multilingual tutoring program. *International Multilingual Research Journal*, 19(1), 36-52. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19313152.2024.2315895>
2. **Hu, C.** (2024). Examining parental perspectives on standardized testing, selection, and meritocracy: An exploratory study of highly selective public magnet schools. *Critical Questions in Education*, 15(3), 198-209. [[Link](#)]
1. **Hu, C.** (2023). The purposes and pedagogies of social foundations in teacher education. *Educational Studies*, 59(5-6), 541-554. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00131946.2023.2271587>

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

Hu, C. (forthcoming). Complicating the majority-minority paradigm: Race, class, and intersectionality in the U.S. In K. L. McFaden & S. C. Hardee (Eds.), *Privilege in America: A reference handbook*. New York: Bloomsbury Publishing.

REPORTS AND RESOURCES

Hu, C., & Debnam, K. J. (2025). *Protocol for Navigating the Politics of Race, Research, and Role in a University-School District Research-Practice Partnership*. Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor]. <https://doi.org/10.3886/E241265V2>

Claibourn, M., **Hu, C.**, Mitchell, E., Muralidharan, A., & Schoonover, N. R. (2024, February). *Local School Demographics Visualization*. UVA Karsh Institute Center for the Redress of Inequity through Community-Engaged Scholarship. [[Link](#)]

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Hu, C. (2026, April). Parenting as racialized educational practice: Strategic adaptation and cultivation in an Asian American community. Paper *to be presented* at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Los Angeles, CA.

Hu, C. (2026, April). Re-envisioning university-community relations: The problem with partnership, educational equity, and mutual benefit. Paper *to be presented* at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Los Angeles, CA.

Hu, C. (2026, February). Toward a pedagogy of disruption in social foundations teacher education. Paper *to be presented* at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Philosophy of Education Society (SEPES), Birmingham, AL.

Hu, C. (2025, November). Traversing turbulent times: Racial and research politics in an educational research-practice partnership. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Studies Association (AES), Albuquerque, NM.

Hu, C. (2025, November). The vulnerable graduate student: Learning silence and compliance in the university. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Studies Association (AES), Albuquerque, NM.

Hu, C. (2025, October). Asian American parenting and educational archetypes: Constructing counternarratives of second-generation youth. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Studies Association (AES), Albuquerque, NM.

Hu, C. (2025, October). Accelerated achievement: A new hyper-concerted cultivation in an Asian American immigrant community. Paper presented at the Conference on Anthropology and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY.

Hu, C., & Debnam, K. J. (2025, April). Navigating the internal and external politics of research-practice partnership: Negotiations of race, research, and role. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Denver, CO.

- Hu, C.** (2025, April). Linking color-evasion and individualist deficit ideology: A typology of color-evasive strategy in parental school discourse. Paper presented and session chair at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Denver, CO.
- Chang-Bacon, C. K., **Hu, C.**, & Schoonover, N. R. (2025, April). “Because estamos gringas”: Raciolinguistic ideologies in a bilingual tutoring program. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Denver, CO.
- Guzmán Antelo, M., **Hu, C.**, Chang-Bacon, C. K., & Schoonover, N. R. (2025, April). Navigating linguistic constraints: Examining students’ language-based agency in bilingual tutoring settings. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Denver, CO.
- Hu, C.** (2025, March). Parental racial preferences in school choice: A literature review. Paper presented at the Hunter Student Research Conference, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.
- Hu, C.** (2024, November). Problematizing partnership: Equity in education as substitutionary reparation in the neoliberal university. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Studies Association (AES), Greenville, SC.
- Hu, C.** (2024, November). The imagined Black “other”: The racialization of safety and schooling in the suburbs. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Studies Association (AES), Greenville, SC.
- Hu, C.** (2024, November). (Not) talking about race. Color-evasive tactics in parental school discourse. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Studies Association (AES), Greenville, SC.
- Hu, C.** (2024, November). The fetishization and commodification of diversity for white consumption in the suburbs. Talk presented virtually at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), Tampa, FL.
- Hu, C.** (2024, November). Imagining the Black other: Racializing safety and schooling in discourse. Talk presented virtually at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), Tampa, FL.
- Hu, C.** (2024, April). Asian American racialization in elite high schools: Synchronizing discourses of model minority and perpetual foreigner. Paper presented and session chair at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Philadelphia, PA.
- Hu, C.**, & Schoonover, N. R., & Chang-Bacon, C. K. (2024, April). Analogizing and resisting: Examining youth perspectives of transformational institutional claims in a university-community equity intervention. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Philadelphia, PA.
- Chang-Bacon, C. K., **Hu, C.**, Vargas, I., & Montalvo, L. A. (2024, April). Interrogating hierarchies of language: Language ideologies and access in a bilingual tutoring program. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Philadelphia, PA.

- Hu, C.** (2024, March). Education as inter-discipline: Autoethnographic reflections from disciplinary borderlands. Paper presented virtually at the College of Education Graduate Student Conference at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
- Hu, C.** (2023, November). The emergence of Chinese ethnobarbarian communities in the New York metropolitan area: Examining the paradoxical discourses of settlement and spatial assimilation. Poster presented virtually at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) and Canadian Anthropology Society (CASCA), Toronto, Canada.
- Hu, C.** (2023, November). Identity work and resistance in a university-based youth equity intervention program. Talk presented virtually at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) and Canadian Anthropology Society (CASCA), Toronto, Canada.
- Hu, C.**, Schoonover, N. R., & Chang-Bacon, C. K. (2023, November). Local youth against the university: Examining the transformation of institutional claims and student experiences. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Studies Association (AES), Louisville, KY.
- Hu, C.** (2023, November). Identity negotiation and playful resistance in a university-based youth equity intervention program. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Educational Studies Association (AES), Louisville, KY.
- Hu, C.** (2023, October). Local youth, social justice, and the university: Examining discrepancies between institutional claims and student experiences through ethnographic methods. Paper presented at the Conference on Anthropology and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY.
- Hu, C.** (2023, April). What some parents want: Objective testing and segregation by ability. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Chicago, IL.
- Hu, C.** (2023, March). “I am Hispanic”: Claims of identity and categorical boundary negotiation in a BIPOC-serving community program. Paper presented at the Hunter Student Research Conference, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.
- Hu, C.** (2023, March). Deweyan philosophy as a foundation for educational theory. Paper presented at the Hunter Student Research Conference, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.
- Hu, C.** (2023, March). A prophetic voice: Deweyan philosophy as a foundation for the anthropology of education. Paper presented at the John Dewey Society (JDS) Annual Meeting in conjunction with the Philosophy of Education Society, Chicago, IL.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Hu, C.** (2025, November). “Observation as method in qualitative educational research.” Invited research methods presentation, Graduate Research Assistants and Fellowship Learning Community, College of Education, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Hu, C. (2025, September). “Dialoguing across difference: An inside-look into the politics of research-practice partnership.” Invited keynote presentation, Consortium on Educational Research and Improvement (CERI) Conference, Simmons School of Education and Human Development, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX.

Hu, C. (2025, June). “Understanding the spatial foundations of race in education.” Invited virtual lecture, College of Education, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Hu, C. (2024, April). “Explorations into the tensions and living contradictions of a multicultural society and the case of the ethnoburban Chinese.” Invited course lecture for Education in Multicultural Societies, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Awarded

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| 2024–2025 | Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange Doctoral Fellowship. “The New Gold Mountain: Education, Ethnicity, and Privilege in the New Jersey Chinese Ethnoburb” (DD002-A-23). \$20,000. Principal Investigator. |
| 2023–2024 | Dissertation Innovative, Developmental, Exploratory Award (IDEA), University of Virginia School of Education and Human Development. “The Construction of Privilege and Status Among the Ethnoburban Chinese Elite.” \$1,000. Principal Investigator. |

HONORS AND AWARDS

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| 2025 | Gansneder Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation in Qualitative Research, University of Virginia School of Education and Human Development |
| 2024 | Taylor & Francis Past President’s Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Research, American Educational Studies Association |
| 2024–2025 | Community Data Fellowship, University of Virginia Karsh Institute Center for the Redress of Inequity Through Community-Engaged Scholarship |
| 2023 | Jennings L. Wagoner, Jr., Scholarship in Social Foundations, University of Virginia School of Education and Human Development |
| 2021 | Spotswood High School Student Choice Teacher of the Year |
| 2020 | Rockingham Educational Foundation, Inc., Teacher of the Year |
| 2019 | Spotswood High School Student Choice Teacher of the Year |
| 2018 | Rockingham County School Board Inspire Award |
| 2018 | Rockbridge County High School Teacher Inspiration Award |
| 2017 | Rockbridge County High School Teacher Inspiration Award |
| 2015 | Class Valedictorian, Washington and Lee University |
| 2015 | Harry G. Jopson Scholar-Athlete Award, Old Dominion Athletic Conference |
| 2015 | William D. McHenry Scholar-Athlete Award, Washington and Lee University |
| 2015 | James Lewis Howe Award in Biochemistry, Washington and Lee University |
| 2013 | James K. Shillington Scholarship in Chemistry, Washington and Lee University |
| 2011–2015 | Johnson Scholar, Washington and Lee University |

TEACHING (GR indicates graduate-level; UG indicates undergraduate-level)

- 2025 School, Culture, and Society, University of Alabama [UG]
2025 Multicultural Education, University of Alabama [GR]
2024 Education in Multicultural Societies, University of Virginia [GR]
2023 Anthropology of Education, University of Virginia [UG]
2018–2021 Chemistry Teacher and Faculty Advisor for the Minority Student Union
Spotswood High School, Rockingham County Public Schools, Harrisonburg, VA
2015–2017 Chemistry Teacher and Varsity Boy's Tennis Head Coach
Rockbridge County High School, Rockbridge County Public Schools, Lexington, VA

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE*Journal Reviewer*

Race Ethnicity and Education

Conference Service

- 2024– Proposal Reviewer, American Educational Studies Association
2025 Graduate Student Mentor, American Educational Studies Association
2024–2025 Session Chair, Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association
(Division G, Section 2 Differences and Intersectionalities)

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

- 2025– School, Culture, and Society (Foundations of Education) Syllabus Taskforce
2025– Social and Cultural Studies Academic Program Review (APR) Committee
2023–2024 Proposals and Reviews Committee, Hunter Student Research Conference
2023 Proposal Reviewer and Technical Support, Hunter Student Research Conference

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Educational Research Association (AERA) - Division G Social Context of Education

American Educational Studies Association (AESNA)

American Anthropological Association (AAA) - Council on Anthropology and Education