

# Melinda Chen | 陳婉怡

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## Appointments

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

## Education

Ph.D. Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS), with honors, University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS)  
M.A. Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) and Graduate Certificate in East Asian Languages & Cultures (EALC), University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS)  
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.** (Submitted). *The Reckoning: Indigenous Messages from the Anti-Rape Revolution*. University of Minnesota Press.

### Articles

Chen, M. (2023). "Are you—?" "Are you?" Queer Advocacy at Contemporary Neoliberal Rape Crisis Centers. *Violence Against Women* 0(0): 1-29. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10778012231192606>  
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 3220/5990)\* \*\*

Feminist Research Methods (WGS 4233/5970)\* \*\*

### 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

\* Undergraduate

\*\* Graduate

## Grants, Fellowships & Awards

### Funded

- 2023 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 [\$25,000]  
Chen, M., Arts & Humanities Faculty Fellowship, Arts & Humanities Forum, University of Oklahoma [\$15,000]  
Chen, M., Junior Faculty Fellowship, Office of the Vice President for Research & Partnerships, University of Oklahoma [\$9,207.80]  
Chen, M., National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD) Faculty Success Program (FSP) Scholar & Sponsorship, Center for Faculty Excellence, University of Oklahoma [\$2,250]  
Chen, M., Research Publication Subvention Funding, University Libraries, University of Oklahoma [\$1,500]  
Chen, M., Alternative Textbook Grant, University Libraries and the College of Arts & Sciences, University of Oklahoma [\$1,500; awarded but declined]
- 2022 Chen, M., Ed Cline Award, Faculty Senate, University of Oklahoma [\$2,500]  
Malette, W., Sladek, M. R., & **Chen, M.**, Ed Cline Award, Faculty Senate, University of Oklahoma [\$2,500]  
Chen, M., with Deer, S., Micro-Grant, Carceral Studies Consortium, University of Oklahoma [\$95]
- 2021 Chen, M., Summer Research Scholarship, Office of Graduate Studies, University of Kansas [\$6,000]  
Chen, M., Graduate Student Writing Incentive (GWI-GS), Research Excellence Initiative (REI), University of Kansas [\$1,000]  
Chen, M., “Revolutionizing Academia Learning Community,” Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE), University of Kansas [\$1,000]  
Chen, M., Supplementary Funding, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas [\$500]
- 2020 Chen, M., Emily Taylor Center Women’s Memorial Award, University of Kansas [\$1,000]
- 2019 Chen, M., Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education [\$7,500]
- 2018 Chen, M., Dean’s Doctoral Fellowship, 2018-2023, University of Kansas [\$22,000; awarded 2018-2022, declined 2023]

## 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

- “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 Roundtable

- “Where Do We Go from Here? Teaching Abolition in Diverse Higher Education Settings,” with Abigail Barefoot, Corinne Schwarz, and Rodney Bates, National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference (Baltimore, MD), Oct 26-28, 2023 [accepted]
- “We actually want to fix the policy: Creating policies that support instructors of color,” with Marcy Quiason and Rodney Bates, National Women’s Studies Association Annual Conference (Baltimore, MD), Oct 26-28, 2023 [accepted]

### 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), Mar 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, Center for Social Justice, 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

Member, Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), 2023-Present

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