

CURRICULUM VITAE

YEONWOOK KANG

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Education

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (Rutgers University)	New Brunswick, NJ
- Ph.D. , Political Science	2025 – 2030(Expected)
KDI School of Public Policy and Management (KDI School) <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Sejong, Korea
- MPP , Global Governance and Political Economy & Public Finance and Social Policy	2022 – 2024
Kookmin University	Seoul, Korea
- B.A. , Political Science & International Relations	2015 – 2022
Ferris State University	Big Rapids, MI
- <i>Exchange Student</i> , Dept. of Political Science	Jan. 2020 – May 2020

Research Interests

American Politics, Race and Ethnicity Politics, Immigration, Gender Politics, Majority minority, Behavior, Causal Inference, and Public Policy

Working Papers & Selected Academic Presentations

Working Papers

Impact of Cultural Assimilation and Voter Policy Preferences on Immigrant Politician Competitiveness in Homogeneous Societies (with Prof. Dongil Lee)

- This research examines how cultural assimilation impacts the electoral prospects of immigrant candidates in South Korea. To investigate this topic, I utilized a conjoint experimental method, designing and conducting the entire survey. (This study was presented at the Ph.D. colloquium in KDI School)

The Impact of Awareness of Power on Receptivity of Foreigners: Focused on the Legislative and Executive Branches in Korea

- This research investigates how attitudes toward the executive and legislative branches may influence public acceptance of immigrants in South Korean society. It was presented at the 23rd National Conference for Sociology Graduate Students (2024 Winter), and submitted as the thesis for my graduate studies at the KDI School.

Presentations

Young Generation's Perception of Fairness in Korea (Presented in English)

Summer 2024

- This study explores factors beyond socioeconomic variables that contribute to young people's perceptions of inequality in South Korea. It was presented at the 11th Korean Inequality Symposium.

Perpetuating Misperceptions about North Korean Defectors: Exploring Perceptions Regarding Growth and Distribution (Poster Session in English)

Summer 2023

- This study examines the factors contributing to more negative perceptions of North Korean defectors compared to other foreigners in South Korea, particularly in relation to views on growth and distribution. It was presented at the poster session of the Korean Economic History Society Summer International Conference.

Working Experiences

Section Instructor (KDI School)- All courses were exclusively in English

Quantitative Methods

Spring 2023, Spring 2024

Research Assistant

Research on Corporate Maternity and Parental Leave Policy

Dec. 2023 – Sep.2024

- Korea Peninsula Population Institute for Future (KPPIF)

Population Policy Laboratory

Apr. 2022 – Mar. 2023

- KDI School

Policy Forum for Youth

Jun. 2022 – Jan. 2023

- National Research Council (NRC), KDI School, Korea Sociological Association

Undergraduate Research Internship Program

Jul. 2021 – Aug. 2021

- Prof. Seungjin Jang, Prof. Hanil Chang (Kookmin Univ.), Prof. Sungkyung Park (Incheon National Univ.)

Joint Study about Political Polarize by National Research Foundation of Korea

Sep. 2020 – Jun. 2021

- Prof. Seungjin Jang (Kookmin Univ.), Prof. Jeonghoon Han (Seoul National Univ.)

New York University-Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) Research Project

Sep. 2019 – Dec. 2019

- Prof. Leonid Peisakhin (NYUAD), Prof. Hanil Chang (Kookmin Univ.)

Teaching Assistant (KDI School)

Language of Public Policy (Prof. Lisa Lim)

Spring 2022

Topics in North Korean Economy (Prof. Hong Tack Chun)

Grants & Awards

Grants

Excellence Fellowship, \$30,833

2025

- Rutgers University

KDI School Admission Scholarship, total 22,750,000KRW (around \$15,890)

2022-2023

- KDI School of Public Policy and Management

KDI School Dean's List (Every semester during coursework term)

2022-2023

- KDI School of Public Policy and Management

University Scholarship (6 times)

2016-2022

- Kookmin University

Awards

First Place (Winner), NASPAA Student Simulation Presentation Competition

Feb. 2023

- Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration ([NASPAA](#))

Presidential Award, Kookmin University External Achievement graduating students

Feb. 2022

- Kookmin University

Second Place, 2019 National University Student Unification Debate Competition

Dec. 2019

- Ministry of Unification

Achievement Award, 2019 Assembly Health & Welfare Committee Legislative proposal contest

Sep. 2019

- Korea National Assembly and Corporation of Youth and Future

Fourth Place, 2016 National University and Graduate Student Unification Contest -Video Part

Dec. 2016

- Ministry of Unification

Fourth Place, Unification Design Contest 2016

Oct. 2016

- Ministry of Unification and Graduate School of Techno-Design at Kookmin University

Second Place, Kookmin University Video Festival "From Independence to Unification"

Mar. 2016

- Ministry of Unification and Future Research of the Korean Peninsula Institute

Fourth Place, 2015 National University Student Unification Debate Competition

Dec. 2015

- Ministry of Unification

Participations

- KOSTAT-UNFPA Summer Seminar on Population- Demographic (R) and Fertility (Stata)** Summer 2024
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Statistics Korea (KOSTAT)
- 15th Euro-Asia Summer School completion** Jul. 2023 – Sep. 2023
- KDI School, Seoul National University, Hitotsubashi University, Institut Barcelona d’Estudis International, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
- NASPAA Student Simulation Presentation competition (Topic: Wildfire)** Feb. 2023
- Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA)
- Research Methodology Seminar at KDI School- Regression Analysis (Stata), and Python** Summer 2022
- KDI School of Public Policy and Management
- 53rd Diplomatic workshop for University Students completion** Jul. 2020
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 2019 Korean Youth Legislative Expert Course completion** Sep. 2019
- Corporation of Youth and Feature
- Presenter of the Gender Equality Society presentation** Aug. 2019
- Corporation of Seongbuk Culture School
- Peer counseling Program completion** Jul.2019 – Dec.2019
- Korea Youth Counselling & Welfare Institute (KYCI), Kookmin University Counseling Center
- Parliamentary training course -Future political leaders completion** Jul. 2019
- National Assembly Secretariat
- 4th Unification and Diplomacy Academy completion** Sep. 2016 – Dec. 2016
- Database Center for North Korean Human Rights (NKDB)
- TAP Programme 2016 completion** Aug. 2016
- Renault Co. Malaysia, Help University, Kookmin University

Leadership Activities

<i>Pilot tester, NASPAA Student Simulation Competition (Topic: Refugees) with Appreciation</i>	Oct. 2023
<i>Student Representative, KDI School of Public Policy and Management</i>	2022 – 2023
<i>Secretary, 2nd University National Assembly - Steering Committee</i>	2019
<i>Chair, Kookmin University Student Academic Society “Practice for Unification”</i>	2015 – 2016
<i>Mentor, Corporation of Beautiful Learning</i>	2015 – 2016

Skills

Software: R (Advanced), Stata (Advanced), Python (Intermediate), QGIS (Basic), LATEX
Language: English (Fluent), Traditional Chinese character (Intermediate), Korean (Native)
Audited Course: R Fundamentals for Public Policy, Machine Learning for Social Scientists (KDI School)

Reference

Dr. Seulki Choi

Standing Commissioner (Deputy Secretary), Presidential Committee on Ageing Society and Population Policy
 Professor, KDI School of Public Policy and Management
chois@kdischool.ac.kr

Dr. Seungjin Jang

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Dr. Dongil Lee

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**Last Update: April 2025*