

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
- 2019-2024 Associate Professor of Political Science and Asian/Asian American Studies, University of Connecticut, Storrs
- 2021-Present Affiliated Faculty with Africana Studies
- 2020-Present Director of Intersectionality Indigeneity, Race, Ethnicity, and Politics Graduate Certificate
- 2019-Present Affiliated Faculty with Philosophy
- 2020 Spring Visiting Scholar of Ethnic Studies, University of California, Berkeley
- 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>

Refereed Journal Articles

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

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 Manicasteri, "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 and Kevin Pham, “Asian/American Political Thought: Purposes and Polemics,” *Theory & Event* 27, no. 4 (2024): 526-531 [symposium introduction]
- Fred Lee, “Reflections on Oppression, Domination, and *The Humble Cosmopolitan*,” *Comparative Political Theory* 1, no. 2 (2021): 285-290
- Fred Lee, “Aphorisms,” *Stimulus* → *Respond*, issue 36 (2020)
- 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
- Fred Lee, *The Hi-Rise/My Day at the Beach* (San Francisco, CA: Serpentine Press, 2004) [short fiction]

Works in Progress

- Fred Lee, “Liu Cixin’s *The Three Body Problem*, The Cultural Revolution, and The Philosophy of History,” research article

Awards and Funding

- 2024 Funding for Intersectional Indigeneity, Race, Ethnicity, and Politics, University of Connecticut Humanities Institute, \$1400
- 2022 Nomination, Career Everywhere Award, University of Connecticut Center for Career Development
- 2021 Faculty Research Fellowship, American Studies, University of Connecticut, \$1000
- 2020 Pi Sigma Alpha Award for best paper presented at Western Political Science Association 2019 conference, \$500
- 2018 Book Support Fund, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Connecticut, \$2000
- 2018 Scholarship Facilitation Award, Office of the Vice President for Research, University of Connecticut, \$2000
- 2014-2020 Funding for Political Theory Workshop, University of Connecticut Humanities Institute, \$1000 yearly
- 2012 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Consortium for Faculty Diversity, Denison University, \$60,000
- 2010 Nomination for Leo Strauss Prize, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2008 Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of California, Los Angeles, \$27,000
- 2005 Summer Mentorship Research Grant, University of California, Los Angeles, \$4,500
- 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

Conference Participation

Roundtable participant, “Asian American Intellectual History,” Society for United States Intellectual History, Boston, Massachusetts, November 2024

Roundtable participant, “Toward Theorizing Asian American Politics,” American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 2024

Panel chair, “Convergences and Coalitions: Latinx and Asian American Political Thought,” Latinx & Latin American Political Theory Conference, University of Pennsylvania, September 2024

Panel organizer, “Asian American Political Thought,” Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, April 2023

Panelist, “Chinese Political Thought in Grace Lee Boggs Political Thought: The Challenges of Thinking Revolution across Continents,” Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, April 2023

Panel chair, “Reading Democracy through Superheroes: Honor, Citizenship & Legitimacy,” Western Political Science Association, Online, April 2021

Panelist, “Racialized Suffering and Anti-Capitalist Subversion in Bong Joon-ho’s *Okja*,” Western Political Science Association, Online, April 2021

Panelist, “Asian/Asian American Critique of Race and Species in Bong Joon-ho’s *Okja*,” American Studies Association of Korea, Seoul, South Korea, September 2019

Panel discussant, “Corporate Spectacle and Critical Worldbuilding,” Western Political Science Association, San Diego, California, April 2019

Paper presentation, “Neoliberal and Authoritarian Variations on the Racial and Sexual Contracts,” Western Political Science Association, San Diego, California, April 2019

Paper presentation, “Contours of Asian American Political Theory,” Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, March 2018

Roundtable participant, “Racializing Political Science: The Legacy of Mark Q. Sawyer,” Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, March 2018

Paper presentation, “What Can Social Contracts Do and What Can Radical Democrats Do Without Them?” Western Political Science Association, Vancouver, Canada, April 2017

Paper presentation, “An Introduction to Extraordinary Racial Politics,” Pacific New England (Asian Americanist conference), Storrs, Connecticut, November 2016

Panel moderator, “Decolonizing the Study of the U.S.,” Caribbean Philosophical Association, Storrs, Connecticut, July 2016

Participant, Caribbean Philosophical Association Summer School, Storrs, Connecticut, June 2016 and June 2015

Paper presentation with Steven Manicasteri, “Not All Are Aboard: The Politics of Postcolonial Refusal in Joon-Ho Bong’s *Snowpiercer*,” Western Political Science Association, San Diego, California, March 2016

Paper presentation, “Racial Removal Contracts and the *Nomos* of the New World,” Critical Theory Roundtable, Yale University, October 2015

Participant, Roundtable on Kathryn Gines’s *Hannah Arendt and the Negro Question*, American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, September 2015

Panel moderator, “American Perspectives on Anarchism and Race,” Race and Anarchy Conference, Storrs, Connecticut, March 2015

Paper presentation, “On Post-Biological Racial Identity in the Post-Civil Rights Era United States,” Eastern American Philosophical Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 2014

Participant, Roundtable on Mark Kaswan’s *Happiness, Democracy, and the Cooperative Movement*, American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., August 2014

Paper presentation, “Fantasies of Racial Kinship Interrupted in Michael Kang’s *The Motel*,” Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 2013

Paper presentation, “Race as a Distinctive Mode of Politics,” Western Political Science Association, Los Angeles, California, March 2013

Participant, Roundtable on Mark Bevir's *Democratic Governance*, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 2011

Panel organizer, "Alternative Approaches to Race, Ethnicity & Politics," Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, April 2010

Paper presentation, "On the Racial Constitution of the United States Public," Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, April 2010

Paper presentation, "Racial Foundations and the Rise of the Nation-State," Western Political Science Association, San Diego, California, March 2008

Panel organizer, "Asian American Politics, Diversity, and Identity," Western Political Science Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 2006

Paper presentation, "The Japanese Internment and the Racial State of Exception," Western Political Science Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 2006

Participant, University of California Interdisciplinary Psychoanalytic Consortium, Lake Arrowhead, California, May 2004

Paper presentation, "Historical Representations of the Jefferson-Hemings Relationship," Western Humanities Alliance, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 2003

Participation in University of Connecticut Events

Participant, Book Manuscript Workshop for Elva Orozco Mendoza, Political Science, May 2023

Roundtable participant, "Speculative Fiction: Past, Present, and Future," William Benton Museum of Art, November 2022

Roundtable participant, "Revolutionary Asia and the Radical Imagination of the United States," Asian/Asian American Studies, March 2022

Roundtable participant, "Current Research in Indigeneity, Race, Ethnicity, and Politics Studies," UConn Honors Stamford, March 2022

Guest speaker, "Anti-Asian Violence in Covid19 Times," AAAS1000: Pathways to Asian American Studies, Professor Na-Rae Kim, March 2022

Guest speaker, "The Value of Cultural Competency," John Lof Leadership Academy, July 2021

Brownbag talk, "Graduate Student and Faculty Interactions," Graduate Students of Color Association, April 2021

Guest speaker, "Mapping the Location of Asian America," AAAS 2201: Introduction to Asian American Studies, Professor Na-Rae Kim, November 2020

Roundtable participant, "States of Change/States of Civil War," American Studies, October 2020

Book discussion with Lisa Lowe, *Extraordinary Racial Politics*, Political Science, Asian/Asian American Studies, and Humanities Institute, April 2019

Roundtable participant, "Why We Fight: What Does It Mean to be Antifascist on a College Campus?" Campus Antifascist Network, November 2017

Roundtable participant, "From the Land of Gandhi," Asian American Cultural Center, Salaam, and Indian Students Association, October 2017

Panel moderator, “Creating the Political: Politics & Resistance,” Borderlands: A Critical Graduate Symposium, April 2017

Organizer, Seminar and Lecture by Nancy Fraser, Political Theory Workshop and Humanities Institute, February 2017

Roundtable moderator, “Black in Academia: Voices from Political Science,” Political Science, December 2016

Roundtable participant, “Race and the Future of Asian American Politics,” Asian/Asian American Studies, October 2016

Roundtable participant, “What Difference do Differences Make?” Political Science, February 2016

Public lecture, “The Power of Judgment in U.S. Racial Empowerment Movements,” Humanities Institute Luncheon/Lecture Series, February 2016

Brownbag talk, “Professional Development for Academics of Color,” Graduate Students of Color Association, November 2015

Roundtable participant, “Critical Race Theory,” English Graduate Student Association, October 2014

Panelist, “The Value of Political Life,” Humanities Institute Week in the Humanities, April 2014

Roundtable participant, “Job Market Preparedness,” Political Science, April 2014

Service at the University of Connecticut

2024-Present Member, Graduate Affairs Committee, Political Science

2023 Spring Member, Hiring Committee, Asian/Asian American Studies and English

2022 Fall Member, Robert Tilton Essay Prize Committee, American Studies

2022 Spring Member, Merit Committee, Political Science

2021-Present Member, Promotion, Tenure, and Review Committee, Political Science

2021 Summer Co-Curator with Na-Rae Kim, Asian and Asian American Studies eBook Collection, Homer Babbidge Library

2020-2021 Member, Promotion, Tenure, and Review Committee, Asian/Asian American Studies

2020-2021 Advisory Committee, Political Science

2020-2021 Convenor, Speculative Fiction Reading Group

2020-2022 Member, Advisory Board, Humanities Institute

2020 Spring Member, Merit Committee, Political Science

2020 Spring Member, Selection Committee for Endowment Fund Scholarship, Asian American Cultural Center

2020 Fall Independent study with Chineze Osakwe, Political Science

2019 Fall Member, Selection committee for Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts Research Experience [SHARE], College of Arts and Sciences

2019 Fall Faculty Advisor, Philosophy of Education (graduate student collective)

2019 Spring Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, Political Science

2019 Spring Member, Hiring Committee, Political Science and Literatures, Cultures, and Languages

2018-2019 Faculty Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science

2018-2019 Member, Undergraduate Affairs Committee, Political Science

2018 Spring Member, Hiring Committee, Asian/Asian American Studies

2018-2020 Convener, Reading Group, Asian/Asian American Studies

2018-2019 Convener, Psychoanalysis Reading Group

2016-2023 Member, Executive Committee, American Studies

2016-2017 Member, Graduate Affairs Committee, Political Science

2015-2016 Member, Colloquium Committee, Political Science

2014-2015 Faculty Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science

2014-2019 Convener, Political Theory Workshop, Humanities Institute Working Group

2014-2015 Member, Advisory Committee, Political Science

2013-2015 Undergraduate Affairs Committee, Political Science

Doctoral Dissertations, Masters Theses, and Honors Theses

2023-Present Associate Advisor, Jessica Cross, Ph.D. Dissertation, 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

2022-2023 Associate Advisor, Robyn Edwards, M.A. Thesis, Political Science

2022-2023 Associate Advisor, Khaled Aboudahham, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science

2022-2023 Associate Advisor, Aylin Saydam, M.A. 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

2020-Present Associate Advisor, Brooks Kirchgassner, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science

2019-Present Chair, Lily Luo, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science

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

2019-2020 Associate Advisor, Shawna Lesseur, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science

2019-2020 Associate Advisor, Elizabeth Jennerwein, M.A. Thesis, Political Science

2019-2020 Associate Advisor, Amber Smith, M.A. Thesis, Political Science

2018-2019 Associate Advisor, Shaznene Hussain, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science

2018-2019 Associate Advisor, Derefe Chevannes, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science

2018-2019 Associate Advisor, Dana Miranda, Ph.D. Dissertation, Philosophy

2017-2018 Associate Advisor, Thomas Meagher, Ph.D. Dissertation, Philosophy

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

2017-2018 Associate Advisor, Stephen Del Visco, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science
2016-2017 Associate Advisor, Vanessa Lovelace, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science
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
2016-2017 Associate Advisor, Ross Dardani, Ph.D. Dissertation, Political Science
2015-2016 Associate Advisor, Jihan Asher, M.A. Thesis, Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies

Professional Service

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 Asia*
2012-Present Reviewer for *Political Research Quarterly* (2012, 2015); *Journal of Politics* (2014, 2018); *Verge: Studies in Global Asia* (2014, 2017); *Politics, Groups, and Identities* (2014, 2022); *Critical Philosophy of Race* (2015); *Contemporary Political Theory* (2018); *Journal for Human Rights* (2019); *New Political Science* (2019, 2021); *PS: Political Science & Politics* (2020); *Political Theory* (2021, 2024); *Philosophy and Global Affairs* (2021); *Social Problems* (2024); *Theory & Event* (2022)

Public Engagement

Guest, “Burnout Society,” Escape from Plan A Podcast, July 2024
Interviewed by Zhao Yuanyuan, “‘She deserves it’: Chinese internet cheers Michelle Yeoh’s Best Actress Oscar,” *The China Project*, March 2023
Roundtable participant, “Asian American Experiences Under Covid19,” Connecticut Bar Association, June 2020
Guest, “#Love Your Asian Neighbors,” Green Card Voices Podcast, May 2020
Panelist, “Diversity and Inclusion,” Connecticut Legal Conference, Connecticut Bar Association, Hartford, Connecticut, June 2018
Guest, “Free Speech,” University of Connecticut Honors Podcast, April 2018
Roundtable participant, “Breaking the Bamboo Ceiling Part II: Maintaining Progress,” Connecticut Asian Pacific American Bar Association et al., Hartford, Connecticut, April 2017
Roundtable participant, “Breaking Through ‘The Bamboo Ceiling,’” Connecticut Asian Pacific American Bar Association et al., Hartford, Connecticut, June 2016

Reading Languages

Chinese, Spanish, French, Korean (beginner)