

Keitaro Okura

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Education

Yale University

Ph.D. in Sociology (expected 2026)
Dissertation: The Social and Symbolic Boundaries of U.S. National Membership

2022 M.Phil in Sociology
Field Exam in Educational Stratification, *with distinction*

Columbia University

2017 M.A. in Sociology

Clark University

2015 B.A. in Sociology, Political Science (Minor)
Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Highest Honors

Research and Teaching Interests

Immigration; Race and Ethnicity; Education; Political Sociology; Culture; Inequality; Experimental Methods

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- [6] **Okura, Keitaro**. Forthcoming. “Red and Blue Immigrants: Political (Mis)Alignment, Immigration Attitudes, and the Boundaries of American National Inclusion.” *American Journal of Sociology*.
- [5] Zang, Emma, **Keitaro Okura**, and Melissa Tian. 2025. “Sex-Selective Abortion Bans and the Birth Outcomes of Asian Immigrants.” *Social Science & Medicine* 383:118442.
- [4] Benedek, Kurdi, **Keitaro Okura**, Eric Hehman, and Melissa J. Ferguson. 2025. “Cognitive Underpinnings and Ecological Correlates of Implicit Bias Against Non-Americans in the United States.” *Scientific Reports* 15:15191. [PDF](#).
- [3] **Okura, Keitaro**, Amy Hsin, and Sofya Aptekar. 2025. “Heterogeneous Effects of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) on Undocumented College Students’ Educational Outcomes.” *International Migration Review* 59(1):325-341. [PDF](#).
- [2] **Okura, Keitaro**. 2022. “Stereotype Promise: Racialized Teacher Appraisals of Asian American Academic Achievement.” *Sociology of Education* 95(4):302-319. [PDF](#).
- Maureen Hallinan Graduate Student Paper Award, American Educational Research Association, Sociology of Education Special Interest Group, 2023.
 - Media Coverage: Education Week. [Link](#).

[1] **Okura, Keitaro**. 2021. “There Are No Asians in China: The Racialization of Chinese International Students in the United States.” *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power* 28(2):147-165. [PDF](#).

Works In Progress

[†]indicates equal authorship

[a] **Okura, Keitaro**. “Americans without Americanness: The Racial Boundaries of U.S. National Membership.” *Under review*.

- James E. Blackwell Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention, American Sociological Association, Racial and Ethnic Minorities Section, 2025.
- Aristide Zolberg Distinguished Student Scholar Award, Honorable Mention, American Sociological Association, International Migration Section, 2024.
- Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention, American Sociological Association, Social Psychology Section, 2024.

[b] **Okura, Keitaro**, and Sakeef Karim[†]. “Heterogeneity and Convergence in Cultural Logics of Americanness.” *Under review*.

[c] Daniel Karell, Matthew Shu, **Keitaro Okura**, and Tom Davidson. “Artificial Intelligence Summaries of Historical Events Improve Knowledge Compared to Human-Written Summaries.” *Under review*.

[d] Zang, Emma, **Keitaro Okura**, and Haolun Li. “Teenage Fertility and Spillover Effects on Sibling’s Academic Performance.” *Draft available*.

[e] **Okura, Keitaro**. “Latino Group Boundaries.” *In Progress (Grant: TESS)*.

[f] **Okura, Keitaro**. “Americanness and Inequality.” *In Progress (Grant: ASA DDRIG)*.

Awards and Honors

ASA James E. Blackwell Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention, REM Section	2025
ASA Aristide Zolberg Distinguished Student Scholar Award, Honorable Mention, IM Section	2024
ASA Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention, Social Psychology Section	2024
AERA Maureen T. Hallinan Graduate Student Paper Award, SOE Special Interest Group	2023
Distinction, Ph.D. Field Exam (on Educational Stratification), Yale University	2020
Paul P. Vouras ’51 Social Science Award, Clark University	2015
<i>Awarded annually to an outstanding student majoring in the social sciences</i>	
Highest Honors in Sociology, Clark University	2015
Phi Beta Kappa, Clark University	2015

Grants and Fellowships

External

TESS Special Competition for Young Investigators Grant (in kind)	2024
ASA Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$16,000)	2024
Rapoport Family Foundation Dissertation Research Grant (\$15,000)	2024
Russell Sage Foundation Dissertation Research Grant (\$10,000)	2022

RSF/NSF Summer Institute in Migration Research and Methods Travel Grant (\$500) 2019, 2024

Internal (Yale University)

Center for the Study of Race, Indigeneity, and Transnational Migration Travel Grant (\$500) 2024
 Center for the Study of Race, Indigeneity, and Transnational Migration Research Grant (\$1500) 2023
 Education Studies Travel Grant (\$900) 2023
 Education Studies Research Grant (\$5000) 2022
 John F. Enders Fellowship (\$2000) 2022
 George M. Camp Grant (\$500) 2021
 Sociology Department Travel Grant (\$500-\$1000) 2019, 2022-2025
 Graduate School for the Arts and Sciences Travel Grant (\$750-\$800) 2019, 2022-2024
 Center for Empirical Research and Stratification and Inequality Grant (\$500) 2019, 2022

Teaching

Instructor

Introduction to Sociology Summer 2024
 Causal Inference and Survey Experiments (Guest Lecture) Spring 2024 & 2025

Teaching Fellow

Senior Essay and Colloquium (Ramina Sotoudeh) Fall 2024
 Methods of Inquiry (Ramina Sotoudeh) Spring 2024 & 2025
 Foundations in Education Studies (Mira Debs) Fall 2023
 Inequality, Economic Mobility, and Public Policy (Rourke O'Brien) Spring 2023
 Sex and Gender (Rene Almeling) Fall 2021
 Health of the Public: Medicine and Disease in Social Context (Nicholas Christakis) Spring 2021
 Health and Illness in Society (Alka Menon) Fall 2020
 Doing Quantitative Research (Bruce London) Spring 2015
 Biomedical Ethics (Patrick Derr) Fall 2014

Presentations

Conferences and Workshops

[e] Migration and Immigrant Incorporation Workshop, Harvard 2025
 [e] Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale
 [6] American Sociological Association, Chicago, Illinois
 [6] Population Association of America, Washington D.C.
 [6] Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, Massachusetts

 [6] Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale 2024
 [b] American Sociological Association, Montréal, Québec
 [b] Population Association of America, Columbus, Ohio

 [5, d] American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2023
 [d] Population Association of America, New Orleans, Louisiana
 [d] Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale
 [a] Center for the Study of American Politics and Public Policy, Yale
 [a] Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale

[2] American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, California	2022
[5] Population Association of America, Austin, Texas	
[2] Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, Massachusetts	
[5] Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale	2021
[2] Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale	2020
[3] American Sociological Association, New York, New York	2019
[3] Population Association of America, Austin, Texas	
[3] Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale	
[1] American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	2018
[1] American Sociological Association, Montréal, Québec	2017
[1] Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, Massachusetts	2016

Service

Ad Hoc Reviewer

AERA Open; Ethnic and Racial Studies; Frontiers in Social Psychology; Identities; Migration Studies; Population Research and Policy Review; Sociological Perspectives; Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

Member, Graduate Student Advisory Committee, ASA Social Psychology Section	2025-2026
Table Presider, Sociology of Education Roundtable, American Sociological Association	2023

Memberships/Affiliations

American Sociological Association

Sections: *Asia and Asian America; Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility; International Migration; Political Sociology; Social Psychology; Sociology of Culture; Sociology of Education; Sociology of Population*

Eastern Sociological Society

Population Association of American