FRED I. LEE

Associate Professor of Political Science and Social & Critical Inquiry
The University of Connecticut, Storrs

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Appointments

2024-Present Associate Professor of Political Science and Social & Critical Inquiry, University of Connecticut, Storrs
2025-2026 Director of Intersectionality Indigeneity, Race, Ethnicity, and Political Masters Program
2019-2024 Associate Professor of Political Science and Asian/Asian American Studies, University of Connecticut, Storrs
2021-Present Affiliated Faculty with Africana Studies
2020-2025 Director of Intersectionality Indigeneity, Race, Ethnicity, and Politics Graduate Certificate Program
2020 Spring Visiting Scholar of Ethnic Studies, University of California, Berkeley
2019-Present Affiliated Faculty with Philosophy
2013-2019 Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Connecticut, Storrs
2016-Present Affiliated Faculty with American Studies
2015-2018 Assistant Professor of Asian/Asian American Studies
2014-2015 Affiliate of Asian/Asian American Studies
2012-2013 Consortium for Faculty Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow and Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science, Denison University
2010-2012 Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Studies, Pitzer College

Education

2010 Ph.D. Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles
Subfields: Political Theory and Race, Ethnicity, & Politics
2001 B.A. Political Science, University of California, Berkeley
Specialization: Political Theory

Research Areas

Contemporary political theory, Asian/Asian American cultural studies

Book

Fred Lee, *Extraordinary Racial Politics: Four Events in the Informal Constitution of the United States* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2018)

Reviewed by Kirstine Taylor in *Political Theory*
https://doi.org/10.1177%2F0090591719852311
Reviewed by Robert Tsai in *The Journal of American History*
https://academic.oup.com/jah/article/106/2/423/5545873

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Fred Lee, "Development without Progress: The Philosophy of History in Liu Cixin's *The Three Body Problem*," *New Political Science* 48, no. 3 (2026): 415-434

Fred Lee and Lily Luo, "Grace Lee Boggs on Chinese Political Thought and the Next American Revolution," *Theory & Event* 27, no. 4 (2024): 532-552

Fred Lee, "Bong Joon-ho's *Okja*: Transatlantic Racism, Transpacific Capitalism, and Intimate Subversion," *Polity* 55, no. 1 (2023): 34-58

Fred Lee, "Neoliberal and Authoritarian Updates on U.S. White Democracy," *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 10, no. 4 (2022); won 2020 Pi Sigma Alpha Award for best paper presented at Western Political Science Association 2019 conference

Fred Lee, "Contours of Asian American Political Theory: Introductions and Polemics," *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 6, no. 3 (2018): 506-516
Response by Edmund Fong in *Politics, Groups, and Identities*
https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/21565503.2018.1491868
Response by Charles Lee in *Politics, Groups, and Identities*
https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/21565503.2018.1491867
Reprinted in *Asian Pacific American Politics: Celebrating the Scholarly Legacy of Don Nakanishi,* eds. Andrew Aoki and Pei-te Lien (New York: Routledge, 2020)

Fred Lee, "Creolizing Political Theory with Extraordinary Racial Politics," *Contemporary Political Theory* 17, no. 3 (2018): 376-382 ["Critical exchange" essay]

Fred Lee and Steven Manicastri, "Not All Are Aboard: Decolonizing Exodus in Joon-Ho Bong's *Snowpiercer,*" *New Political Science* 40, no. 2 (2018): 211-226

Fred Lee, "Post-Naturalistic Racialization in the 'Post-Racial' United States: The Shifting rather than Declining Significance of Race," *Theory & Event* 20, no. 3 (2017): 653-678

Fred Lee, "Working on the Boundaries of Political Science and Ethnic Studies," *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* 3, no. 1 (2017): 2-7 ["A&Q" essay]

Fred Lee, "Fantasies of Asian American Kinship Disrupted: Identification and Disidentification in Michael Kang's *The Motel,*" *Critical Philosophy of Race* 4, no. 1 (2016): 6-29

Fred Lee, "Reconsidering the Jefferson-Hemings Relationship: Nationalist Historiography without Nationalist Heroes, Racial Sexuality without Racial Significance," *Political Research Quarterly* 66, no. 3 (2013): 500-515

Fred Lee, "Mark Bevir's *Democratic Governance* in Radical Democratic Perspective," *International Journal of Organizational Theory and Behavior* 14, no. 4 (2011): 554-575 [review essay]

Fred Lee, "The Japanese Internment and the Racial State of Exception," *Theory & Event* 10, no. 1 (2007): approximately 11,000 words

Other Publications

Fred Lee, "Of Models and Movements: Claire Kim, Jonathan Tran, and Conceptions of History in Recent Asian American Political Thought," *The Carryall* [forthcoming; review essay]

Kye Barker, Arash Davari, Megan Gallagher, and Fred Lee, "In Conversation with Kirstie," *Philosophy & Global Affairs* 6, no. 1 (2026): 182-191

Fred Lee and Kevin Pham, "Asian/American Political Thought: Purposes and Polemics," *Theory & Event* 27, no. 4 (2024): 526-531 [symposium introduction]

Fred Lee, "On Claire Jean Kim's Bitter Fruit: Asian American Positionality in Asian American Political Thought," *Polity* 56, no. 2 (2024): 275-284 ["Classics revisited" essay]

Fred Lee, "Reflections on Oppression, Domination, and *The Humble Cosmopolitan,*" *Comparative Political Theory* 1, no. 2 (2021): 285-290 [book review]

Fred Lee, "Strange Bedfellows," *Theory & Event* 22, no. 4 (2019): 1133-1135 [book review of Daniel Martinez HoSang and Joseph E. Lowndes, *Producers, Parasites, and Patriots*]

Fred Lee, "The Japanese Internment," in *Anti-Immigration in the United States: A Historical Encyclopedia*, ed. Kathleen Arnold (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2011), 291-294

Awards and Funding

2020 Pi Sigma Alpha Award for best paper presented at Western Political Science Association 2019 conference, $500

2012 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Consortium for Faculty Diversity, Denison University, $60,000

2004 Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award, University of California Interdisciplinary Psychoanalytic Consortium, $500

Invited Talks

Paper workshop, "Liu Cixin's *The Three Body Problem*, The Cultural Revolution, and The Philosophy of History," Brown Political Theory Workshop, April 2024

Roundtable participant, Book Launch and Discussion of Inés Valdez, *Democracy and Empire,* Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, March 2024

Paper workshop, "Liu Cixin's *The Three Body Problem*, The Cultural Revolution, and The Philosophy of History," AS.190.689: Marxisms, Professor Inés Valdez, Johns Hopkins University, March 2024

Paper workshop with Lily Luo, "Chinese Political Thought in Grace Lee Boggs' Political Thought: The Challenges of Thinking Revolution Across Continents," Pioneer Valley Political Theory Workshop, Smith College, March 2023

Roundtable participant, "Virtual Roundtable on AAPI Politics," *Politics, Groups, and Identities,* Online, September 2021

Public lecture, "Confronting Discrimination against Asian Americans," Asian Studies, University of Buffalo, State University of New York, April 2021

Guest speaker, "The Japanese Internment and the Racial State of Exception," ETST001: Introduction to the Study of Race and Ethnicity, Professor Adrian Felix, University of California Riverside, October 2020

Public lecture, "Neoliberal and Authoritarian Variations on the Racial and Sexual Contracts," Race and Ethnicity Workshop, University of Illinois, Chicago, February 2019

Public lecture, "The Extraordinary Politics of Asian Americans," Foreign Languages and Literatures, National Chung Hsing University, January 2019

Public lecture, "The Racial and Sexual Contracts of the Trump-Era United States," Political Science, National Sun Yat-Sen University (Taiwan), January 2019

Public lecture, "The Extraordinary Politics of Indigenous Americans," Foreign Languages and Literatures, National Taiwan University, January 2019

Public lecture, *Extraordinary Racial Politics: Four Events in the Informal Constitution of the United States,* Politics, Whitman College, November 2018

Public lecture, "Asian American Political Theory, Asian American Political Activism," Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Coalition, Macalester College, October 2018

Roundtable participant, "Rethinking the Study of Race and Ethnicity in American Politics," Mark Q. Sawyer Memorial Symposium, University of Chicago, March 2018

Doctoral Dissertations, Masters Theses, and Honors Theses

2019-2026 Chair, Lily Luo, *Learning to Transform: The Revolutionary Legacy and Lineages of Grace Lee Boggs*, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science

2025-2026 Advisor, Shannon O'Connor, *Into the Mainstream: How White Nationalism Has Been Disseminated Online and Legitimated in the United States at Large,* B.A. Honors Thesis, Political Science

2023-2024 Advisor, Marrium Shahid, *The Cognitive Political Awakening Against Western Exceptionalism for Desis Across North America,* M.A. Thesis, Political Science

2022-2023 Advisor, Mason Holland, *Black False Consciousness and Spectacular Reproduction: An Analysis of the Trumpist Spectacle's Appeal to Black Male Voters in the 2020 Election,* B.A. Honors Thesis, Political Science

2021-2022 Advisor, Siyu Huang, *Affirmative Action in Higher Education: What Role does Whiteness Ideology Play?* B.A. Honors Thesis, Political Science

2019-2020 Chair, Steve Manicastri, *"Whatever It Takes": How the MCU Avenges Neoliberal Hegemony*, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science

2017-2018 Advisor, Katherine Pérez-Quiñones, *"Desiring Streets": Reading Socio-spatial Practices Concerned with Better Life in Mexico City,* M.A. Thesis, Latina/o and Latin American Studies

2016-2017 Advisor, Sebastián Chamorro, *Seize the Memes of Production! The Propagation of Marxist Political Theory and Discourse through Internet Memes*, B.A. Honors Thesis, Political Science

Professional Service

2024 External Reviewer for Tenure and Promotion Case, R1 University

2023-Present Member, Editorial Board, *Philosophy and Global Affairs*
2020-Present Member, Editorial Board, *Polity*
2020-2023 Book Review Editor, *Philosophy and Global Affairs*
2019-Present Member, Editorial Board, *Comparative Political Theory*
2016-2019 Member, Advisory Board, *Verge: Studies in Global Asias*
2012-Present Reviewer for *Political Research Quarterly* (2012, 2015); *Journal of Politics* (2014, 2018); *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* (2014, 2017); *Politics, Groups, and Identities* (2014, 2022); *Critical Philosophy of Race* (2015); *Ciencia Política* (2025); *Contemporary Political Theory* (2018); *Journal for Human Rights* (2019); *New Political Science* (2019, 2021); *PS: Political Science & Politics* (2020); *Political Theory* (2021, 2024, 2025); *Philosophy and Global Affairs* (2021); *Social Problems* (2024)*; Theory & Event* (2022)

Reading Languages

Chinese, Spanish, French, Korean (beginner)