

# Keitaro Okura

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## Education

### Yale University

Ph.D. in Sociology (present)  
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, Highest Honors*

## Research and Teaching Interests

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

## Publications

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

<sup>†</sup> indicates equal authorship

[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, Sociology of Education Special Interest Group, American Educational Research Association, 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

- [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, Racial and Ethnic Minorities Section, American Sociological Association, 2025.
  - Aristide Zolberg Distinguished Student Scholar Award, Honorable Mention, International Migration Section, American Sociological Association, 2024.
  - Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention, Social Psychology Section, American Sociological Association, 2024.
- [b] Zang, Emma, and **Keitaro Okura**. “The Effects of Sex-Selective Abortion Bans on Asian Immigrant Birth Outcomes.” *Re&R at Social Science & Medicine*.
- [c] **Okura, Keitaro**. “Red and Blue Immigrants: Political (Mis)Alignment, Immigration Attitudes, and the Boundaries of American National Inclusion.” *Conditionally Accepted at the American Journal of Sociology*.
- [d] **Okura, Keitaro**, and Sakeef Karim<sup>†</sup>. “Heterogeneity and Convergence in Cultural Logics of Americanness.” *Under Review*.
- [e] Daniel Karell, Matthew Shu, **Keitaro Okura**, and Tom Davidson. “Artificial Intelligence Summaries of Historical Events Improve Knowledge Compared to Human-Written Summaries.” *Under Review*.
- [f] Zang, Emma, **Keitaro Okura**, and Haolun Li. “Teenage Fertility and Spillover Effects on Sibling’s Academic Performance.” *Draft available*.
- [g] **Okura, Keitaro**. “Latino Group Boundaries and Linked Fate in the United States.” *In Progress (Grant: TESS)*.
- [h] **Okura, Keitaro**. “Americanness and Inequality.” *In Progress (Grant: ASA DDRIG)*.

## Awards and Honors

James E. Blackwell Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention, REM Section, ASA	2025
Aristide Zolberg Distinguished Student Scholar Award, Honorable Mention, IM Section, ASA	2024
Graduate Student Paper Award, Honorable Mention, Social Psychology Section, ASA	2024
Maureen T. Hallinan Graduate Student Paper Award, AERA	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
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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
Felix G. Evangelist Endowment Fellowship (\$31,000-\$48,300)	2018-2025

## Teaching

#### *Instructor*

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

#### *Teaching Fellow*

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

## Presentations

#### *Conferences and Workshops*

[tbd] Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale	2025
[c] American Sociological Association, Chicago, Illinois	
[c] Population Association of America, Washington D.C.	
[c] Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, Massachusetts	
[c] Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality, Yale	2024
[d] American Sociological Association, Montréal, Québec	
[d] Population Association of America, Columbus, Ohio	
[b, f] American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	2023
[f] Population Association of America, New Orleans, Louisiana	
[f] 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
[b] Population Association of America, Austin, Texas	
[2] Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, Massachusetts	
[b] 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; Identities; Migration Studies; Population Research and Policy Review; Sociological Perspectives; Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*

Table Presider, American Sociological Association (Montréal, Québec)	2024
Table Presider, American Sociological Association (Philadelphia, PA)	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