

KELLYNN WEE JIAYING

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate, Anthropology University College London	2020-present
M.Soc.Sci, Sociology National University of Singapore	2019
B.Soc.Sci, Sociology and English Literature (First Class Honours) Minor in Gender Studies National University of Singapore	2014

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Convenor AnthroPlay Network	2023-present
Editor Press Start Journal	2023-2024
Postgraduate Teaching Assistant University College London	2023-2024
Managing Editor Asian Journal of Social Science	2022-2023
Senior Tutor Department of Sociology National University of Singapore	2020-present
Research Associate Migration Cluster, Asia Research Institute National University of Singapore	2018-2020
Research and Communications Officer Migrating out of Poverty Research Program Consortium, Asia Research Institute National University of Singapore	2015-2017

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Wee, Kellynn. 2024. "If it's held dear, it'll get pushed through": Transmedia narratives, play cultures, and soft canon in tabletop role-playing games (TTRPGs). *International Journal of Cultural Studies* 27(5): 675-693. DOI: 10.1177/1367877924124440

Wee, Kellynn, Lam, Theodora, Spitzer, Denise, and Yeoh, Brenda S. A. 2023. Love's Labour's Cost? Gendered Migration and Intimate Labour in Asia. *Gender, Place and Culture*. DOI: 10.1080/0966369X.2023.2179025

Spitzer, Denise, Lam, Theodora, **Wee, Kellynn**, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2022. Close Encounters: Migrant Bodies, Workplace, and Intimate Labour in Asia. *Gender, Work and Organization* 29(3): 897-905. DOI: 10.1111/gwao.12837

Wee, Kellynn and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2021. Serial Migration, Multiple Belongings and Orientations Toward the Future: The Perspective of Middle-Class Migrants in Singapore. *Journal of Sociology* 57(1): 94-110. DOI: 10.1177/1440783320960521

Ortiga, Yasmin, **Wee, Kellynn**, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2021. Connecting Care Chains and Care Diamonds: The Eldercare Skills Regime in Singapore. *Global Networks* 21(2): 434-454. DOI: 10.1111/glob.12281

Wee, Kellynn, Goh, Charmian, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2020. Translating People and Policy: The Role of Maid Agents in Brokering Between Employers and Migrant Domestic Workers in Singapore's Migration Industry. *International Migration Review* 54(4): 992-1015. DOI: 10.1177/0197918319897570

Yeoh, Brenda S.A., Goh, Charmian and **Wee, Kellynn**. 2020. Social Protection for Migrant Domestic Workers in Singapore: International Conventions, the Law, and Civil Society Action. *American Behavioral Scientist* 64(6): 841-858. DOI: 10.1177/0002764220910208

Wee, Kellynn, Goh, Charmian, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2019. Choreographing the Rhythms of Encounter in Singapore's Maid Agencies. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 45: 109-122. DOI: 10.1111/tran.12332

Wee, Kellynn, Goh, Charmian, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2018. Chutes-and-Ladders: The Migration Industry, Conditionality, and the Production of Precarity among Migrant Domestic Workers in Singapore. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 45 (14): 2672-2688. DOI: 10.1080/1369183X.2018.1528099

Wee, Kellynn, Vanyoro, Kudakwashe, and Jinnah, Zaheera. 2018. Repoliticizing International Migration Narratives? Critical Reflections on the Civil Society Days of the Global Forum on Migration and Development. *Globalizations* 15 (6): 795-808. DOI: 10.1080/14747731.2018.1446600

Palmary, Ingrid, De Gruchy, Thea, Ashraf, Ali, Koh, Chiu Yee, **Wee, Kellynn**, Goh, Charmian, and Yeoh, Brenda. 2018. How Unpopular Policies are Made: Examples from South Africa,

Singapore and Bangladesh. *International Migration* 57 (4): 254-268. DOI: 10.1111/imig.12505

Goh, Charmian, **Wee, Kellynn**, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2017. Migration Governance and the Migration Industry in Asia: Moving Domestic Workers from Indonesia to Singapore. *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 0: 1-33. DOI: 10.1093/irap/lcx010

Koh, Chiu Yee, **Wee, Kellynn**, Goh, Charmian, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2017. Cultural Mediation through Vernacularization: Framing Rights Claims through the Day-Off Campaign for Migrant Domestic Workers in Singapore. *International Migration* 55 (3): 98-104. DOI: 10.1111/imig.12332

Yeoh, Brenda S.A., Baey, Grace, Platt, Maria, and **Wee, Kellynn**. 2017. Bangladeshi Construction Workers and the Politics of (Im)mobility in Singapore. *City* 21 (5): 641-649. DOI: 10.1080/13604813.2017.1374786

Koh, Chiu Yee, Goh, Charmian, **Wee, Kellynn**, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2017. Drivers of Migration Policy Reform: The Day Off Policy for Migrant Domestic Workers in Singapore. *Global Social Policy* 17 (2): 188-205. DOI: 10.1177/1468018116677218

Book Chapters

Wee, Kellynn, and Manuel, Thomas. 2025 (Forthcoming). "Playing and Publishing the Apocalypse in Southeast Asia: An Interdependence of Hope and Necessity." In *Essays on Indie Tabletop Roleplaying Games*, edited by S. Hedge. North Carolina: McFarland & Company, Inc.

Wee, Kellynn. 2024. "Bittersweet Utopias." In *Utopia on the Tabletop*, edited by Jo Lindsay Walton. Sussex: Ping Press.

Wee, Kellynn. 2024. "Defamiliarising D&D: Playing out Western fantasy in Singapore." In *50 Years of D&D*, edited by P. Sindhu, M. Carter and J. Zagal. Massachusetts: MIT Press.

Yeoh, Brenda S.A., Goh, Charmian, and **Wee, Kellynn**. 2020. "Emigration." In *International Encyclopaedia of Human Geography*, edited by A. Kobayashi, 91-96. Amsterdam: Elsevier.

Yeoh, Brenda S.A., **Wee, Kellynn**, and Goh, Charmian. 2019. "Corporeal Geographies of Labour Migration in Asia." In *Handbook on Critical Geographies of Migration*, edited by K. Mitchell, R. Jones and J. L. Fluri, 92-105. Surrey: Edward Egar Publishing.

Edited Books

Yeoh, Brenda S.A., **Wee, Kellynn** & Lam, Theodora. 2022. *Migrant Workers in Singapore: Lives and Labour in a Transient Migration Regime*. Singapore: World Scientific Publishing.

Edited Special Issues

Wee, Kellynn, Lam, Theodora, Spitzer, Denise, and Yeoh, Brenda S. A. 2023 (Eds.). Love's Labour's Cost? Gendered Migration and Intimate Labour in Asia. *Gender, Place and Culture*. DOI: 10.1080/0966369X.2023.2179025

Spitzer, Denise, Lam, Theodora, **Wee, Kellynn**, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. 2022 (Eds.). Close Encounters: Migrant Bodies, Workplace, and Intimate Labour in Asia. *Gender, Work and Organization* 29(3): 897-905. DOI: 10.1111/gwao.12837

Other Publications

Wee, Kellynn. 2021. 'Homebrewing Asia: How Dungeons & Dragons in Singapore Is Remaking Western Fantasy'. *Anthropolitan*. 11 October 2021.
<https://anthropolitan.org/2021/10/11/homebrewing-asia-how-dungeons-dragons-in-singapore-is-remaking-western-fantasy/>

Wee, Kellynn. 2020. “‘Covidiot’ and caution tape: Care, surveillance and the elderly in Singapore.” *Collecting COVID-19: A Crowd-Sourced Digital Ethnography of the COVID-19 Pandemic*. Accessed 20 May 2020. <https://anthrocovid.com/2020/05/20/covidiot-and-caution-tape-care-surveillance-and-the-elderly-in-singapore/>

Wee, Kellynn. 2020. “What waiting bodies can tell us about Singapore’s maids.” *Geography Directions*. Accessed 19 February 2020.
<https://blog.geographydirections.com/2020/02/18/what-waiting-bodies-can-tell-us-about-singapores-maids/>

Wee, Kellynn. 2020. Review of *Follow the Maid*, by Olivia Killias. *Transitions*.

Vanyoro, Kudakwashe, and **Wee, Kellynn.** 2016. “What could go wrong in this year’s Global Forum on Migration and Development?” *Open Democracy*. Accessed November 27, 2019.
<https://www.opendemocracy.net/kudakwashe-vanyoro-kellynn-wee/what-could-go-wrong-in-this-year-s-gfmd>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Wee, Kellynn. “Worlds Beyond Words: Atmospheres of Play.” Paper presented at University College London’s Material, Visual, and Digital Culture Seminar Series, London, February 26, 2024.

Wee, Kellynn. “But Dungeons and Dragons is *so* non-Singaporean”: Tabletop Role-Playing Games as a Site of Playful Identity Making.” Paper presented at Games Symposium for Oceania and the Asia Pacific, Melbourne, June 14-15, 2023.

Wee, Kellynn. “Add +1 To Your Relationship: Recovering An Ill World Through Dungeons & Dragons.” Paper presented at Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK 2023: An Unwell World? Anthropology in a Speculative Mode, London, April 11-14, 2023.

Wee, Kellynn. “Move Quietly and Tend Things: Tabletop Roleplaying Games as a Tool for Collaborative Speculation.” Paper presented at Transdisciplinary Perspectives on Climate Change and Coastal Urban Development in the Asia-Pacific, Asia Research Institute, Singapore, February 16-17, 2023.

Wee, Kellynn. “Waystations to Utopia: Hopeful Tabletop Roleplaying Games as Tools of Collaborative Speculation.” Paper presented at Anthropology, AI and the Future of Human Society [Virtual], Royal Anthropological Institute, June 10, 2022.

Wee, Kellynn. “‘The theatrics, the lights, the sound... I like the dragon to be *there*’: Role-playing studio spaces and the delivery of the paid game experience in Singapore.” Paper presented at

People, Materialities and Analog Game Culture, Generation Analog 2022 [Virtual], July 27-28, 2022.

Wee, Kellynn. “‘Separate but simultaneous’: Compositing individual accounts of a shared migration trajectory within migration & family research in Asia.” Paper presented at AAS-in-Asia: Asia at the Crossroads, Solidarity through Scholarship, Association of Asian Studies, Kobe [Virtual], August 31-September 4, 2020.

Wee, Kellynn, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. “Serial Migration In and Through Southeast Asia: Orientations Towards the Future.” Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Center for Global Asia, Shanghai University, Shanghai, August 26-28, 2019.

Wee, Kellynn. “Bids and Bets: The Risky Brokerage of Debt-Credit Relations Within the Migration Industry for Domestic Workers in Singapore.” Paper presented at Shaping Migrant and Mobile Worlds: Connectivities, Comparisons, Collaborations, National University of Singapore, Singapore, February 21-22, 2019.

Wee, Kellynn, Goh, Charmian, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. “The Regime of Skills in Singapore’s Care Landscape.” Paper presented at The Question of Skills in Cross-Border Labour Mobility, Waseda University, Tokyo, September 20-21, 2018.

Wee, Kellynn, Goh, Charmian, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. “Geographies of Encounter in the Maid Agency: (Re)producing Binaries and the Politics of Misrecognition in the Cosmopolitan City-State of Singapore.” Paper presented at Migrants in the Globalizing City: Spaces, Places and Mobilities in Asia, Europe and the Middle East, Sorbonne University, Paris, July 8-9, 2018.

Wee, Kellynn, Goh, Charmian, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. “Micro-Brokerage: Translation, Discretion, and the Migration Industry for Domestic Workers in Singapore.” Paper presented at The Migration Industry: Facilitators and Brokerage in Asia, National University of Singapore, Singapore, June 1-2, 2017.

Wee, Kellynn, Goh, Charmian, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. “Conditionality and Chance: Migration brokers and the Production of Precarity Among Migrant Domestic Workers in Singapore.” Plenary paper presented at Migrating out of Poverty: From Evidence to Policy, University of Sussex, Brighton, March 28-29, 2017.

Wee, Kellynn, and Yeoh, Brenda S.A. “File In, Filed Away: Placement Agencies and the Mediation of Migrant Domestic Labour in Singapore.” Paper presented at Urban Arrival Infrastructures: An International Workshop on Migration and Cities in the 19th and 21st Century, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, December 10-11, 2015.

INVITED TALKS

Narrative, sociality, and materiality in collaborative storytelling games. Plymouth University, 14 October. 2024

Brokerizing women as labour: The migration industry for domestic workers in Singapore. Singapore Management University, 10 September. 2020

Brokerizing women as labour: The migration industry for domestic workers in Singapore. Nanyang Technological University, 17 September. 2019

The migration industry for domestic workers. Singapore Management University, 10 September. 2018

Who holds the bomb? Debt-financed migration for domestic workers in Singapore. Yale-NUS College, 1 March. 2017

ORGANISED CONFERENCES AND PANELS

Seminar Series Convenor. “Anthropology of Play and Games Seminar Series”, The Royal Anthropological Institute. Ongoing seminar series featuring experts on the anthropology of play beginning 2024.	2024
Panel Convenor. “Methodologies and Theories for a Theory of Fun and Play”, European Association for Social Anthropologists: Doing and Undoing with Anthropology, Barcelona, Spain, 22 July-26 July.	2024
Organiser. “The Anthropology of Play: Encounters and Emergences”, Institute of Advanced Studies and Department of Anthropology, University College London, London, 11-12 July.	2024
Panel Organiser. “Methodologies of Migration and Care Research at the Crossroads of Asia: What We Can Learn from Paired Interviews”, Association of Asian Studies in Asia: Asia at the Crossroads, Kobe, Japan, 29 June-1 July.	2020
Organising Committee Member. “Love’s Labour’s Cost? Asian Migration, Intimate Labour and the Politics of Gender”, Asia Research Institute, Singapore, 3-4 December.	2018
Organiser. “ARI Asia Trends 2016: The Cost of Care”, Asia Research Institute, Singapore, 21 October.	2016
Organiser. “ARI Asia Trends 2015: En Route to the Departure Hall”, Asia Research Institute, 14 July.	2015

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

Octagon Small Grant Fund , Institute of Advanced Studies, University College London. Conference Supported: “The Anthropology of Play: Encounters and Emergences”	2024
Conference Fund Award , Department of Anthropology, University College London	2024
Digital Impact Award , Association of Southeast Asian Studies in the UK Project Supported: “Waystations to Utopia: Tabletop Roleplaying Games as a Method of Hopeful Speculation”	2022
Tan Kah Kee Foundation Postgraduate Scholarship	2020
Overseas Graduate Scholarship , National University of Singapore	2017
Lee Foundation Prize , National University of Singapore Top M.Soc.Sci student in the Department of Sociology	2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Postgraduate Teaching Assistant, University College London ANTH0213: Anthropological Research Methods	2023-2024
Guest Facilitator, University College London Peopling the Gap: Multimodal module design project on racialised educational violence	2024
Guest Lecturer, University College London ANTH0122: Digital Anthropology Core Course	2023-2024

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Featured Guest, <i>Mind Games: The Psychology of D&D and RPGs</i> (with Dr. Rohan Kapitany). Podcast: Episode 6.	2024
Designer, <i>Move Quietly and Tend Things</i> . Tabletop Roleplaying Game. Played internationally; also used in classrooms, workshops, and other teaching sites focused on climate futures	2024
Invited Speaker, <i>The World Transformed Festival 2023</i> . Public Panel: Can Games Transform The World?	2023

SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY

Reviewer, International Journal of Role-Playing	2024
Reviewer, European Journal of Development Research	2023
Reviewer, Gender, Place and Culture	2023
Reviewer, American Journal of Sociology	2021
Reviewer, Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies	2020
Reviewer, Gender, Work, and Organisation	2020
Member, ARIScope Committee, Asia Research Institute	2020
Reviewer, Local Environment	2020
Reviewer, Urban Planning	2020
Reviewer, Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies	2018
Reviewer, International Migration	2017