

Sharon A. Suh
Curriculum Vitae

Theology and Religious Studies
Seattle University
901 12th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122
206-296-6409
suhs@seattleu.edu

Education

- Harvard University, Committee on the Study of Religion, Ph.D. (2000)
- Harvard Divinity School, M.T.S., Religion and Culture (1994)
- Trinity College, Asian Studies, B.A. (1991)

Academic Appointments

- Professor of Theology and Religious Studies, Seattle University (2016 – Present)
- Theiline Pigott McCone Endowed Chair in the Humanities, Seattle University (2016-2018)
- Chair, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, Seattle University (2010-2017, Spring 2018)
- Associate Professor of Theology and Religious Studies, Seattle University (2007-16)
- Director, Academic Salons Program, Seattle University (2009-2011)
- Assistant Professor Theology and Religious Studies, Seattle University 2000-2007.
- Director, Asian Studies Program, Seattle University (2004-2008)

Publications

Books:

- *Occupy This Body: A Buddhist Memoir* (Sumeru Press, 2019).
- *Silver Screen Buddha: Buddhism in Asian and Western Film* (Bloomsbury Press, 2015)
- *Being Buddhist in a Christian World: Gender and Community in a Korean American Temple* (University of Washington Press, 2004)

Book Chapters:

- “Jeong as the Expression of the Interrelationality of Self and Other in Korean Buddhist Cinema” in Edward Y. J. Chung and Jea Sophia Oh, eds. *Emotions in Korean Philosophy and Religion: Confucian, Comparative and Contemporary Perspectives.* (Forthcoming: Palgrave 2021).

- “Taking Refuge in the Body to Know the Self Anew: Buddhism, Race, and Embodiment,” *Embodying Knowledge: Asian and Asian American Women’s Contributions to Theology and Religious Studies*, ed. by Kwok Pui Lan (Palgrave MacMillan, 2020).
- “We Interrupt Your Regularly Scheduled Programming to Bring You This Very Important Public Service Announcement . . .”: aka Buddhism as Usual in the Academy,” in Emily McCrae and George Yancy, eds., *Buddhism and Whiteness: Critical Reflections* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2019).
- “Buddhist Meditation as Strategic Embodiment: An Optative Reflection” in *Flashpoints for Asian American Studies*, ed. by Cathy Vials-Schlund. (Fordham University Press, 2017).
- “Buddhism, Rhetoric, and the Korean American Community: The Adjustment of Korean American Buddhists to the United States” in Richard Alba, Albert J. Raboteau, and Josh DeWing, eds., *Immigration in America: Comparative Historical Perspectives*. (New York: New York University Press, 2009):166-190.
- “Roots/Routes: Transmitting the Buddhadharma across Time and Place: Challenges and Implications for Contemporary Buddhist Women” in *Buddhist Women in a Global Multicultural Community* ed. by Karma Lekshe Tsomo. (Malaysia: Sukhi Hotu Publications, 2008): 3-9.
- “Asserting Buddhist Selves in a Christian Land: The Maintenance of Religious Identity Among Korean Buddhists in America,” in David K. Yoo and Ruth H. Chung, eds., *Religion and Spirituality in Korean America*. (Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2008): 40-59.
- Gutiérrez, Baldoquín, Hilda Ryūmon, Suh, Sharon, Weisman, Arinna, “Race, Ethnicity, and Class,” in Peter Gregory and Susanne Mrozik, eds., *Women Practicing Buddhism: American Experiences*. (Boston: Wisdom Publications, 2007): 141-157.
- bell hooks, Suh, Sharon, and Karma Lekshe Tsomo, “Women Changing Buddhism: Feminist Perspectives,” in Peter Gregory and Susanne Mrozik, eds., *Women Practicing Buddhism: American Experiences* (Boston: Wisdom Publications, 2007): 67-90.
- Suh, Sharon A., “To be Buddhist is to be Korean: The Rhetorical Use of Authenticity and the Homeland in the Construction of Post-Immigration Identities,” in Spickard and Iwamura, eds., *Revealing the Sacred in Asian and Pacific America* (Routledge Press 2003):177-191.

Peer Reviewed Articles:

- "Once the Buddha was born as Keanu Reeves: The Shaping of Buddhism in American Film." Special edition of *CrossCurrents: Cinema and Public Religion*. S. Brent Plate, ed. Wiley Publications, Nov. 2020.
- "Women in Asian/Asian North American Religions: Whose Asian/North America? Whose Religion?," in *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, 31.1, Spring 2015:137-142.
- Iwamura, Jane, Joshi, Khyati, Suh, Sharon, Wong, Janelle, "Reflections on the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life's *Asian Americans: A Mosaic of Faiths* Data and Report," in *Amerasia Journal: Asian American Religions in a Globalized World*. Volume 40, Number 1. (2014):1-16.
- "A Review of Carolyn Chen's *Getting Saved in America: Taiwanese Immigration and Religious Experience*" in *Pastoral Psychology* (19 April 2011):583-592.
- "Women in American Buddhism: Whose Buddhism, Whose America?" in *Bridges: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Theology, Philosophy, Religion and Science*, Volume 13, (FALL/WINTER 2006 Numbers 3/4): 247-265.

Review Essays/Book Reviews:

- Ann Gleig's *American Dharma: Buddhism Beyond Modernity* (Yale University Press, 2019) for *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (Forthcoming, Spring 2021).
- "Review Essay of Joseph Cheah's *Race and Religion in American Buddhism: White Supremacy and Immigrant Adaptation* in *Amerasia Journal* (Volume 38/Number 3/2012):164-168.
- "Book review of Carolyn Chen's *Getting Saved in America: Taiwanese Immigration and Religious Experience*" in *Politics and Religion*. Volume3 / Issue01 / (April 2010):185-188.

Encyclopedia Entries:

- "Race and Whiteness," *Oxford Handbook of American Buddhism*, eds. Ann Gleig and Scott S. Mitchell (Oxford University Press, Forthcoming 2022)
- "Western Buddhism and Race," co-authored with Joseph Cheah, *Oxford Encyclopedia of Buddhism*, ed. Richard K. Payne (Oxford University Press, Forthcoming 2021).
- "Buddhism and Film," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Buddhism*, eds. Richard K. Payne and Georgios Halkias (Oxford University Press, 2018).

- “Buddhism and Gender” in *Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Buddhism*, ed. by Michael Jerryson. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016):635-649.

Public Scholarship:

- *Text Writer*- Wing Luke Museum of the Asian American Experience exhibit entitled, *Bojagi: Unwrapping Korean American Identities*, opening November 13, 2014 through March 10, 2014. Shaped narrative themes through consultation with community advisory committee and wrote text panels for the exhibit on Korean Americans in the Pacific Northwest
- *Text Writer and Curator*- Wing Luke Museum of the Asian American Experience exhibit entitled, *Sacred Seattle...* Curated exhibit and wrote text panels for New Dialogues Exhibit on religion and spirituality in the Asian Pacific American communities of the Pacific Northwest. Exhibit ran 9/16/2010 through 3/11/11.

Selected Conferences and Invited Lectures

- “Ethics and Practices of Self-Care: Sharon Suh’s *Occupy This Body: A Buddhist Memoir*.” Author Meets Critics panel, Association of Asian American Studies Conference, (April 2021).
- *Author Meets Critics: Sharon A. Suh's Occupy This Body: A Buddhist Memoir*, Buddhism in the West Unit and Buddhist Critical-Constructive Reflection Unit, American Academy of Religion. (rescheduled to November 2021 due to Covid-19).
- “Asian and Asian American Women in Theology and Religion Roundtable,” Asian North American Religion, Culture and Society Unit and Women and Religion Unit, American Academy of Religion, December 1, 2020.
- “Healing Trauma through Mindfulness and Yoga,” *Women in Buddhism Conference*, Seattle Betsuin Temple, October 4, 2020. Invited Lecture.
- “Trauma-Informed Yoga for Survivors of Sexual Assault,” *Abuse in Yoga and Beyond: Cultural Logics and Pathways for the Future*, Loyola Marymount University Graduate Yoga Studies Zoom Webinar Conference, June 13, 2020. Invited Lecture.
- “Trauma and Mindfulness: Embodied Healing” presentation at the Compassionate Leadership Summit, University of Washington, November 8-9, 2019. Invited Lecture.
- “Buddhism and Whiteness---a Buddhist Feminist Killjoy's Take,” Religious Studies Symposium, Ohio State University. 3.28.19. Invited Lecture.
- “Film as Sutra” lecture presentation, Seattle Buddhist Temple, Seattle, WA.3.17.19.

- Workshop Facilitator, “Mindful Eating-Conscious Living” at the Asian Pacific American Religions Research Initiative Conference, Claremont School of Theology, July 19, 2018.
- “The Buddhist Killjoy: What’s a Bad Buddhist to Do,” on *Power, Privilege and Identities in American Buddhisms* panel, American Academy of Religion. November 2017.
- Teaching and Learning Colloquy for Mid-Career Asian/Asian North American Religion and Theology Faculty at the Claremont School of Theology, 7.17.17-7.20.17. Invited Participant.
- “Interdisciplinary Panel on Asian American Health Practices,” Thursday, April 13, 2017 at the Association of Asian American Studies Conference, Portland, Oregon. Panelist.
- “Wellness at Disciplinary Crossroads: Responding to AALR’s *Open in Emergency: A Special on Asian American Mental Health,” Friday April 14, 2017 at the Association of Asian American Studies Conference, Portland, Oregon. Panelist.
- “Occupy This Body: Buddhist Meditation as Recuperative Strategy,” Founders Annual Lecture in Comparative Religion and Contemporary Life, University of Washington, April 6, 2017. Invited lecturer.
- Keynote Address, Federation of Western Buddhist Women’s Association annual conference, September 26, 2016. Invited Keynote Speaker.
- Book talk, *Silver Screen Buddha*, Federation of Western Buddhist Women’s Association annual conference, September 26, 2016.
- 2016 Teaching and Learning Colloquy for Mid-Career Asian/Asian North American Religion and Theology Faculty at the Claremont School of Theology, 7.16.16-7.22.16. Invited Participant.
- “Buddhism and Film,” Annual Paul Ingram Lecture in Religion, Pacific Lutheran University, April 5, 2016. Invited Lecture.
- Invited external reviewer and lecture discussion for Professor Duncan William’s manuscript, *A Buried Treasure*, University of Southern California Manuscript Review Project, March 11, 2016.
- Seattle Asian Art Museum Film Introductions and Lecture on “Korean Buddhist Film,” Gardner Center for Asian Art and Ideas. 1/24/16 and 1/28/16.
- Book Talk, *Silver Screen Buddha*. Reed College, February 25, 2016

- “Author Meets Critics Book Panel: *Silver Screen Buddha: Buddhism in Asian and Western Film*.” Association of Asian American Studies Annual Conference, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, April 2015.
- Visioning Retreat Participant and Consultant for the Asian American Center at the Claremont School of Theology, March 20-22, 2015.
- “Reimagining the Pathologization of Female Sexuality as the Eroticization of Attention in Pan Nalin’s Buddhist film *Samsara*.” Association of Asian American Studies, San Francisco, CA. April 2015.
- “Re-Suturing Disrupted Selves: The Use of Koan in Buddhist Film.” American Academy of Religion. Baltimore, MD. November 2013.
- “Locating Jane Iwamura’s *Virtual Orientalism: Asian Religions in American Popular Culture* within Cultural Criticism and Gesturing toward the Future.” American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL. November 2012.
- “Buddhism, Race, and the Political.” 10th Annual Dharma Academy of North American (DANAM) Conference, Chicago, IL. November 2012
- “Model Minority and Perpetual Foreigner: The more things change, the more they remain the same—Asian Americans and Religious Affiliation.” American Academy of Religion, Chicago-IL. November 2012.
- “Being Buddhist in a Christian Society: Focus on Women.” *Keynote Speaker and Workshop Facilitator*- The Seattle Buddhist Temple Fall Conference, Seattle Buddhist Church, Nishi Hongwanji-ha and Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women’s Association, Seattle, WA. November 2012.
- “Film as Sutra.” Association of Asian American Studies Annual Conference, Washington, D.C. April 2012.
- Working Conference on Race, Politics, and Religion University of Pennsylvania. Invited Participant, April 2012.
- “New Euro-American Dharma Protectors: Jodoshinshu in Transition.” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA. November 2011.
- “Sacred Seattle...: Mapping Religious Identities in the Pacific Northwest.” Association of American Geographers Annual Conference Seattle, WA. April 2011.

Teaching Areas and Courses Taught

(Affiliate faculty in Film Studies, International Studies, Women, Gender and Sexuality studies)

- Introduction to Buddhist Thought and Practice
- Socially Engaged Buddhism- critical race and religion
- Buddhism, Gender, and Sexuality
- Buddhism and Film
- Introduction to Mindfulness
- Asian/Asian American Religions
- World Religions
- Spiritual Traditions: East and West
- Ritual, Symbol, and Myth
- Honors: Great Debates
- Senior Capstone for Theology and Religious Studies Majors
- Yoga: History and Practice
- Emergent Dharma

Fellowships and Awards

2021-22	Wabash Digital Salons Grant Recipient
2020-21	Wabash Digital Salons Faculty Participant
2019	Institute for Catholic Thought and Culture Summer Research Grant
2016-18	Theiline Pigott McCone Endowed Chair in the Humanities
2016	Institute for Catholic Thought and Culture Summer Research Grant
2013	Endowed Mission Fund: Religion, Race, and Public Life
2012	Seattle University Provost's Summer Faculty Fellowship
2009	Seattle University Summer Faculty Fellowship
2006	Seattle University Summer Faculty Fellowship
2005	Seattle University Endowed Mission Fund Grant
2004	Seattle University College of Arts & Sciences Outstanding Scholarship Award
2003	Faculty Summer Technology Institute
2002	Seattle University Summer Faculty Fellowship
2002	Center for the Study of Justice in Society, Seattle University
2002	Endowed Mission Fund, Seattle University

Professional Service/Committees

- Buddhism in the West Unit, American Academy of Religion, 2020.
- Religion Section, Association of Asian American Studies. Co-chair, 2014-2017.
Created the first Religion section for the AAS.
- Asian Pacific American Religions Research Initiative. Managing Board co-chair, 2011-2019. Steering Committee Member 2019-Present.
- North American Religions section, American Academy of Religion. Steering committee co-chair, 2012-2016.

- Asian North American Religions, Cultures, and Society, American Academy of Religion. Steering committee member, 2012-2016.
- The Mugen Project Web Resource for Study of Buddhism. Faculty advisory board, 2011-2014
- Pew Research Center- Religion & Public Life. Asian American Religions Faculty Advisory Board, 2011-13.
- Institute for Signifying Scriptures, Claremont Graduate University. Research Consultant, Fall 2006-2010

Seattle University Committees

2018-Present	Seattle University- University Rank and Tenure Committee
2017-Present	Bias Prevention and Climate Working Group
2015-Present	Interreligious Dialogue Initiative Committee
2016-17	Matteo Ricci College Task Force
2008-2009	Seattle University CAS Rank and Tenure Committee
2004-2010	Seattle University Premedical and Pre-dental Advisory Board
2003-2005	Seattle University Core Assessment Group
2002-2004	Seattle University College of Arts and Sciences Events Committee
2002-2004	Seattle University Asian Studies Program Committee

Manuscript Referee

- *Journal of Asian American Studies*
- *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religions*
- Routledge/Taylor & Francis Press
- University of Washington

Tenure Referee

- Northwestern University
- University of California-Riverside
- Rutgers State-American Studies Department
- St. Joseph's University (promotion to full)

External Department Review

- Loyola Marymount University- Theological Studies Department, 2016.

Dissertation Committee

- Loyola University Maryland, Pastoral Counseling, 2017.

Faculty Mentor

- Mentor for junior faculty member through the Louisville Fellowship. September 2018-June 2020.

Professional Memberships

- American Academy of Religion
- Association of Asian American Studies
- Asian Pacific American Religion Research Initiative

Nonprofit Boards and Committees

- Sakyadhita International Association of Buddhist Women, President, 2021-2023.
- The Center for Mindful Eating, Board of Directors, 2020-Present.
- Yoga Behind Bars, Seattle, WA. Board of Directors, 2018-2020
- Korean Women's Association, Tacoma, WA. Board of Trustees, 2016-17.
- Wing Luke Museum of the Asian American Experience, Community Advisory Committee, 2017.

Additional Trainings and Certifications

- Certified Teacher. Mindful Eating-Conscious Living, UCSD Center for Mindfulness
- 200-hour RYT, Yoga Alliance, 2017
- Trauma-Informed Teacher Training, Yoga Behind Bars, 2018.
- Trauma Informed Yoga for Survivors of Sexual Assault, online training, 2017.
- Y4T (Yoga for Trauma) online training, 2017.
- 2-year Jodoshinshu Correspondence Course Certification, Buddhist Churches of America, 2018.