

JENNIFER CARMEN LAI

Andrew Harris Fellow, Department of Sociology
Health and Society, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies
The University of Vermont (UVM)
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EDUCATION

- 2016 – 2021 **Ph.D. Sociology**
Dissertation: Power and the Environment in Type 2 Diabetes Science
Co-Chairs: Drs. Stef Shuster and Sandra Marquart-Pyatt
Gender, Justice, and Environmental Change (GJEC) Specialization
Environmental Science and Public Policy (ESPP) Modeling Certificate
Michigan State University (MSU), East Lansing, MI
- 2014 – 2016 **M.A. Sociology**
MSU, East Lansing, MI
- 2006 – 2010 **B.S. Agricultural and Biological Engineering**
Environmental and Natural Resources Concentration
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

PUBLICATIONS

- Guo, Tian, Sandra Marquart-Pyatt, Riva Denny, Kristina Beethem, and **Lai, Jennifer**. Forthcoming. "Scaling up agricultural conservation: Predictors of cover crop use across time and space in the U.S. Upper Midwest." *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*.
- Beethem, Kristina, Sandra Marquart-Pyatt, **Jennifer Lai**, and Tian Guo. 2023. "Navigating the Information Landscape: Public and Private Information Source Access by Midwest Farmers." *Agriculture and Human Values*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10460-022-10411-5>.
- Lai, Jennifer** and Angélica Ruvalcaba. Forthcoming. "Institutional Compassion: Counterstories to Betrayal in Sociology." *The Feminist Wire Books: Feminisms, Race, and Social Justice*, edited by Rebecca Martínez and Monica J. Casper. Tucson, AZ: The University of Arizona Press.
- Ruvalcaba, Angélica, Madeline Nash, **Jennifer Lai**, and Jihan Mohammad. 2020. "Reclaiming Space: The Narratives of Female Doctoral Students of Color." *Women, Gender, and Families of Color* 8(2):194-202.
- Lai, Jennifer**. 2019. Review of *Arts of Living on a Damaged Planet*, edited by Anna Tsing, Heather Swanson, Elaine Gan, and Nils Bubandt. *Rural Sociology* 84(4):853-856.
- Gasteyer, Stephen, **Jennifer Lai**, Brittany Tucker, Jennifer Carrera, and Julius Moss. 2016. "Basics Inequality: Race and Access to Complete Plumbing Facilities in the United States." *Du Bois Review* 13(2):305-325.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Lai, Jennifer and Rebecca Monteleone¹. "The Post-Disciplinary Possibility of Environmental Disability Studies."
(Submitted)

Lai, Jennifer and Kristina Beethem¹. "Social Forces in Agricultural Decision-Making."

Lai, Jennifer and Yoon Ha Choi¹. "AsianCrit in Higher Education."

Cuthbertson, Courtney and **Jennifer Lai**. "Toxic Water, Uncertainty, and Corroded Trust: Meanings of Stress in the Flint Water Crisis."

Shea, Jeanne and **Jennifer Lai**. "Experiences of Cultural Hybridity Among Chinese Immigrants and Canadian-Born Chinese (CBCs) in Montréal."

Lai, Jennifer. "Journal Articles as Nonhuman Artifacts of Institutional Power."

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Sep 2020 – Present Research Supervisor
Invisible Obstacles and Hidden Curriculum (IOHC): Behind Racial Disparities in Times to Degree Completion in Sociology, College of Social Science, Michigan State University (MSU), East Lansing, MI

Jan 2017 – Apr 2021 Research Assistant
Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER): Kellogg Biological Station (KBS) Mechanisms of Resilience in Agricultural Landscapes and **LTER: KBS The Ecology of Row Crop Ecosystems and Landscapes at KBS**, National Science Foundation LTER (NSF 1637653), East Lansing, MI

May 2016 – Aug 2016 Research Assistant
Mental Health and the Flint Water Crisis, Community Assessment and Education to Promote Behavioral Health Planning and Evaluation, East Lansing, MI

Jan 2015 – Aug 2015 Research Assistant
An Integrated Decision Support System for Management Water Resources Under Increased Climate Variability, United States Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA NIFA MICL08484), East Lansing, MI

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Jan 2022 – Present Faculty of Record
Health Care in America, Undergraduate Course, Department of Sociology, Health and Society, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies, UVM

Aug 2021 – Present Faculty of Record
Intersectional Health, Undergraduate Course, Department of Sociology, Health and Society, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies, UVM

¹ Co-first authored.

Aug 2019 – Dec 2019	Teaching Assistant Analysis of Social Data , Graduate Course, Department of Sociology, MSU
Jul 2019 – Aug 2019	Teaching Assistant Simultaneous Equation Models , Graduate Course, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, University of Michigan
Jul 2018 – Aug 2018	Instructor Introduction to Sociology (Online) , Undergraduate Course, Department of Sociology, MSU
Jul 2018 – Aug 2018	Teaching Assistant Simultaneous Equation Models , Graduate Course, ICPSR, Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, University of Michigan
Aug 2014 – Dec 2014	Teaching Assistant Society and the Individual , Undergraduate Course, Integrative Studies in Social Science, MSU

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Jun 2022	Experiences of Cultural Hybridity Among Chinese Immigrants and CBCs in Montréal China and its Diasporas, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France
Apr 2022	Environmental Knowledge in Type 2 Diabetes Science Global Studies Speakers Panel, UVM, Burlington, VT
Apr 2022	Neither Tokens Nor Checkboxes: BIPOC Women in Higher Education Students for Critical Animal Studies
Mar 2022	Environmental Knowledge in Type 2 Diabetes Science GundxChange, Gund Institute for the Environment, UVM Burlington, VT
Dec 2021	Structural Factors that Influence BIPOC Faculty and Student Experiences Department of Sociology, Syracuse University
April 2021	Quantitative Research Methods Guest Lecturer, California Institute of Integral Studies
Nov 2019	Feminist Research Methods Guest Lecturer, Methods for Women's and Gender Studies Research, MSU, East Lansing, MI
Mar 2019	Environmental Contexts of Type 2 Diabetes STGlobal Conference, Washington, D.C.
Jul 2018	Spatial and Temporal Dimensions of Trust among Midwestern Corn Farmers Rural Sociological Society, Portland, OR
Aug 2017	Material Science: A Comparison Across Three Scientific Sites Society for Social Studies of Science, Boston, MA
Aug 2017	Water Use Decision-Making in Southwest Michigan American Sociological Association, Montréal, Canada
Aug 2017	Are We Even Valued as Human Beings? Stress and Distrust After the Flint Water Crisis Roundtable Presenter, American Sociological Association, Montréal, Canada
Aug 2015	Dry Counties: Who Lacks Access to Basic Water Services in the United States American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL

UNDERGRADUATE AND POST-UNDERGRADUATE MENTORING

Jan 2023 –	Jared Kehmna
May 2023	Knowledge Environments Project (KEP)
Jan 2023 –	Medwyn Roberts
May 2023	(KEP)
Sep 2022 –	Katie Pascoe
Present	KEP
Jan 2022 –	Emma Wylie
May 2022	Environmental Knowledge in Type 2 Diabetes Science
Sep 2020 –	Jennifer Olivarez
May 2022	IOHC: Behind Racial Disparities in Times to Degree Completion in Sociology

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Sep 2021	First Generation Student Initiative for IOHC , College of Social Science, MSU (\$3000)
Jan 2021	Graduate Office Fellowship , The Graduate School, MSU (\$1850)
Sep 2020	Leadership Council Award for IOHC , College of Social Science, MSU (\$3000)
Mar 2020	Dissertation Completion Fellowship , The Graduate School, MSU (\$7000)
Mar 2019	KBS LTER Graduate Fellowship , W.K. Kellogg Biological Station, MSU (\$6500)
Mar 2019	Summer Publishing Fellowship , Department of Sociology, MSU (\$6500)

SELECTED SERVICE, COMMITTEES, AND BOARDS

2020 – Present	Volunteer , Writing Workshop Subcommittee, Sociologists for Trans Justice
2020 – 2021	Volunteer , Budget Committee, Graduate Employees Union
2019 – 2021	Co-Founder , Sociology Students of Color, MSU
2018 – 2019	Logistics Chair , STGlobal Conference, Washington, D.C.
2017 – 2020	Board Member , Board of Directors, The State News
2015 – 2016	Co-Leader , Sociology Collective, Department of Sociology
2015 – 2017	Information Officer , Graduate Employees Union

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

2020 – Present	Sociologists for Women in Society
2020 – Present	National Science Policy Network
2015 – Present	Rural Sociology Society
2015 – Present	American Sociological Association