

JOAN E. CHO

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CURRENT ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Wesleyan University
Associate Professor (tenured), College of East Asian Studies, 2024 -
Associate Professor (by courtesy), Department of Government, 2024 -

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Wesleyan University
Assistant Professor, College of East Asian Studies, 2016-2024.
Assistant Professor (by courtesy), Department of Government, 2016-2024.

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Department of Government
Ph.D, Political Science, 2016.
A.M., Political Science, 2011.

University of Rochester
B.A., Political Science, 2008.
Cum laude & Departmental Honors.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Summer Institute, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago: Chicago, IL. Summer 2011.

RESEARCH POSITIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Adjunct Fellow (Non-resident), Korea Chair, Center for Strategic and International Studies, October 2021-.

Associate-in-Research, Council of East Asian Studies, Yale University, February 2018-.

Graduate Student Affiliate, Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University, 2011-2016.

Visiting International Scholar, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, 2013.

ARI Fellow, Asiatic Research Institute, Korea University, 2012.

Visiting Fellow, Center for International Studies, Seoul National University, 2010.

Research Assistant, House of Commons (Brian Binley, M.P.), UK Parliament, 2006.

PUBLICATIONS Book

Joan E. Cho. 2024. *Seeds of Mobilization: The Authoritarian Roots of South Korea's Democracy*. University of Michigan Press, Emerging Democracies Series.

Journal Articles

Joan E. Cho, Jae Seung Lee, and B.K. Song. 2019. "Mind the Electoral Gap: The Effect of Investment in Public Infrastructure on Authoritarian Support in South Korea," *Studies in Comparative International Development* 54: 473-500.

Joan E. Cho and Dominika Kruszewska. 2018. "Escaping Collective Responsibility in Fluid Party System: Evidence from South Korea," *Electoral Studies* 56: 114-123.

Joan E. Cho, Jae Seung Lee, and B.K. Song. 2017. "Media Exposure and Regime Support Under Competitive Authoritarianism: Evidence from South Korea," *Journal of East Asian Studies* 17 (2): 145-166.

Book Chapter

Joan E. Cho and Paul Y. Chang. 2016. "Socioeconomic Foundations of South Korea's Democracy Movement" in Youna Kim (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Korean Culture and Society: A Global Approach*. London: Routledge, pp. 63-75.

Book Review

Joan E. Cho. 2020. "Top-Down Democracy in South Korea. By Erik Morbrand. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2019." *Pacific Affairs* 93 (1): 191-193.

Public Engagement

"Seeds of Mobilization," New Books Network podcast

"Trouble in the Blue House," Behind Closed Doors: Corruption in Democracies (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace) podcast, July 31, 2023 (with Andrew Yeo and Soomin Seo).

"How South Korea's Authoritarian Past Shapes Its Democracy." *The Diplomat*, Issue 97, December 1, 2022. <https://thediplomat.com/2022/11/how-south-koreas-authoritarian-past-shapes-its-democracy/>

"The Goal in Korea Should be Peace and Trade – Not Unification." *The Conversation*, April 30, 2018. <https://theconversation.com/the-goal-in-korea-should-be-peace-and-trade-not-unification-95701> (with Alexis Dudden and Mary

Alice Haddad).

**SELECTED
CURRENT
RESEARCH**

“Unlinking Linked Fate: Perceived Discrimination and Racial Identity Among Asian Americans,” with Jae Yeon Kim (Johns Hopkins), D.G. Kim (Harvard), and Taeku Lee (Harvard) (*under review*)

“What is ‘Liberal’ about East Asia’s Liberals?” with Aram Hur (The Fletcher School, Tufts)

**GRANTS
& AWARDS**

- 2023 Data and Democracy Project Fund, Wesleyan University
- 2022-2023 Grants in Support of Scholarship Collaborative Project Grant, Wesleyan University (\$10,000 with Jae Yeon Kim, D.G. Kim, and Taeku Lee)
- 2021-2024 Washington Research Consortium on Korea, Korea Chair, Center for Strategic and International Studies
- 2021-2024 Laboratory Program for Korean Studies Grant, Academy of Korean Studies (300 million KRW; with Victor Cha and Ramon Panhenco Pardo)
- 2017, 2020, 2022 Creative Campus Initiative Grant, Wesleyan University (with Katja Kolcio in 2017; with Ellen Gerdes in 2020 & 2022)
- 2018-2019 U.S.-Korea NextGen Scholars Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies & University of Southern California Korean Studies Institute
- 2016 Collaborative Project Grant, Allbritton Center for the Study of Public Life, Wesleyan University (with Dominika Kruszewska)
- 2015, 2016 Travel Grant, Institute of Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University
- 2015, 2016 Department Travel Grant, Department of Government, Harvard University
- 2014-2015 Sanhak Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University
- 2014 Graduate Research Grant, Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University
- 2013 Dissertation Fellowship, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy
- 2012 Asiatic Research Institute (ARI) Fellowship Program for Northeast Asian Studies, Korea University
- 2012 Ezra F. Vogel Fund, Harvard University Asia Center
- 2011 Graduate Dissertation Research Fellowship, The Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University
- 2008-2013 Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Fellowship

**TALKS &
PANELS**

- 2024 Harvard University, Weatherhead Program on US-Japan Relations (scheduled)
- George Washington University, GW Institute for Korean Studies (scheduled)

- University of Texas at Austin, UT Asia Policy Program (scheduled)
 Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies, KFAS-Stanford 2nd Sustainable Democracy Roundtable
 Wesleyan University, Department of Government
- 2023 Syracuse University, Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs, East Asia Program at the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs, Challenges to Citizenship in East Asia (virtual)
 Stanford University, The Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, KFAS-Stanford Sustainable Democracy Roundtable
 Smith College, Five College Center for East Asian Studies, Exploring the Two Koreas II (K-12 educator professional development program) (virtual)
- 2022 University of British Columbia, Centre for Korean Research
 Council for a Livable World, Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, Center Hill Staff Briefing: North Korea Updates (virtual)
- 2021 University of Toronto, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, Dr. David Chu Program in Asia-Pacific Studies (virtual)
 George Washington University, GWIKS Soh Jaipil Lecture Series (virtual)
- 2020 Yale University, Yale Korea Colloquium (virtual)
 University of Michigan, Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies Colloquium
 University of Michigan, Nam Center Colloquium Series
- 2018 Wesleyan University, Division II Faculty Luncheon
- 2016 Harvard University, Ash Center for Democratic Governance & Innovation
 Wesleyan University, College of East Asian Studies
 Wheaton College, Department of Politics and International Relations
- 2013 Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy Seminar

CONFERENCES (P)resenter, (C)hair, (D)iscussant, Panel (O)rganizer

- & WORKSHOPS** 2024 Authoritarian Political Systems Group Workshop (D) (scheduled)
 Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association (P, C) (scheduled)
 Annual Conference of Association for Asian Studies Annual (P)
- 2023 Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association (P, D)
 Annual Meeting of International Studies Association (D)
- 2022 Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association (P)
 Autocracy and Asia Workshop, Yale University (P)
- 2020 Stanford Korea Program Democracy Conference, The Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University (D) (virtual)

- 2019 Korean Studies Pedagogy Workshop for Junior Faculty, Nam Center for Korean Studies, University of Michigan (P)
International Conference of NextGen Korean Studies Conference, Nam Center for Korean Studies, University of Michigan (D)
- 2018 Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association (P)
Annual Conference of Association for Asian Studies (P, O)
- 2017 Catalyst Workshop on Policymaking in East Asia, Wesleyan University (P)
Annual Conference of Association for Asian Studies (P, O)
NTU-Harvard Conference on Issue and Methodological Challenges in the Study of Contemporary Chinese Politics, Harvard University (P)
- 2016 Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association (P, O)
- 2015 Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association (P)
Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association (P, O)
The Second Annual Politics and History Conference, Harvard University (P)
APSA-USKI Graduate Publication Seminar, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University (P)
- 2014 Annual Meeting of Midwest Political Science Association (P, O)
The 6th SNU-Harvard-UCLA Graduate Student Workshop, Seoul National University (P)
Rising Stars of Korean Studies VI, Korean Studies Institute, University of Southern California
- 2012 Young Scholars and Experts Visiting Group to Taiwan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China

TEACHING

Wesleyan University

- Social and Political Changes in Korea (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2022, Spring 2024)
Democracy and Social Movements in East Asia (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2022, Spring 2024)
Korean Politics Through Film (Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Fall 2023)
Legacies of Authoritarian Politics (Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018)
Challenges to Democracy in East Asia (Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Fall 2023)

Harvard University

- Introduction to Political Science Research Methods (Teaching Fellow)
Foundations of Comparative Politics (Teaching Fellow)
International Relations of East Asia (Teaching Fellow)

Is Democracy Possible Everywhere? (Course Assistant)

Student Advising:

Brian Kim, “Assessing the Role of Soft Power in South Korea’s Bilateral Relations” (CSS senior honors thesis, 2021-2022)

John S. Lee, “COVID-19 Success Isn’t Due to Illiberal Norms: An Analysis Based on Legal Precedents and Game Theory” (CSS senior essay, 2020)

Asa Mazor-Freedman, “Status Guo: US Role in Democratization on Taiwan, 1986-2000” (CEAS & CSS senior honors thesis, 2018-2019)

Rosanne Ng, “The Politics of Hong Kong’s Housing Crisis” (CSS senior honors thesis, 2018-2019)

Matthew Chun, “Searching for DaeHan: The Intellectual Construction of Nation through Historiography” (CSS senior essay, 2018)

Won Joon Ki Choi, “The End of an Alliance: A Historical Analysis of ROK-ROC Diplomatic Relations, 1972-92” (CEAS senior honors thesis, 2016-2017)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE Reviewer for *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Issues & Studies*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, *Journal of Politics*, *Korea Observer*, *Oxford University Press*, *World Politics*

APSA Committee on the Status of Asian Pacific Americans in the Profession, 2024-2027

Association of Korean Political Studies
Vice President, 2022-2024
Governing Board Member, 2021-2024
Executive Secretary, 2019-2022

Faculty co-convener, Korean Political Studies Colloquium, 2022-2024

New England Association of Asian Studies (NEAAS) Program Committee (social science sub-committee), Harvard University, 2021

UNIVERSITY SERVICE Modern Korean Studies Search Committee (2024-2025)
Fellowships Committee (2023-2024)
Allbritton Faculty Advisory Board (2021-2023)
Center for Pedagogical Innovation external review (2023)
University Major Committee (2021-2022)
Modern Korean Humanities Search Committee (2019, 2023)
Faculty Advisor, Asia Rising Cooperative (2018-2019)
Korean Language Search Committee (2018)

Faculty Advisor, Veritas Forum (2018)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS American Political Science Association
International Studies Association
Association for Asian Studies
Association of Korean Political Studies

ADDITIONAL SKILLS **Languages:** English (native), Korean (native fluency), Chinese (basic), Japanese (basic), Spanish (basic)
Computing Skills: R, L^AT_EX, ArcGIS