

## **Yuchen Yang, Ph.D.**

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### **EMPLOYMENT**

2024 – Assistant Professor in Sociology, University of Birmingham

### **EDUCATION**

- 2024 Ph.D., Sociology (with certificate in gender & sexuality studies), University of Chicago  
Committee: Kristen Schilt, Kimberly Kay Hoang, Anna Mueller, Susan Gal
- 2019 M.A. Sociology, University of Chicago
- 2017 B.A. (Highest Distinction), Sociology and Asian Studies, UC Berkeley

### **RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS**

gender, sexuality, culture, childhood, theory, semiotics, ethnmethodology, qualitative methodology

### **BOOK MANUSCRIPT UNDER CONTRACT**

- In prep. *When Gender Happens: Non-Sexist Parenting and the Perplexity of Normativity*. Under contract with University of Chicago Press.  
\* Richard Saller Prize for the Most Outstanding Dissertation in the Social Sciences Division (across 8 disciplines) at the University of Chicago, 2025

### **PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES**

- 2025 **Yang, Yuchen.** “Gender Uptake: Theorizing the Semiotics of (Un)Doing Gender.” *Sociological Theory*. Online First: <http://doi.org/10.1177/07352751251368897>  
\* ASA Theory Section Junior Theorist Award, 2025  
\* SSSI Herbert Blumer Award, 2025  
\* ASA EMCA Section Graduate Student Paper Award, 2023
- 2024 Winer, Canton, Megan Carroll, **Yuchen Yang**, Katherine Linder, and Brittney Miles. “I Didn’t Know Ace Was a Thing?: Bisexuality and Pansexuality as Identity Pathways in Asexual Identity Formation.” *Sexualities* 27(1–2):267–289.  
\* ASA Sexualities Section Distinguished Article Award, 2025
- 2023 **Yang, Yuchen.** “Gender Uncoupled: Asexual People Making Sense of High School Sex Talk.” *Sexualities* 26(3):372–387.
- 2022 **Yang, Yuchen.** “The Art Worlds of Gender Performance: Cosplay, Embodiment, and the Collective Accomplishment of Gender.” *The Journal of Chinese Sociology* 9:Article 9.

\* SSSI Herbert Blumer Award, 2023

\* ASA Body & Embodiment Section Graduate Student Paper Award Honorable Mention, 2023

- 2020 **Yang, Yuchen.** “What’s Hegemonic about Hegemonic Masculinity? Legitimation and Beyond.” *Sociological Theory* 38(4):318–333.
- \* ASA Sex & Gender Section Distinguished Article Award, 2022
  - \* ASA Theory Section Shils-Coleman Prize, 2021
  - \* 2<sup>nd</sup> most downloaded article in *Sociological Theory*, 2021

## ARTICLES IN PROGRESS

- In prep. “‘Doing Gender’ as a Social Theory of Children”  
\* ASA History of Sociology and Social Thought Section Graduate Student Paper Award Honorable Mention, 2024
- “The Missing Childist Revolution in Feminist Sociology: Re-Revisioning Women and Social Change” (with Freedan Blume Oeur)

## REPORT

- 2025 **Yang, Yuchen** and Atticus Wolfe. “The ‘Not Sociology’ Problem Revisited: Key Findings from the 2024 ASA Sex & Gender Section Student Survey.” *American Sociological Association Sex & Gender Section Newsletter* June 2025:3–8.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2025 Junior Theorist Award, American Sociological Association Section on Theory
- 2025 Herbert Blumer Award, Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction
- 2025 Distinguished Article Award, American Sociological Association Section on Sexualities
- 2025 Richard Saller Prize for the Most Outstanding Dissertation in the Social Sciences Division, the University of Chicago
- 2024 Honorable Mention for Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association Section on History of Sociology and Social Thought
- 2023 Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis
- 2023 Herbert Blumer Award, Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction
- 2023 Honorable Mention for Graduate Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association Section on Body and Embodiment
- 2022 Distinguished Article Award, American Sociological Association Section on Sex and

Gender

- 2021 Shils-Coleman Prize, American Sociological Association Section on Theory
- 2019 Honors pass, Special field exam, UChicago Department of Sociology
- 2017 Departmental Citation Winner, UC Berkeley Department of Sociology
- 2017 Departmental Citation Winner, UC Berkeley Group in Asian Studies

**FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

***University of Birmingham***

- 2025 School of Social Policy and Society Research Fund

***University of Chicago***

- 2023 Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality Dissertation Fellowship
- 2023 Provost Dissertation Completion Fellowship [declined]<sup>†</sup>
- 2023 Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory Graduate Student Fund
- 2022 Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality Residential Fellowship
- 2022 Society for Social Research Conference Travel Fund
- 2021 Council on Advanced Studies Graduate Student Research Grant
- 2021 Charles R. Henderson Fund Research Grant
- 2021 Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality Research Pivot Grant
- 2020 Center for East Asian Studies Pre-dissertation Research Grant [declined due to Covid]
- 2019 Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality Travel Grant
- 2018 Graduate Council Advanced Travel Fund

***University of California, Berkeley***

- 2016 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship
- 2015 Institute of International Studies Merit Scholarship

***Others***

- 2019 National Women's Studies Association Travel Grant and Conference Scholarship

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<sup>†</sup> One of the highest honors given to UChicago graduate students.

## INVITED TALKS AND PANELS

- 2025 “30 Years of Raewyn Connell’s *Masculinities*: Looking Back and Charting the Future.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Aug. 11.
- 2023 “Gender Uptake: Theorizing the Semiotics of (Un)Doing Gender.” UC Berkeley Sociology Department, Nov. 6.
- 2021 “How Do Sociologists Study Masculinities? Frontier and Problems.” Junior Social Theorists: Public Lecture Series (社会理论青年说), Feb. 28 [Online, *in Chinese*, 790 attendees].

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 “The Missing Childist Revolution in Feminist Sociology: Re-Revisioning Women and Social Change” (with Freedon Blume Oeur; Paper session: Open Topic Paper Session on Sex and Gender). American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Aug. 11.
- 2025 “Positioning Positionality: On the Interactional Foundation of Reflexive Sociology.” Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Annual Meeting, Chicago, Aug. 7.
- 2025 “Gender Uptake: Theorizing the Semiotics of (Un)Doing Gender.” British Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Paper session: Social Divisions / Social Identities), Manchester, Apr. 23.
- 2024 “A Jigsaw Puzzle of Identities: Positioning Positionality in In-Depth Interviews.” UChicago Sociology Spring Institute, Chicago, Apr. 6.
- 2023 “Gender Uptake: Theorizing the Semiotics of (Un)Doing Gender.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Paper session: Critique of the Sign), Philadelphia, Aug. 21.
- 2023 “Positioning Positionality.” Michicagoan Conference in Linguistic Anthropology, Chicago, May 12.
- 2022 “‘Doing Gender’ as a Social Theory of Children.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Paper session: Performance and Power in the History of Sociology), Los Angles, Aug. 9.
- 2019 “Gender Uncoupled: Asexual People’s Narratives of High School Sex Talks.” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, Nov. 14.
- 2019 “Gender Uncoupled: Asexual People’s Narratives of High School Sex Talks.” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Paper session: Let’s Talk about Sex), New York, Aug. 11.

- 2018 “Gender Revealed: The Collective Gender Performance in Gender-Crossing Cosplay.” Queer Asia Conference, SOAS University of London, Jun. 27.
- 2017 “Cultural Capital Transmission in Non-nuclear Family: Evidence from China.” Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, Portland, Apr. 7.

## MEDIA APPEARANCE

- 2025 Quoted in *Vox* article, “What Happens When A Grievance Comedian Turns to Empathy?”, by Aja Romano.

## TEACHING PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 **Yang, Yuchen.** “Doing and Undoing Gender Lesson Plan.” *Gender & Society Blog: In the Classroom Teaching Modules.*
- 2020 **Yang, Yuchen**, Melissa Kinsella, and Jihmmy Sanchez. “Men and Masculinities Lesson Plan.” *Gender & Society Blog: In the Classroom Teaching Modules.*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCES

- 2024 – Module lead and/or seminar lead, University of Birmingham

*Sociology of Everyday Life (2025)*  
*Transforming Identities (2024, 2025)*  
*Gender & Sexuality (2024, 2025)*

- 2019 – 2020 Teaching assistant, University of Chicago

*Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations I (2020)*  
*Global Society III: Research Practicum (2020)*  
*Global Society II: Population & Society (2020)*  
*Global Society I: World Social Theory (2019)*

- 2016 – 17 Student DeCal instructor, University of California, Berkeley

*Journey to China: Exploration behind Icons (2016, 2017)*

- 2022 – Guest lecturer, Various Institutions

*Coding & Interactionist Analysis of Interview Data (2024, UC Berkeley)*  
*Extended Case Method (2022, UChicago)*

## PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

### *University of Birmingham*

- 2025 Inclusive Educator

- 2024      Introduction to Teaching and Learning in Higher Education  
Principles of Assessment and Feedback  
Teaching International Students  
Open Classroom  
Introduction to Large Group Teaching  
Navigating the Global Classroom: Teaching Techniques for International Cohorts

***University of Chicago***

- 2023      Teaching in the Age of AI  
2021      Course Design and College Teaching

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

***American Sociological Association***

- 2024 – 25    Member, Nomination Committee, Sex & Gender Section  
2024 – 25    Member, Best Graduate Student Paper Prize Committee, Theory Section  
2022 – 24    Student Representative, Sex & Gender Section  
2022 – 24    Co-Chair, Student Concern Committee, Sex & Gender Section

***Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction***

- 2024      Member, Herbert Blumer award committee

***Sociologists for Women in Society***

- 2025 – 27    Member, Professional Development Committee

***University of Birmingham***

- 2025 – 28    Admissions lead, Postgraduate Taught Programs  
2024 –      Member, Awarding Gap Working Group  
2024 –      Member, Sociology Curriculum Group

***University of Chicago***

- 2023      Panel Moderator, Michicagoan Conference in Linguistic Anthropology  
2021      Panel Organizer, “Manning Up for the Nation: State, Media, and China’s Regulation against ‘Sissy’ Men,” Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality

2019 – 20 Graduate Student Coordinator, East Asia Workshop: Politics, Economy, and Society

### ***Journal & Editorial Service***

2025 – Editorial Board Member, *Men & Masculinities*

2025 – Editorial Board Member, *Sex & Sexualities*

2023 – 24 Associate Editor, *American Journal of Sociology*

2019 – 23 Junior Scholar Advisory Board Member, *Gender & Society*

2019 – 20 Manuscript Board Member, *American Journal of Sociology*

Ad hoc reviewer *American Journal of Sociology* (6); *American Sociological Review* (1); *Children & Society* (3); *Culture, Sexuality & Health* (3); *Gender & Society* (4); *Men & Masculinities* (5); *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* (2); *Social Forces* (1); *Social Media + Society* (1); *Sociological Science* (2); *Sociological Theory* (2); *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* (1); *The Sociological Review* (1)

### **LANGUAGES**

English (Fluent), Chinese (Native), Japanese (Advanced)

### **SOFTWARE SKILLS**

Conversation analytic transcription: ELAN

Qualitative coding: MaxQDA

Quantitative data analysis: R, STATA

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Sociological Association, Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, Sociologists for Women in Society