

# Gihun Im

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## EDUCATION

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### Ph.D. Student in Counseling Psychology

Aug 2024 – Present

The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, United States  
Advisor: Amanda S. Case, Ph.D.

### M.A. in Educational Counseling

Mar 2022 – Feb 2024

Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea  
Advisor: Dongil Kim, Ph.D.

Thesis: Korean school counselors' counseling competencies and advocacy activities for LGBTQ+ youth:  
A latent profile analysis  
GPA: 4.26/4.3

### B.A. in English Education & B.A. in Psychology

Mar 2011 – Feb 2018

Chung-Ang University, Seoul, South Korea, *dual degree*  
GPA: 4.14/4.5, *Magna Cum Laude*

## PROFESSIONAL AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES

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### Research Assistant

Nov 2025 – Present

Department of Counselor Education, University of Iowa

- Coordinate multiple research projects, including IRB applications, survey development, and data management
- Conduct quantitative and qualitative data analyses

### Graduate Research Assistant

Aug 2025 – Present

Telepsychology Training Clinic, University of Iowa

- Manage administrative tasks related to clinic operations
- Maintain connections with community resources to support rural mental health
- Coordinate workshops and outreach activities

### Doctoral Trainee

Aug 2025 – Present

University Counseling Service, University of Iowa

- Provide brief individual therapy for undergraduate and graduate students
- Conduct intake interview, consultation, or single-session intervention
- Engage in outreach activities to promote campus mental health awareness
- Facilitate group therapy for graduate students and professionals

### Graduate Research Assistant

Mar 2025 – May 2025

Telepsychology Training Clinic, University of Iowa

- Managed administrative tasks related to clinic operations
- Maintained connections with community resources to support rural mental health

### Graduate Research Assistant

Aug 2024 – May 2025

Department of Psychological and Quantitative Foundations, University of Iowa

- Assisted the department coordinator with administrative tasks
- Organized and tracked research projects within the department
- Contributed to LGBTQ+ mental health research projects

**Doctoral Trainee**

Aug 2024 – May 2025

University Counseling Service, University of Iowa

- Provided brief individual therapy for undergraduate and graduate students
- Conducted intake interview, consultation, or single-session intervention
- Engaged in outreach activities to promote campus mental health awareness
- Facilitated group therapy for graduate students and professionals

**Certified School Counselor**

Mar 2024 – Aug 2024

Dangsan Middle School, *Full-time*

- Provided counseling services for middle school students (for 450+ students)
- Delivered social-emotional learning (SEL) and anti-bullying programs

**Intern Counselor**

Jan 2023 – Feb 2024

SNU Center for Campus Life &amp; Culture, Seoul National University

- Offered counseling services and conducted psychological assessments for undergraduate and graduate students
- Collaborated in leading a group counseling program targeting fear of missing out (FoMO)
- Led and co-led group counseling programs focused on enhancing interpersonal skills

**Practicum Counselor**

Mar 2022 – Dec 2022

SNU Center for Campus Life &amp; Culture, Seoul National University

- Provided counseling services and performed psychological assessments for undergraduate and graduate students
- Led and co-led group counseling programs focused on enhancing interpersonal skills

**Certified School Counselor**

Mar 2019 – Feb 2022

Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education (headquarters), *Full-time*

- Contributed to creating government policies and guidelines for the school counseling system in Seoul
- Developed counseling and guidance programs for 1,300+ school counseling offices (*Wee Class*) and 26 centers (*Wee Center*) in Seoul
- Implemented crisis intervention programs and conducted counseling services for both students and staff members impacted by traumatic events (7 different occasions)
- Provided psychological consulting as a consultant to school staff members and caregivers
- Offered counseling services to students with mental, academic, and/or developmental issues
- Delivered anti-bullying programs as a lecturer for students who have engaged in school violence, as well as their caregivers

**TEACHING EXPERIENCES**

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**Teaching Assistant**

Spring 2026

PSQF:7310 Intelligence Assessment

Department of Psychological and Quantitative Foundations, University of Iowa

- Score assignments and provide feedback on intelligence assessment administrations (WAIS-5, WISC-5, WIAT-4, NEPSY-II, D-KEFS, SB-5, BASC-2)

**PUBLICATIONS**

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[KCI] denotes the Korean Citation Index, indicating that the article is in Korean.

**PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS**

3. Kim, D., Im, G., Chung, G., & Park, J. (2025). Impact of discussion activity in international youth exchange programs on global citizenship: Mediating role of multicultural competence. *Journal of Education & Culture*, 31(1), 597–613. [KCI]
2. Kim, D., Park, J., & Im, G. (2025). Research on developing a social enrichment program for young adults with borderline intellectual functioning. *Disability & Employment*, 35(1), 163–186. [KCI]

1. Kim, D., Park, J., Lee, J., Park, I., & **Im, G.** (2023). Exploring subjects of standardized curriculum for youth counselors in South Korea by Delphi method. *Studies on Korean Youth*, 34(4), 141–162. [KCI]

## **MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW & IN PROGRESS**

7. **Im, G.**, Jun, E., Yoon, H., & Case, A. S. (in progress). LGBTQ+ educators in South Korea: A photovoice study on marginalization, resilience, and advocacy.
6. Kim, J., Kang, S., **Im, G.**, & Kim, M. (under review). A decade later: Revisiting LGBTQ+ partner loss and bereavement in the post-same-sex marriage era.
5. **Im, G.**, Case, A. S., Bae, I., Ji, S., Tang, Y., & Zhang, Y. (in progress). User engagement with ChatGPT for mental health support: A mixed-method meta-analysis.
4. **Im, G.** (under review). Ethical risk prevention in client generative AI use: Applying the primary risk-management model.
3. **Im, G.**, & Kim, D. (under review). Korean school counselors' counseling competencies and advocacy activities for LGBTQ+ youth: A latent profile analysis.
2. **Im, G.** (under review). The relationship between perceived threat of COVID-19, internalized stigma, and depression among Korean gay men: Moderated mediating role of community connectedness.
1. Bae, I., & **Im, G.** (in progress). Relationship between decent education and decent work for youth: Mediating effects of work volition and career adaptability.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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10. Zhang, Y., Ben, L., **Im, G.**, & Tang, Y. (2026, February 26–28). *How counselors navigate religious/spiritual value conflict in counseling: A scoping review* [Poster presentation]. SPSP 2026 Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, United States.
9. Kim, J., Kang, S., **Im, G.**, & Kim, M. (2025, August 7–9). *A decade later: Revisiting LGBTQ+ partner loss and bereavement in the post-same-sex marriage era* [Poster presentation]. APA 2025 Convention, Denver, CO, United States.
8. Tang, Y., **Im, G.**, & Zhang, Y. (2025, August 7–9). *Community efforts in promoting youth resilience: A systematic review of community-based intervention* [Poster presentation]. APA 2025 Convention, Denver, CO, United States.
7. Kim, J., Kang, S., **Im, G.**, & Kim, M. (2025, July 11). *A decade later: Revisiting LGBTQ+ partner loss and bereavement in the post-same-sex marriage era* [Paper presentation]. 2025 Korean Association for LGBTQ+ and Queer Studies, Seoul, South Korea.
6. Ko, J., Park, J., **Im, G.**, Cheung, S., & Reid-Marks, L. (2024, August 8–10). *Social stigma, social status, work volition, social support, and positive identity in LGB college students in Korea* [Poster presentation]. APA 2024 Convention, Seattle, WA, United States.
5. Koch, J. M., Shin, Y.-J., Lee, J., & **Im, G.** (2024, July 21–26). *Affirmative psychological practice in LGBTQ-neutral countries* [Poster presentation]. The 33rd International Congress of Psychology, Prague, Czech Republic.
4. Bae, I., & **Im, G.** (2024, June 5). *Relationships between decent education and decent work for youth: Mediating effects of work volition and career adaptability* [Paper presentation]. 2024 Employment Survey Conference, Seoul, South Korea.
3. **Im, G.** (2024, July 19). *Relationships between perceived threat of COVID-19, internalized stigma, and depression among LGB people: Focusing on the moderating effects of community connectedness* [Paper presentation]. The 1st Conference of Junior Scholars Network of LGBTIQ Research, Seoul, South Korea.

2. **Im, G.** (2023, October 11–13). *Overcoming the limitations of school-based suicide post interventions: Focusing on the experiences of key staff members of “Wee Center”* [Poster presentation]. The 23rd International Conference of Educational Research, Seoul, South Korea.
1. Yoon-Lee, S., & **Im, G.** (2023, October 1–31). “Are we in the same page?”: *The critical autoethnography of Korean queer counselors* [Paper presentation]. Society for Sexual, Affectional, Intersex, and Gender Expressive Identities (SAIGE) 2023 Virtual Conference.

## RESEARCH GRANTS

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2. **Lee Chang Kook Fund: Queer Research Grant** Aug 2025 – Aug 2026  
Beyond the Rainbow Foundation  
LGBTQ+ educators in South Korea: A photovoice study  
Principal Investigator  
\$1,200
1. **Mary Bywater Cross and Robert P. Newman Research Award** Oct 2024 – May 2025  
College of Education, University of Iowa  
The relationship between perceived threat of COVID-19, internalized stigma, and depression among LGB individuals: Moderated mediating role of community connectedness  
Principal Investigator  
\$1,000

## SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

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<b>Graduate Tuition Scholarship</b> College of Education, University of Iowa	2025
<b>Office of the Dean Graduate Student Travel Award &amp; Audrey Qualls Travel Award</b> College of Education, University of Iowa	2025
<b>Distinguished Student Research Award</b> Korea Employment Information Service	2024
<b>Semester High Honors</b> College of Education, Seoul National University - 4.3/4.3 GPA, tuition waiver	2023
<b>Brain Korea 21 (BK-21) Plus Scholarship</b> Seoul National University	2022 – 2023
<b>Superintendent’s Citation of Merit</b> Seoul Metropolitan Superintendent of Education	2021
<b>Scholarship for CAU Alumni Association</b> Chung-Ang University Alumni Association	2017
<b>Semester High Honors</b> College of Education, Chung-Ang University - 4.5/4.5 GPA, tuition waiver	2017
<b>Mentorship Grant</b> Korea Foundation for the Advancement of Science and Creativity (KOFAC)	2016
<b>National Scholarship</b> Korea Student Aid Foundation	2012 – 2017

## LEADERSHIPS, SERVICES, AND RELATED EXPERIENCES

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### ADVOCACY & ACTIVISM

<b>Operational Board</b> The EE-MM: Network for Queer and Transgender Counselors in Korea	Jul 2022 – Present
<b>Junior Ombudsperson</b> SNU Human Rights Center, Seoul National University	May 2022 – Aug 2022
<b>Certified Teacher Member</b> LGBTQ Youth Crisis Support Center “Ddingdong”, Seoul, South Korea	Feb 2020 – Present
<b>Chairperson</b> QUV: Solidarity of University Queer Societies in Korea	Sep 2015 – Feb 2016
<b>President</b> LGBTQ+ Student Club “Rainbow Fish”, Chung-Ang University, Seoul, South Korea	Mar 2015 – Feb 2016

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

<b>International Committee Co-Chair</b> Student Affiliates of Seventeen (SAS) Executive Board, APA Division 17	Aug 2025 – Present
<b>Special Counselor</b> National Human Rights Commission of the Republic of Korea	May 2019 – Feb 2021
<b>Editorial Committee</b> Task Force for School Counseling System ( <i>Wee Project</i> ), Korea Educational Development Institute (KEDI)	May 2020 – Nov 2020

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

<b>Program Facilitator</b> Global Youth Summit, The National Council of Youth Organizations in Korea	Jun 2023 – Jul 2023
<b>Instructor</b> Every Underachieving Student Succeeds Program, Seoul National University	May 2022 – Jul 2022
<b>Instructor</b> Korea Foundation for the Advancement of Science and Creativity (KOFAC)	Jul 2016 – Dec 2016
<b>Teaching Staff</b> Pyeongtaek Regional Support Center for Children, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea	Jul 2013 – Aug 2014

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

<b>Student Writer</b> Editorial Team, Daehaknaeil, South Korea	Jul 2015 – Dec 2015
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### MILITARY SERVICE

<b>Legal Assistant</b> Legal Office, Air Force Operations Command, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea	Aug 2012 – Aug 2014
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## SKILLS

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**Language:** Korean (native), English (fluent), Japanese (working proficiency)

**Statistical Programs:** SPSS (PROCESS macro), AMOS, *Mplus*, R, and STATA

## CERTIFICATIONS

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<b>Certified Counselor</b> , Korean Psychological Association (KPA)	2023
<b>Survey Analyst</b> , Human Resources Development Service of Korea	2021
<b>Certified School Counselor</b> , Korean Ministry of Education ( <i>National Teacher Certification</i> )	2018
<b>Certified Secondary English Teacher</b> , Korean Ministry of Education	2018

## PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

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American Psychological Association  
Division 17, Society of Counseling Psychology  
Student Affiliates of Seventeen (SAS) Executive Board  
Division 44, Society for the Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity  
Korean Psychological Association (KPA)  
Division 2, Korean Counseling Psychology Association (KCPA)  
Korean Counseling Association (KCA)  
KCA-International Chapter  
Korean Association for LGBTQ+ and Queer Studies  
Korean Psychology Network  
LGBTQ Youth Crisis Support Center “Ddingdong”  
The EE-MM: Network for Queer and Transgender Counselors in Korea

## REFERENCES

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Amanda S. Case, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychological and Quantitative Foundations, University of Iowa  
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Martin Kivlighan, Ph.D.  
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Patrick Galligan, Ph.D.  
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