JI Soo Yoo

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois

(Expected) May 2026

Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science

Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

Subfield: International Relations, Comparative Politics (Minor)

Dissertation: "The State of Disastrous Climate Policies"

Investigates the independent climate actions of subnational governments, focusing on how climate vulnerability, particularly from recurring weather disasters, drives them to address climate change. What motivates these governments to take adaptation or mitigation measures?

Committee: Robert Pahre (Chair), Brian Gaines, Matthew Winters, Yujeong Yang

Minor: College Teaching

• Courses: College Teaching, the College Student, the Community College, Assessment for Learning, eLearning Ecologies, Diversity in Higher Education, Critical Issues in Higher Ed

Yonsei University Graduate School of International Studies

2017

Master of Global Affairs & Policy

Seoul. Korea

University of Washington, Seattle

2015

Bachelor of Arts in International Studies

Seattle, Washington

Research Interests

International Cooperation, Multilateral Agreements, Climate Change Politics, Comparative Subnational Climate Policy, Mixed-Method Research

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Task Force 2014 European Security Strategy

Seattle, WA

Quarter-long milestone project for degree candidates to complete; the task was to provide policy recommendations on managing security crisis in developing security framework in Europe Student Researcher - China/East Asia Chapter Lead January 2014-March 2014

- Participated in 319-page collaborative policy recommendations on European Security Strategy
- Contributed to China/East Asia Chapter and wrote policy recommendations on conventional security
- Presented to the Acting Head of Section, Political, Security and Development, EU Delegation, Washington DC

Conference Presentations & Relevant Experiences

• Bridge the Gap 2024 New Era Workshop (NEW) Participant

Denver, CO

• "Driving Forces Behind Subnational Actions in Addressing Climate Change Issues" 2024 American Political Science Association

Philadelphia, PA

• "Driving Forces Behind Subnational Actions in Addressing Climate Change Issues" 2023 International Studies Association Midwest Annual Conference

St. Louis, MO

• "The Impacts of Legislative Composition during Ratification Stage on Compliance with Bilateral Environmental Agreements"

2021 Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association

Chicago, IL

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Interests

International Relations, International Cooperation, Climate Change Politics

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

IL, USA

Independent Instructor

• GLBL 100: Intro to Global Studies

SP 2025, FA 2024, SP 2024, FA 2023, SP 2023

• GLBL 296: Global to Subnational: Actions for Climate Change

FA 2024

• PS 385: Politics of the European Union (online)

SU 2023

Teaching Assistant

• PS 270: Introduction to Political Theory

FA 2022

• PS 100: Introduction to Political Science

SP 2022, FA 2021

Grader

• PS 318: Interest Groups & Social Movements

SP 2021

• PS 214: American Indian Law & Politics

FA 2020

• PS 225: Environmental Politics & Policy

FA 2019

Yonsei University Graduate School of International Studies

Seoul, Korea

Teaching Assistant

• Modern History of Korea

Winter 2016

Relevant Experience

Research Associate

Jincheon, Korea

Korean Information Society Development Institute

October 2018-June 2019

- Performed research on "Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Official Development Assistance (ODA) Evaluation Monitoring Result-Based Approach"
- Analyzed historical trends of South Korea's ICT ODA and identify a future path for a successful policy implementation

Summer Research Fellow

Daejeon, Korea

Nuclear Nonproliferation Education and Research Center (NEREC), KAIST

June 2014-August 2014

- Participated in lectures and workshops to gain insights from experts and leaders in nuclear nonproliferation and nuclear engineering
- Conducted research on "Global Norms in Nuclear Nonproliferation: How Can It Be Spread?" under the supervision of Chan Kim, Department of Nuclear & Quantum Engineering, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)
- Presented a research poster at the 2014 NEREC Conference on Nuclear Nonproliferation sponsored by the Ministry of Science, ICT, and Future Planning, the Korean Nuclear Safety and Security Commission, and the Korea Nuclear Policy Society

TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

• UIUC Teaching in the Hybrid Classroom Certificate

2025

• UIUC Graduate College Mentoring

2024

• UIUC Certificate in Technology-Enhanced Teaching

2024

• UIUC Dr. Sandra J. Finley Teacher Scholar Certificate	2024
• UIUC Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Seminars for TAs	2023
• UIUC Graduate Teacher Certificate	2023
• UIUC Master Course in Online Teaching	2023
• Intermediate Canvas Training	2022
• IPSA – NUS 10th Annual Summer School Social Science Research Methods	2021

Grants & Awards

External Awards

- Travel Award, APSA (2024)
- Travel Award, The ISA-Midwest (2023)
- Pay It Forward, The ISA-Midwest (2023)

UIUC Political Science Department Awards

- Dean S. Dorman Scholarship (2025)
- George and Priscilla Yu Scholarship (2024)
- George and Priscilla Yu Scholarship (2023)

UIUC Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning

• CITL Teachers Ranked as Excellent (FA 2021)

University Service

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Organizer, Job Market Group Workshop	2024
• Research Mentor, Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program (URAP)	AY23-24
• Vice President, Political Science Graduate Student Association	AY23-24
• Survey Committee, Political Science Graduate Student Association	AY21-22
• Culture Committee Member, Political Science Graduate Student Association	AY20-23
• Climate Committee Member, Political Science Graduate Student Association	AY19-20
• Graduate Student Mentor, Political Science Graduate Student Association	AY20-21, AY22-23

SKILLS

Programming: R, Markdown, Git, LATEX Language: Korean (native), English (fluent)