

# Melinda Chen | 陳婉怡

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## Appointments

Assistant Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, University of Oklahoma, 2022-Present

## Education

- 2022 Ph.D. Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS), with honors  
University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS)
- 2020 M.A. Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS)  
Graduate Certificate in East Asian Languages & Cultures (EALC)  
University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS)
- 2018 B.A. Global Liberal Studies (GLS), Concentration in Law, Ethics & Religion, Minor in Chinese  
New York University (New York, NY)

## Research Interests

Sexual Violence/Rape, Victim Advocacy, Queer of Color Critique, Neoliberalism, U.S. Welfare Reform, Nonprofit Management, Public Policy, Public Health, Feminist Ethnography, Queer/ing Methodologies, Transnational Feminisms, Taiwan

## Publications

### Books

- Chen, M. (Under Contract). *Killing Radicalism: Neoliberalism, Normativity & the Anti-Rape Movement*. NYU Press.
- Deer, S., & **Chen, M.** (In-Progress). *The Reckoning: Indigenous Messages from the Anti-Rape Revolution*.

### Articles

#### *Peer Reviewed*

- Chen, M. (Forthcoming). "Are you—?" "Are you?" Queer Advocacy at Contemporary Neoliberal Rape Crisis Centers. *Violence Against Women*.

#### *Academic Essay*

- Chen, M. (2022). The Compounded<sup>2</sup> Nature of the Covid Pandemic on Survivors of Sexual Violence. *Social Movement Studies* 0(0): 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14742837.2022.2134110>

### Book Chapter

- Chen, M. (Under Review). "Feminists Disrupt Power: Rape & the Heterogeneity of Subjugated Resistance." In Kelly Sharron, Abraham B. Weil, Hemangini Gupta & Carly Thomsen (Eds.), *Feminist Studies: Foundations, Conversations, Applications*. Routledge.

Chen, M. (2020). The Power of Words: A Discussion of Chanel Miller's *Know My Name* (2019). In Julie Shayne (Ed.), *Persistence is Resistance: Celebrating 50 Years of GWSS* (Chapter 20). University of Washington, Bothell, <https://uw.pressbooks.pub/happy50thws/chapter/the-power-of-words-a-discussion-of-chanel-millers-know-my-name/>

### Public Scholarship

Chen, M. (2021). Research Brief: Evaluating Secondary Traumatic Stress on Victim Advocates Using the Helpfulness Rating on Service Intake Forms as a Scale. *KU ScholarWorks*.  
<http://hdl.handle.net/1808/32170>

### Book Review

Chen, M. (2023). Review: *When Time Warps: The Lived Experience of Gender, Race, and Sexual Violence*. *Hypatia*, 1-5. <https://doi.org/10.1017/hyp.2023.14>

Chen, M. (2020). Review: *Queer Kinship and Family Change in Taiwan*. *Asian Journal of Women's Studies*, 26(2), 273-277. <https://doi.org/10.1080/12259276.2020.1769369>

### Translation

Ma, Xiangxiang (Author) & **Chen, M.** (Translator). (2022). Women Domestic Workers Reveal Secrets of the Trade. *Chinese Literature Today*, 10(2), 104-105,  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/21514399.2021.1990705>

## Teaching

### Department of Women's and Gender Studies, University of Oklahoma

#### *Instructor of Record*

Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies (WGS 1003)  
Social Justice & Social Change (WGS 3123)  
Sex, Race & Violence (WGS 3220)

#### *Courses in Development*

Feminist Methods (WGS 4233/5970), for Fall 2023  
Women's and Gender Studies Graduate Colloquium (WGS 5990), for Fall 2023  
Gender & Health (WGS 3000)

### Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas

#### *Instructor of Record*

Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS 101)  
Perspectives in LGBTQ+ Studies (WGSS 327)  
International Women's Rights (WGSS 355)

#### *Co-Instructor*

Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS 101)  
Senior Capstone (WGSS 601)

[Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Kansas](#)

“Revolutionizing Academia” Learning Community, 2021-2022

“Teaching at a PWI” Learning Community, 2021

Graduate Student Pedagogy Team, 2020-2021

## Grants, Fellowships & Awards

### Funded

- 2023      Alternative Textbook Grant, University Libraries and the College of Arts & Sciences, University of Oklahoma [\$1,500]  
Arts & Humanities Faculty Fellowship, Arts & Humanities Forum, University of Oklahoma [\$15,000]  
Junior Faculty Fellowship, Office of the Vice President for Research & Partnerships, University of Oklahoma [\$9,207.80]
- 2022      Micro-Grant, Carceral Studies Consortium, University of Oklahoma [\$95]  
Ed Cline Award (Individual), Faculty Senate, University of Oklahoma [\$2,500]  
Ed Cline Award (Group, with Dr. Wendy Mallette & Dr. Michael R. Sladek), Faculty Senate, University of Oklahoma [\$2,500]
- 2021      Summer Research Scholarship, Office of Graduate Studies, University of Kansas [\$6,000]  
Graduate Student Writing Incentive (GWI-GS), Research Excellence Initiative (REI), University of Kansas [\$1,000]  
“Revolutionizing Academia Learning Community,” Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE), University of Kansas [\$1,000]  
Supplementary Funding, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas [\$500]
- 2020      Emily Taylor Center Women’s Memorial Award, University of Kansas [\$1,000]
- 2019      Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education [\$7,500]
- 2018      Dean’s Doctoral Fellowship, 2018-2023, University of Kansas [\$22,000] [Accepted 2018-2022, Declined 2023]

### Pending

- 2023      **Chen, M.**, Sperling, J., Sladek, M. R., Zabala, C., & Jung, H., “Gender and Health Sciences Education in Oklahoma,” Seed Grant, Institute for Community and Society Transformation (ICAST), University of Oklahoma [\$29,500]  
Jung, H., Harris-Watson, A., & **Chen, M.**, “Understanding the Impacts of Artificial Intelligence on Workplace Social Networks: A Pilot Study,” Seed Grant, Institute for Community and Society Transformation (ICAST), University of Oklahoma [\$30,000]  
Research Publication Subvention Funding, University Libraries, University of Oklahoma [\$3,000]

## Conferences & Presentations

### Academic Paper

- “A Hierarchy of Anti-violence Advocacy: White Professional Cooptation of the Rape Crisis Center,” in Panel: “Movers and Shakers: Activism, Resistance, and Social Progress among Women of Color-THEMATIC,” Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) (Philadelphia, PA), Aug 18-20, 2023 [accepted]
- “Reanimating Identities: Queer/ing Quantitative Representations of Marginalized Rape Victims at the Neoliberal Rape Crisis Center,” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference (Minneapolis, MN), Nov 10-13, 2022
- “‘Life Goes Back Again’: Anti-Rape Victim Advocates’ Personal Experiences with Sexual Trauma,” Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Conference, University of South Dakota (Vermillion, SD & Remote), Mar 24-25, 2022
- “Survivor or Advocate? Tangling with the IRB and Defining the ‘Vulnerable Subject,’” National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference (Remote), Sep 17, 2021
- “‘Are you--? Are you--?’ Victim Advocates’ Queer Disclosure at Rape Crisis Centers,” 2021 LGBTQ Research Symposium, Center for LGBTQ+ Research and Advocacy, University of Kansas School of Social Welfare (Lawrence, KS & Remote), Jun 3-4, 2021
- “Elite Interviewing as a Graduate Student: Interactions with Taiwanese Social Workers,” in Panel: “Missing Narratives in Feminist Methodology: Complications of Graduate Student Transnational and Domestic Fieldwork,” National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Annual Conference (San Francisco, CA), Nov 12-15, 2020 [canceled]
- “Ku’er Falv Lilun [酷兒法律理論]: Reexamining Immigration and Rape Law,” North American Taiwan Studies Association (NATSA) Annual Conference, University of California-Irvine (Irvine, CA), May 22-24, 2020 [canceled]
- “From Empowerment to Queer: Another Recovery Model for Survivors of Sexual Violence,” National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Annual Conference (San Francisco, CA), Nov 14-17, 2019
- “Justice Quandaries: How Native Women and Two Spirit (LGBTQ+) Survivors of Violence Conceptualize Justice,” Co-Presented with Sarah Deer, National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Annual Conference (San Francisco, CA), Nov 14-17, 2019
- “Sexual Autonomy and the Potentialities of Statutory Reform,” Co-Authored with Sarah Deer, NYU Law Criminal Justice & National Security Symposium: “Sexual Assault & Gender Justice” (New York, NY), Apr 26, 2019
- “From Empowerment to Queer: Towards a New Understanding of Rape,” KU Professionals for Inclusion and Social Justice Graduate Student Research Conference, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS), Feb 28, 2019
- “Rape, Mind & Body: Cultural Constructions in the (Re)Making of a Self,” in Panel: “Women, Culture & Development,” 3rd Annual Liberal Studies Global Research Colloquium, New York University Liberal Studies Program (New York, NY), Mar 30, 2018

### Academic Poster

- “Enhancing Student Communication in 300-level Undergraduate Course, International Women’s Rights,” Celebration of Teaching, Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS), May 6, 2022
- “Attuning to the Aftermath: Addressing Collaborative Emotion Work in Sexual Assault Response Teams,” KU Professionals for Inclusion and Social Justice Graduate Student Research Conference, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS), Feb 28, 2020

### Invited Talks

- “Underserved Access to Anti-Rape Victim Services,” Moment of Truth: What can we do to support racial justice in the movement?, Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA) Virtual Symposium (Remote), Nov 9, 2021
- “Carceralism in Victim Services,” Critical Conversation Series, Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA) (Remote), Jul 1, 2021
- “Lived Experiences Panel,” Take Back the Net (Night), Division of Student Affairs, The University of Alabama at Birmingham (Remote; Birmingham, AL), Apr 6, 2021

### Guest Lecturer

- “Using Atlas.ti 9 for Qualitative Research,” Qualitative Methods in Public Administration (PUAD 937), School of Public Affairs & Administration, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS), March 29, 2022
- “Introduction to Sexual Violence,” Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS 101), Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS), Nov 30, 2019

### Moderator/Host

- “QTPOC Writing Retreat,” Host, Queer & Trans People of Color, National Women Studies Association (Remote), Feb 13 & 27, 2021; Spring 2022, Spring 2023 Monthly
- “Responding to Injustice,” Panel Chair & Moderator, 2nd Annual Liberal Studies Global Research Colloquium, New York University Liberal Studies Program (New York, NY), Mar 31, 2017

### Conference Organizer

- “Looking Back, Moving Forward: Queerness, Accessibility, Intersectionality,” 2021 LGBTQ Research Symposium, Center for LGBTQ+ Research and Advocacy, University of Kansas School of Social Welfare (Lawrence, KS & Online), Jun 3-4, 2021
- “MiSK-UNDP Youth Forum: Tolerance for Sustainable Peace and Development: A Dialogue with Youth,” Richard Attias & Associates, MiSK Foundation, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) (New York, NY), Sep 15, 2017

## **Service**

### Academic Committees

- Queer & Trans People of Color Caucus, National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)
- Co-Chair, 2021-Present
  - Academic Liaison, 2019-2021
- Anti-Racist Subcommittee Chair, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, University of Oklahoma, 2022-Present
- Graduate Representative, Graduate Studies Committee, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS), 2019-2020
- Reviewer: Graduate Admissions (Ph.D. & M.A.)
  - Liaison: WGSS Graduate Students Interest Group
- Volunteer Judge, KU Undergraduate Research Symposium, 2020
- Graduate Representative, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS), 2019

### Victim Advocacy

Volunteer & Backup Advocate, Rape Response, Crisis Center (Birmingham, AL), 2020-2022  
Culture of Respect Collective, University of Kansas Campus Leadership Team (Lawrence, KS), 2020-2022  
Volunteer Advocate, The Sexual Trauma & Abuse (STA) Care Center (Lawrence, KS), 2019-2020  
Volunteer Trainer, Sexual Assault Prevention & Education Center (SAPEC), University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS), 2018-2019  
Crisis Counselor, Crisis Text Line (New York, NY), 2017-2018

- Crisis Counselor Certification, Aug 7, 2017

### Mentorship

#### *Graduate*

Shaimaa Khanam, PhD Student, Department of Communications, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 2022-Present

#### *Undergraduate*

Rachael Owens, Honors, Departments of Psychology & Nonprofit Management, University of Oklahoma, 2022  
Ellie Beck, Senior Capstone: "Gender Marker ID Laws and the Navigation of Burden: An Investigation on the Impacts of State Power and a Call for Liberation," Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas, 2021 [3<sup>rd</sup> Best Thesis Award]\*  
Adrian Cisneros, Senior Capstone: "Quarantine: 'Coming Out' of Movies," Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas, 2021\*  
Madison Moore, Senior Capstone: "The New Power Suit: Athleisure and Consumerism of Women's Empowerment," Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas, 2021\*

\*Graduated

### Reviewer

#### *Hypatia*

#### *Asian Journal of Women's Studies*

KU School of Social Welfare, LGBTQ Research Symposium, 2021, 2022  
National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) Annual Conference, 2020

### Professional Affiliations

Core Affiliate, Center for Social Justice, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, University of Oklahoma, 2022-Present  
Core Affiliate, Carceral Studies Consortium, Dodge Family College of Arts & Sciences, University of Oklahoma, 2022-Present  
Affiliate, Institute for Community & Society Transformation (ICAST), University of Oklahoma, 2022-Present  
Affiliate, Center for LGBTQ+ Research & Advocacy, School of Social Welfare, University of Kansas, 2020-Present  
National Women's Studies Association (NWSA), 2019-Present  
Feminist/intersectional Science and Technology Studies (FiSTS), 2023-Present  
Queer & Trans People of Color (QTPOC), 2019-Present  
North American Taiwan Studies Association (NATSA), 2020-2021  
Phi Beta Delta (International Scholars Honors Society), 2019-2021