

Seok Joo Youn

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EDUCATION

- September 2020- Present **Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri, United States**
Doctoral Candidate (Ph.D.) in Anthropology, [Advisor: Pf. Geoff Childs]
 - **Thesis: Terminal Caregiving: Investigating Hybrid Solutions to Dying in an Aging Society (TBD)**
- May 2023 **Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri, United States**
Master of Public Health (MPH) [Advisors: Pf. Kimberly Johnson and Pf. Angela Hobson]
 - **Certification in Public Health (CPH) was achieved in 2023**
- June 2020 **Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea**
Master of Arts (M.A.) in Anthropology, [Advisor: Pf. Hyeon Jung Lee]
 - **Thesis: Hospital Ethnography of Hospice and Palliative Care**
- May 2016 **Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, United States**
Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Anthropology and Human Biology, [Advisor: Pf. Carol Worthman]
Minor in Chinese Studies

RESEARCH INTEREST

Socio-cultural, Medical Anthropology; Public Health; Kinship; Care Ethics; Institutional Governance; Bureaucracy; Disparity; Hospice and Palliative Care; End of life Care; Gendered Care; Aging; Intergenerational Care; Culture of Medicine; Hospital Ethnography

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2026). Waiting for death to count: Moral distress and institutional time in hospice care. *Anthropology & Medicine*. (Under Review)
- [2] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2026). Living in an Anticipated Ending: Temporal Disjuncture at the End of Life. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*. (Under Review)
- [3] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2026). Institutional Death: An Anthropological Analysis of Medicine, Bureaucracy, and the Governance of Dying. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*. (Under Review)
- [4] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2026). Erased by Law: Kinship, Care, and Bureaucratic Exclusion at the End of Life in South Korea. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* e70067. <https://doi.org/10.1111/maq.70067> (Accepted)
- [5] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2026). Weaving the Webs of Care: Older Men's Roles in End-of-Life Care for Their Wives. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology*. doi: 10.1007/s10823-026-09564-1. PMID: 41790278; PMCID: PMC12966187. (Accepted)
- [6] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2023). Program guide for family caregivers regarding Hospice and Palliative Care, Course Catalog of Aging Mastery Program at Oasis Institute, p.13-20.
- [7] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2020). Hospital Ethnography on Catholic Hospice Palliative Care (Master's thesis). Seoul National University. Seoul, South Korea.
- [8] **Youn, Seok Joo & Lee, Hyeon Jung.** (2019). An Ethnographic Study of an Elderly Man Who Cares for Wife Receiving Life-Sustaining Treatment. *Family and Culture*, p.151-181.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- February 2026 - **Reviewer, Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology**

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

August 2020 - July 2026	McDonnell International Scholars Academy Scholarship \$40,000/year
May 2026	Conference Travel Funding , Anthropology Department, Washington University in St. Louis, MO, USA \$1,000
April 2024	Rich Smith Funds , Anthropology Department, Washington University in St. Louis, MO, USA
April 2024	Wenner-Gren Foundation, Dissertation Fieldwork Research Grant , New York City, NY, USA. \$25,000
April 2023	Excellence in Health Disparities Idea Award , Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis, MO, USA.
October 2022	Conference Travel Funding , Anthropology Department, Washington University in St. Louis, MO, USA
May 2022 & May 2021	\$1,500 Dissertation Research Travel Funding , Anthropology Department, Washington University in St. Louis, MO, USA
June 2022 – August 2023	\$2,400 Brown School Dean's Scholarship in Public Health Awarded to students with outstanding potential for innovative leadership in the field of public health. Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, USA. \$24,000
September 2018 - February 2020	Brain Korea 21 Plus scholarship, National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) , Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea. \$12,600
September 2019	Emeritus Professor Sangbok Han Scholarship , Anthropology Department, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea.
August 2012 – June 2012	Academic Achievement Excellence Award and Scholarship , Department of English, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Seoul, South Korea.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

Oral Presentation

- [1] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2026).
- [2] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2026). Weaving Webs of Care. The 6th European Conference on Aging & Gerontology (Egen 2026). London, UK. July 9th-13th, 2026.
- [3] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2026). Medical Humanities in the Era of Artificial Intelligence: Technology, Medicine, and Death. Yonsei University School of Medicine, Seoul, South Korea. June 28th, 2026.
- [4] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2026). Erased by Law: Kinship, Care, and Bureaucratic Exclusion at the End of Life in South Korea. The 16th Asian Conference on Cultural Studies (ACCS2026). Tokyo, Japan. May 9th – May 13th, 2026.
- [5] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2024). Mark S. Wrighton Graduate Student Research Award on Aging 3MT Competition. Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging at Washington University in St. Louis, MO, USA. March 6th, 2024.
- [6] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2023). Anthropological Perspectives on Aging and End-of-life. Adults and Aging: A Round Table, Eric P. Newman Education Center at Washington University, School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO, USA. October 5-7, 2023.
- [7] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2021). The Dilemma of Preserving Death with Dignity During the Pandemic: the case of hospice and palliative care ward in Seoul, South Korea. East Asian Anthropological Association. Shandong University, Jinan, P.R.C. November 27-28, 2021.
- [8] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2019). Weaving the Webs of Care: An Ethnographic Study of Spousal Caregiving for patient Receiving

Life-Sustaining Treatment. The Pieces that fall through the cracks: Precarity and the management of chronic illness, disease, and impairment in changing times. Society for Medical Anthropology, American Anthropology Association. Vancouver, BC, Canada. November 20-24, 2019.

- [9] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2019). What is a 'Good Death': Case of Hospice Care Team at St. Mary's Hospital. Annual Colloquium Presentation. Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea, November 4, 2019.
- [10] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2019). 'Guanxi' and 'Success' from the Generational Perspectives of Chinese Parents and Their Children: The Case of Houjie Village in Guangdong Province. Chinese Culture in the Global Context International Conference 2019. Chinese Culture in the 21st Century and its Global Dimensions. School of Arts and Social Sciences. The Open University of Hong Kong. March 13-15, 2019.
- [11] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2018). "Commercialized Death." Winter Workshop, Seoul National University Graduate School of Anthropology. Seoul, South Korea. February 23, 2018.

Poster Presentations

- [1] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2019). Negotiating a Good Death: Case of hospice palliative care team in Korean Hospital. East Asian Anthropological Association. Chonbuk National University, Jeonju, South Korea. September 28-29, 2019.
- [2] **Youn, Seok Joo.** (2018). Elderly Male Caring for Wife in the ICU. 2018 International Conference for Global Korean Studies. Korean anthropology as Asian Studies [Beyond Korea, Beyond Anthropology], Korean Society for Cultural Anthropology. Seoul, South Korea. June 8-9, 2018.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- June 2024 –
July 2025 **The Catholic University of Korea Eunpyeong St. Mary's Hospital**
Hospice Palliative Care Team Member
Project Title: Terminal Caregiving: Investigating Hybrid Solutions to Dying in an Aging Society
Dissertation Field Research
- April 2023 –
August 2023 **Oasis Institute Capstone Project, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis**
Researcher
Project: Developing "Aging Mastery Program" at Oasis Institute focusing on End-of-life Care Programs
Party of support: Oasis Institute, St. Louis, MO and Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis
- May 2019 –
March 2020 **The Catholic University of Korea Yeouido St. Mary's Hospital**
Hospice Palliative Care Team Member
Project Title: "**Holistic Approach to End-of-life Care**"
Party of support: The Catholic University of Korea Yeouido St. Mary's Hospital and Seoul National University Department of Anthropology
The purpose of this project is to identify disagreements between hospice team members and patients' family members on what good death means, to help Korean hospice palliative care form a better culture of death. As a member of the hospice team, I am involved in caring for patients and their families.
- August 2018 –
December 2018 **Seoul National University. Department of Social Science**
Research Assistant
Project Title: "**Anthropological Approach to Civil Politics**"
Party of support: Seoul National University, Institute for Global Social Responsibility
The purpose of this project was to conduct ethnographic research with anthropological methodology for 16 cases of civil politics. Ethnographic observations were made of what actually happened during individual civil political cases.
- June 2018 –
August 2018 **Houjie Village, Guangdong Province, China**
Researcher
Project Title: "**Intergenerational Care System in Guangdong China**"
The purpose of this support was to figure out how Houjie people from the Dongguan region, who maintain a large family system despite sociocultural upheaval, care for family members. We found that in Houjie Village, Guangdong the generation gap regarding attitudes to family care has widened rapidly leading to a care vacuum.
- March 2018 –
July 2018 **The Catholic University of Korea, Seoul St. Mary's Hospital**
Teacher's Assistant
Academic Advisor: Lee Hyeonjung, Associate Professor at Seoul National University

Project Title: *“An Ethnographic Study of an Elderly Man Caring for Wife in ICU”*
The purpose of this project was to study how male spouses provide care for patients in life-sustaining treatment. An ethnographic observation of how men embody “care,” traditionally considered the realm of women, was conducted.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- January 2024 – **Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, United States**
May 2024 *Teaching Assistant* to Dr. Maddalena Canina, Dept. of Anthropology
[Health, Healing, and Ethics: An Introduction to Medical Anthropology]
- Assisted with the preparation and marking of exams
 - Advised students through office hours
 - Held review and discussion sessions
- August 2023 – **Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, United States**
December 2023 *Teaching Assistant* to Dr. Scott Ross, Dept. of Anthropology
[Introduction to Cultural Anthropology]
- January 2022 – **Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, United States**
May 2022 *Teaching Assistant* to Dr. Theresa Gildner, Dept. of Anthropology
[Introduction to Global Health 3283]
- August 2021 – **Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, United States**
December 2021 *Teaching Assistant* to Dr. Bret Gustafson, Dept. of Anthropology
[Global Energy and the American Dream 3472]
- September 2019 – **Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea**
December 2019 *Teaching Assistant* to Pf. Mun-Woong Lee, Dept. of Anthropology
&
September 2018 – **[Culture of Korea]**
December 2018
- Provided online classes for students studying Korean Studies at Vietnam National University, Hanoi
 - Assisted with the preparation and marking of exams
 - Cared for Seoul National students while visiting Hanoi and guided students from Vietnam National University at Hanoi around Seoul National University and Seoul when they visited
- August 2018 – **Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea**
January 2019 *Teaching Assistant* to Professor Hyeon Jung Lee, Dept. of Anthropology
[Ethnographic Research Methods]
- Taught specific methodologies and various theories for anthropological research as well as simple practice
 - Helped and guided students to conduct field research

WORK EXPERIENCE

- April 2023 – **Oasis Institute, Community Center of Clayton, St. Louis, MO, United States**
August 2023 *Intern and Instructor (part-time)*
&
January 2024 – **[Developed fall prevention programs for older adults]**
May 2024
- Led the senior health education sessions called “Aging Mastery Program”
 - Created and developed course program focusing on family caregivers support
 - Confirmed and arranged grant proposals that are submitted to Oasis Institute from local senior care organizations
- February 2023 – **The John M Olin. Library, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, United States**
May 2024 *Staff in Preservation and Digitization (part-time)*
- Learned skills in preserving and digitizing confidential national documents.

- June 2019 – **Korea National Institute for Bioethics Policy, Seoul, South Korea**
 June 2020 *Researcher*
- Researched bioethics and safety issues in respect to donation and transplantation of organs, human tissues, blood and stem cells
 - Arranged domestic and international papers on organ donation activation policy
 - Attended team meetings to provide advice and prepared briefings of the meetings
 - Attended a hearing held to initiate organ donation activation policy
- July 2016 – **Department of Biomedical Sciences, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea**
 July 2017 *Intern*
- Studied the molecular pathogenesis of Alzheimer’s disease
 - Analyzed telomere length using RT-PCR and multichannel pipetting into well plates
 - Shadowed researchers and observed a variety of experimental techniques regarding molecular imaging, function proteomics, and DNA extraction

VOLUNTARY & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- September 2022 – **R Workshop, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis, MO, United States**
 April 2023 *Team member*
- Organized the monthly R workshops and facilitated the discussion
 Collectively analyzed statistical data and created visualized models
- August 2021 – **Culture Club, Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis, MO, United States**
 Present *Team member*
- Organized the weekly event and facilitated the discussion
 Invited scholars and organized discussion sessions and workshops
- May 2021 – **Hospice – Home for Terminally Ill, Bee Breeders Architecture Competition**
 August 2021 *Team Leader*
- Led the team members by providing information on Korean hospice homes
 Helped facilitating and organizing theoretical concepts
 Did field research to find adequate places for establishing a hospice home
- May 2019 – **[1] Research Institute for Hospice and Palliative Care, Seoul, South Korea**
 July 2020 *Hospice palliative care unit team member*
- Assistant for a care program for family members of patients who have died of cancer
 Led massage classes for patients with terminal cancer and learned professional massage methods such as lymphatic massage
 Joined a program to manage bedsores for patients with terminal cancer
- [2] The Catholic University of Korea Yeouido St. Mary’s Hospital, Hospice Palliative Care Unit, Seoul, South Korea**
Volunteer Worker
- Helped hospitalized patients with their ablutions
 Helped prepare and organize events held within the ward
- October 2018 – **Medical Anthropology Seminar, Seoul, South Korea**
 Present *Member*
- Discussed various medical anthropological topics with professors from many universities such as Yonsei University, Kyunghee University and Seoul National University
 Through sequential presentations, practiced speech making
 Shared research findings with members from the Society of Medical Sociology and the Society of Medical History semiannually
- August 2018 – **Department of Anthropology, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea**

- February 2019 *Student Council Head for Graduate School of Anthropology*
Organized several seminars and colloquiums
Organized the general meeting for all graduate students
- June 2015 – **Eastern Social Welfare Society, Seoul, South Korea**
August 2015 *Intercountry Adoption Department Translator & Interpreter*
Translated letters from English to Korean
Escorted foreign visitors and explained adoption procedures
Organized the paperwork for international adoptions
Maintained communication with foster and adopting parents via email
- November 2014 **2014 Jiangsu Cup Chinese Speech Contest at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A.**
Participant
Delivered speech on Chinese-specific color culture in front of more than 200 people, including students from all over Georgia

CERTIFICATES & SKILLS

- Certificates** Elder Care Service Worker Certification, Korea Institute for Education Test, South Korea (2025)
Senior Counseling Practitioner, Korea Institute for Education Test, South Korea (2025)
Certification in Public Health (CPH), National Board of Public Health Examiners, USA (2023)
The Standard Hospice and Palliative Care Education Program Certificate, South Korea (2019)
The AHA Heartsaver CPR AED Program Certificate, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA (2016)
- Skills** Data Analyzation and Visualization with R and SPSS program languages
Data Modeling and Simulation with Stellar Architect
- Language** Korean and English: Bilingual Proficiency
Chinese: Fluent
Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK) Chinese Proficiency Test (Level VI)
Test of Spoken Chinese (TSC) (Level 4)
Traditional Chinese Character License (Level 3)
Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) (Level N4)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Anthropology Association
- Society of Medical Anthropology
- East Asian Anthropology Association
- The Gerontological Society of America
- International Journal of Palliative Nursing

ADDITIONAL REMARKS

I hereby certify that above detailed statements are all true and correct.



Signed by, **Seok Joo Youn**