

Bryan Kuk

bryan.kuk@ucalgary.ca

EDUCATION

PhD in Sociology

Expected 2027

University of Calgary, Calgary, AB

- Supervisor: Dr. Matt Patterson

MA in Sociology

2021

University of Calgary, Calgary, AB

- Supervisor: Dr. Matt Patterson
- Thesis: *Bridging The Boundaries of Genres, Culture, and Language in North American K-Pop Fandom*
- Degree awarded with a 4.0 GPA

BA (Hons) in Sociology minoring in Law & Society

2019

University of Calgary, Calgary, AB

- Supervisor: Dr. Annette Tézli
- Thesis: *Playing Gender: An Analysis of Femininity in the Popular Culture Phenomenon League of Legends*
- Degree awarded with First-Class Honours

TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System Training Program

2013

Mount Royal University, Calgary, AB.

Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans Course on Research Ethics (TCPS 2: Core)

2020

University of Calgary, Calgary, AB.

PROFESSIONAL/TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

2019-Present

University of Calgary, Calgary, AB

- Teaching assistant for: Introduction to Research Methods (SOC 313), Introduction to Criminal Justice (SOC 327), Urban Sociology (SOC 353), Mass Communication (SOC 345), Socio-legal Issues in Sport (SOC 401), Media and Society (SOC 401), Social Statistics I (SOC 311), Social Statistics II (SOC 315), Sociology of Law (SOC 429)

Instructor

2023-Present

Bow Valley College, Calgary, AB

- Instructed classes in the Sociology of Aging (SOC 1301): 4 sections

Instructor

2026-Present

University of Calgary, Calgary, AB

- Instructed classes in Advanced Topics in Sociology: Media and Digital Futures (SOC 401) and Topics in Gender Relations: Media and Video Games (SOC 403)

AWARDS/ACHIEVEMENTS/GRANTS

Alexander Rutherford Scholarship	2014
Awarded to a student with an average of 80% or higher, during three years at a high school recognizing academic achievement with a maximum value of \$2500	
Jason Lang Scholarship (3x)	2016-2018
Awarded to a student with outstanding academic achievement continuing their studies at a recognized institution	
Hungarian Arts and Heritage Foundation of Alberta Bursary	2016
Awarded to a student on the basis of academic merit and financial need	
Dean's List (3x)	2016-2018
Recognition of outstanding achievement by students in the Faculty, attained through achieving a grade point average of 3.60 or above over all University of Calgary courses taken over the preceding Summer, Fall and Winter terms	
Student Peer Assistance Undergraduate Bursary	2017
Awarded to a student on the basis of academic merit and financial need	
University of Calgary Undergraduate Merit Award	2018
Awarded to a continuing undergraduate student in any faculty on the basis of academic merit	
Graduate Research Scholarship	2019
Graduate Teaching Award	2020
A special award is given every April to honour outstanding performance as a Graduate Teaching Assistant. Recognizing that all graduate students with teaching responsibilities must carry out their tasks with care and diligence, the Graduate Teaching Award is meant to recognize exceptional contributions to the teaching functions of the Department. Valued at \$500	
Remote Delivery Tech and Professional Development Scholarship	2021
Awarded with a value of \$1000	
University of Calgary Doctoral Entrance Scholarship	2023
Awarded with a value of \$20000	
Summer Research Scholarship	2024
Awarded with a value of \$625	
Global Open Doctoral Scholarship	2024
Awarded with a value of \$10000	
Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship	2024
Awarded based on outstanding academic achievement of students pursuing graduate studies in Alberta. It was established to incentivize the best and brightest students, including international students, to study in Alberta. Valued at \$11000	

SSHRC Doctoral Award

2025-2028

Valued at \$120,000 for 3 years, awarded based on the strength of research capabilities, potential, and relevant academic experience

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

VP Finance

2018 – 2019

- University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- Tracked all income sources and expenses of the bank account and cash deposit
- Responsible for Student Union clubs' funding, sponsorship, and fundraising
- Set goals and ensured success in managing events' budgets

Social Events Representative

2020 - 2021

- University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- Responsible for planning departmental events and acquiring funding from the Graduate Students Association
- Organized regular social activities

Chair

2021

- University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- "Podcasts as Public Sociology", 2021 Sociology Graduate Research Symposium

Treasurer

2024-Present

- University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- Supported the Sociology Graduate Student Caucus by maintaining a record of expenses and managing financial resources.

MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association

2020 – Present

- Member in the Sociology of Culture, Sociology of Crime & Law, and Sociological Theory

Canadian Sociological Association

2021 - Present

PRESENTATIONS

Playing Gender: An Analysis of Femininity in the Popular Culture Phenomenon League of Legends, *15th Annual Graduate Student Research Symposium*, Calgary, AB. **2019**

Playing Gender: An Analysis of Femininity in the Popular Culture Phenomenon League of Legends, *Undergraduate Honours Symposium Summit*, Calgary, AB. **2019**

Duality of K-Pop as a Field of Music Consumption (Draft), *2020 Sociology Graduate Student Research Symposium*, Calgary, AB. **2020**

K-pop is "Dae-bak": Bridging the Language Divide in K-pop Consumption and Practices, *2021 Sociology Graduate Research Symposium*, Calgary, AB. **2021**

Bridging The Boundaries of Genres, Culture, and Language in North American K-Pop Fandom, 2024 Sociology Graduate Research Symposium, Calgary, AB. **2024**

K-pop Fandom and the Status of Cosmopolitan Consumption in a Transnational World. 2024 *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Montreal, QC. **2024**

K-pop Fandom and the Status of Cosmopolitan Consumption in a Transnational World, 2025 *Sociology Graduate Research Symposium*, Calgary, AB. **2025**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Sociology Honours Student – Department of Sociology **2018-2019**

- University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- Supervisor: Annette Tezli
- Honours Thesis: *Playing Gender: An Analysis of Femininity in the Popular Culture Phenomenon League of Legends*

Master's Student – Department of Sociology **2020-2021**

- University of Calgary, Calgary, AB.
- Supervisor: Matt Patterson
- Masters Thesis: *K-pop is "Dae-bak": Bridging the Language Divide in K-pop Consumption and Practices*

Research Assistant – Department of Sociology **2022-Present**

- University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- Principal Investigator: Matt Patterson
- Project: "The Politics of Placemaking in Chinatown." SSHRC Insight Development Grant; \$71,438.00

Research Assistant – Habitus Consulting Collective **2022-Present**

- Calgary, AB

Research Assistant – Department of Sociology **2026 - Present**

- University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- Principal Investigator: Gbenga Adejare
- Project: Bridging Knowledge Gaps: A Decolonial and Community Engaged Framework for SOCI 487

COURSES TAUGHT

Instructor – Open Studies **2023 - Present**

- Bow Valley College, Calgary, AB
- 4 sessions of SOCI 1301: Sociology of Aging

Instructor – Department of Sociology **2026 - Present**

- University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- 1 session of SOCI 401: Media and Digital Futures
- 1 session of SOCI 403: Topics in Gender Relations – Media and Video Games

PUBLICATIONS/ARCHIVED WORK

- Kuk, B. (2019). Playing Gender: An Analysis of Femininity in the Popular Culture Phenomenon League of Legends. *Honours Thesis*, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB. 1-78.
- Kuk, B. (2020). The Consumption of Music as a Construction of Self. Conference Paper, Calgary, AB: University of Calgary. 1-24.
- Kuk, B. C. H. (2021). Bridging The Boundaries of Genres, Culture, and Language in North American K-Pop Fandom (*Unpublished master's thesis*). University of Calgary, Calgary, AB.
- Aghajafari, F., Ness, A., Wall, L., Weightman, A., Lake, D., Anupindi, K., Moorthi, G., Kuk, B., Santana, M., & Coakley, A. (2024). COVID-19 Vaccinations, Trust, and Vaccination Decisions within the Refugee Community of Calgary, Canada. *Vaccines*, 12(2), 177.
- Aghajafari, F., Ness, A., Wall, L., Weightman, A., Lake, D., Anupindi, K., Moorthi, G., Kuk, B., Santana, M., & Coakley, A. (2024). An exploration of COVID-19 vaccination models for newcomer refugees and immigrants in Calgary, Canada. *Arch Public Health* 82, 33.
- Aghajafari, F., Ness, A., Wall, L., Weightman, A., Lake, D., Anupindi, K., Moorthi, G., Kuk, B., Santana, M., & Coakley, A. (2025). Mobilizing COVID-19 Vaccination Partnerships for Newcomer Refugees and Immigrants in the Calgary, Canada Area, 2021–2022. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, 1-11.
- Patterson, M., Tsang, H., Kuk, B., Li, W., & Rostami, M. (2026). Living with Ghosts: How Physical Traces of the Past Shape Cultural Trauma in Chinatowns. *American Sociological Review*, 91(2), 286-312.
- Patterson, M, Jeong, H., & Kuk, B. “The Perseverance of Historic Chinatowns in the 21st Century: A Comparative Analysis of Chicago and Philadelphia.” In preparation for submission.
- Kuk, B, & Patterson, M. “K-pop Fandom and the Status of Cosmopolitan Consumption in a Transnational World.” Under review in *Poetics*.

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

- 1.) Matt Patterson
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- 2.) Michael Adorjan
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- 3.) Nazario Robles Bastida

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- 4.) Josh Curtis
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