

CHRISTOPHER HU, Ph.D.
The University of Alabama
College of Education
Autherine Lucy Hall 307A | 902 University Blvd. | Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
Email: chu8@ua.edu | [Profile](#)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025– Assistant Professor of Social and Cultural Studies in Education
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

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. **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>
2. **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>
3. **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*. <https://doi.org/10.3102/0013189x251349155>
5. 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>
6. **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](#)]
7. **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>

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

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.** (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, 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, The University of Alabama College of Education, 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

- 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.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 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 Organic Chemistry, Washington and Lee University
2012	First-Year Chemistry Achievement Award, Washington and Lee University
2011–2015	Johnson Scholar, Washington and Lee University

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

The University of Alabama

BEF 362	School, Culture, and Society: Fall 2025 [UG]
BEF 534	Multicultural Education: Fall 2025 [GR]

University of Virginia

EDLF 4605	Anthropology of Education: Spring 2023 [UG]
EDLF 7630	Education in Multicultural Societies: Fall 2024 [GR]

K-12

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

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)

Professional and Institutional Service (The University of Alabama)

2025– School, Culture, and Society (BEF362) Syllabus Redesign Taskforce
2025– Social & Cultural Studies Academic Program Review (APR) Committee

Professional and Institutional Service (University of Virginia)

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 (Division G Social Context of Education)

American Educational Studies Association

American Anthropological Association (Council on Anthropology and Education)