

ELENA KIM

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CURRENT POSITION

- 2021- **Visiting Associate Professor**, Psychology, Bard College, New York
- 2024- **Associate Editor, Qualitative Psychology**. A journal published by the American Psychological Association. 2023 impact factor: 11.7 <https://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/qua>

PRIOR ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2021 **Professor**, Psychology Department, Social Sciences Division, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 2013 - 2021 **Associate Professor**, Psychology Department, Social Sciences Division, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 2007- 2013 **Assistant Professor**, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek Kyrgyzstan
- 2005-2007 **Instructor**, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

EDUCATION

- 2014 **PhD in Development Studies**,
Department of Philosophy, University of Bonn, Germany,
Diploma with honors
- Thesis title: International Development and Research in Central Asia:
Exploring the Knowledge-based Social Organization of Gender.
- Supervisor: Dr. Conrad Schetter
- 2003 **Master of Art in Gender Studies**
Department of Gender Studies, Central European University, Hungary,
Diploma with honors
- 2002 **BA in Psychology**
Department of Psychology, American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan,
Diploma with honors

RESEARCH GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2020 –2021 **National expert (Investigator)**
Community-based participatory research to map harmful social norms underpinning violence against women and girls, funded by the joint United Nations’ Spotlight Country Programme in Kyrgyzstan
- 2020 –2021 **Principal investigator**
Project title: “Eradicating campus-based violence in post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan: Inclusive research, policy and action”. Funding was provided by the University of California Global Health Institute, The Women’s Health, Gender, and Empowerment Center of Expertise
- 2017 – 2020 **Principal Investigator**
Project title: “Combating culturally endorsed gender-based violence i Kyrgyzstan through higher education”. Funding was provided by the Development Marketplace Award, the World Bank.
- 2017-2018 **Co-investigator**
Project title: “The Impact of Community Empowerment on access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and services (including HIV) in line with the Sex Worker Implementation tool (SWIT) for female, male and transgender sex workers”. Funding was provided by Aidfonds & SOAIDS, Netherlands.
- 2017 **National Analyst**
Project title: “Gender in Society Perception Study, Component on Gender and Migration in Kyrgyzstan”. Funding was provided by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund.
- 2016 **Quality Control Supervisor (Investigator)**
Project title: “Gender in Society Perception Study, Component on Violence against Women and Girls (Bride kidnapping and child marriage practices) in Kyrgyzstan”. Funding was provided by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund.
- 2015- 2016 **Principal Investigator**
Project title: “Women empowerment in rural Kyrgyzstan: Challenges and Opportunities”. Funding was provided by the Norwegian Institute for International Affairs.
- 2007-2010 **Co-investigator**
Project title: “Women's non-governmental organizations in Kyrgyzstan, international funding, and the social organization of gender”, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, International Opportunities Fund Program

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- 2013-2021 **Chair**, Department of Psychology, American University of Central Asia
- 2017-2021 **Co-chair and co-founder**, Center for Critical Gender Studies, American University of Central Asia
- 2017 – 2022 **Academic coordinator**, Executive Masters in Development Policies and Practice, Graduate Institute of Geneva and American University of Central Asia
- 2015-2019 **Head**, Division of Social Sciences, American University of Central Asia
- 2015-2018 **Head**, Master of Arts in Psychology

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- Kim, E. (2025). Institutional ethnography for exploring psychological practice in post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan: Explicating injustices in global knowledge production. *Qualitative Psychology*, 12(1), 52–68. <https://doi-org.bard.idm.oclc.org/10.1037/qup0000309>
- Kim, E., Epstein, H., Ecke, J., Bardfield, J., Hussein, M., Kangbai, J. B., & Molchanova, E. (2024). Teaching Critical Reflection on Epistemic Injustice: The Case of a Collaborative International Public Health Course. *Journal of College and Character*, 1–8. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2194587X.2024.2348995>
- Kim, E., Umetaliev, A., Imanalieva, M., Aitbayeva, A., Ismailova, S., & Dzhetybaeva, K. (under review). Intergenerational child rearing in Central Asia: Personal narratives of ‘nebere aluu’.
- Kim, E., Molchanova, E., Orozalieva, R. (2022). Bargaining with virginity-regulating practices in post-socialist Kyrgyzstan. *Central Asian Affairs*, 9(2-3), 294-323.
- Kim, E. (2022). Competing discourses in the child protection system in Kyrgyzstan: Implications for redressing gender violence against girls. *Child Indicators Research*, 15(4), 1209-1232. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12187-021-09900-6>
- Kim, E. (2022). The global ruling of local crisis intervention. An institutional ethnography of anti-violence work in Kyrgyzstan. *Violence against Women*, 28(2), 593-616. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801220985933>
- Kim, E. & Karioris, F. (2020). Bound to be grooms: The imbrication of economy, ecology, and bride kidnapping in Kyrgyzstan. *Gender, Place, and Society*, 28(11), 1627-1648. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0966369X.2020.1829561>

- Kim, E. (2020). Re-feminizing the post-Soviet women: Identity, politics and virginity ceremonies in contemporary Kyrgyzstan. *Journal of Gender Studies*, 29(6), 706-716. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09589236.2020.1758043>
- Kim, E., & Standal, K. (2019). Empowered by electricity? The political economy of gender and energy in rural Naryn. *Gender, Technology and Development*, 23(1), 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09718524.2019.1596558>
- Kim, E., Myrzabekova, M., Molchanova, E., & Yarova, O. (2018). The making of empowered women: Exploring gender and development practice in Kyrgyzstan. *Central Asian Survey*, 37(2), 228-246. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02634937.2018.1450222>
- Campbell, M., & Kim, E. (2018). The (missing) subjects of research on gender and global governance: Toward inquiry into the ruling relations of development. *Business Ethics: A European Review*, 27(4), 350-360. <https://doi.org/10.1111/beer.12189>
- Werner, C., Edling, C., Kim, E., Sartbay, F., Kleinbach, R., Becker, C., Teachout, W. (2018). Bride kidnapping in post-Soviet Eurasia: A roundtable discussion. *Central Asian Survey*, 37(4), 582-60. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02634937.2018.1511519>
- Molchanova, E., Horne, S., Kim, E., & Yarova, O. (2017). Hybridized indigenous healing in the Kyrgyz Republic: Helping survivors of violence. *Women & Therapy*, 41(1-2), 69-82. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02703149.2017.1324187>
- Kim, E. (2014). Conceptual practice of “rural wellbeing” in Uzbekistan: Contradictions and implications for gender equality. *Rural Society*, 23(3), 242–255. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10371656.2014.11082068>
- Campbell, M., & Kim, E. (2011). Working across Boundaries: Exploring the Relations of Researching Gender and Development. *Women & Therapy*, 34(3), 261-278.
- Kim, E. (2004). Women’s involvement in religious fundamentalism: A case study of Hizb Ut-Tahrir, Kyrgyzstan. *Women’s Studies Review*, 9, 39-59. Galway: National University of Ireland.

Book chapters, peer-reviewed

- Kim, E. (2023). Grandparenting the firstborn in Central Asia: Exploring ‘nebere aluu’ practice. In D. Bühler-Niederberger, J. Schwittek, X. Gu and E. Kim (Eds.), *Handbook of childhood and youth in Asian societies*, pp. 251-269. Emerald Publishing.
- Kim, E., & Bühler-Niederberger, D. (2023). Introduction. Living as a child in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Türkiye: Navigating between solidarity, collective pressures and kinship support in the times of disruption. In D. Bühler-Niederberger, J. Schwittek, X. Gu and E. Kim (Eds.), *Handbook of childhood and youth in Asian societies*, pp. 171- 176. Emerald Publishing.

- Standal, K., Daloz, A. S., Kim, E. (2023). A gendered approach to understanding climate change impacts in rural Kyrgyzstan. In R. Sabyrbekov, I. Overland, R. Vakulchuk (Eds.), *Climate Change in Central Asia*, pp. 123-134. SpringerBriefs in Climate Studies. Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-29831-8_10
- Kenzhebaeva, Z., & Kim, E. (2022). Ashamed to mother: The practice of ‘nebere aluu’ in Kyrgyzstan. In H. Thibault and J-F. Caron (Eds.), *Uyat and the culture of shame in Central Asia*, pp. 93-116. Palgrave MacMillian.
- Kim, E. (2022). The ‘war on women’ in Kyrgyzstan: Navigating between nationalism, extremism and patriarchy. In P. Knoope and S. de Leede (Eds.), *Negotiating gender in Central Asia: The effects of gender structures on dynamics on violent extremism* (pp. 43-71). Central Asia Program, The George Washington University.
- Kim, E., Myrzabekova, M., Molchanova, E., & Yarova, O. (2022). The making of empowered women: Exploring gender and development practice in Kyrgyzstan. In R. Isaac (Ed.), *A critical reader in Central Asian Studies: 40 years of Central Asian Survey* (section 7: Gender). Routledge.
- Kim, E. (2019). Child marriage in Kyrgyzstan: Exploring institutional ambivalences in constructing the “victim”. In D. Bühler-Niederberger and L. Alberth (Eds.), *Victim, perpetrator, or what else?: Generational and gender perspectives on children, youth, and violence* (pp. 171-189). Emerald Publishing Limited.
<https://doi.org/10.1108/S1537-466120190000025010>
- Kim, E., & Molchanova, E. (2019). Resurgence of ethnic sports in post-Soviet Kyrgyzstan: Still hunting for women. In G. Molnar, S. Amin, Y. Kanemasu (Eds.), *Women, sport and exercise in the Asia-Pacific region: Domination-resistance-accommodation* (pp. 49-61). Routledge.
- Kim, E. (2018). Sustainability of irrigation in Uzbekistan: Implications for women farmers. In P. T. Chandrasekaran (Ed.), *Water and sustainability*. IntechOpen.
- Kim, E. (2018). Explicating translocal organization of everyday life: Stories from rural Uzbekistan. In M. Stephan-Emmrich and Ph. Schröder (Eds.), *Mobilities, boundaries, and travelling ideas: rethinking translocality Beyond Central Asia and the Caucasus*, pp. 151-176. OpenBookPublishers.
- Kim, E., & Hornidge, A-K. (2015). IWRM in Uzbekistan: A global concept with local consequences. In *Integrated water resources management: Concept, research and implementation*, pp. 201-219. Springer.
- Kim, E. (2015). Exploring crisis intervention as practice: An institutional ethnography. In E. Molchanova & N. Agazade (Eds.), *Mental health services in emergencies and crises: Guidelines for emergency responders*. American University of Central Asia.
- Kim, E., & Campbell, M. (2013). Violence against women and peace building: Tracking ruling relations in women’s development NGO in Kyrgyzstan. In A. Choudry and D.

Kapoor (Eds.) *NGO-ization: Complicity, contradictions and prospects*. pp. 185-206. Zed Books.

Molchanova, E., Kosterina, E., Kim, E., Horne, S. G., Latipova, K., & Koga, M. (2015). Counseling in the Kyrgyz Republic. In T. H. Hohenshil, N. E. Amundson & S. G. Niles (Eds.), *Counseling around the world: An international handbook*, pp. 107-116. American Counseling Association.

Campbell, M., & Kim, E. (2013). Working across boundaries: Exploring the relations of researching gender and development. In K. L. Norsworthy and E. Kaschak (Eds.), *Global border crossings: Feminist activists and peace workers collaborating across cultures* (pp. 51-68). Routledge.

Molchanova, E., Kim, E., Horne, S., Aitpaeva, G., Alymkulov, J., Ten, V., & Pohilko, D. (2009). Status of Counseling in Kyrgyzstan. In L. H. Gerstein, P. P. Heppner, S. Ægisdóttir, S. M. A. Leung, & K. L. Norsworthy (Eds.), *International handbook of cross-cultural counseling* (pp. 265-281). Sage Publications.

Research reports

Kim, E. (2018). *Women and Labor Migration in Kyrgyzstan*. UN Women Gender in Society Perception Study. Bishkek: UN Women.

Kim, E. (2018). *Violence against Women and Girls*. UN Women Gender in Society Perception Study. Bishkek: UN Women.

Kim, E. & Ukueva, N. (2017). *Gender, poverty and environment in rural Kyrgyzstan: Issues of natural resource management, biodiversity and environmental degradation*. Bishkek: UNDP/UNEP/PEI.

Kim, E. (2014). *Case-based analysis of existing economic and environmental practices of rural women in Suusamyр айылы, Kyrgyz Republic*. UNDP-UNEP Poverty and Environment Initiative. Bishkek: UNDP.

Ukueva, N. & Kim, E. (2014). *Desk review of research on gender and environment*. UNDP-UNEP Poverty and Environment Initiative. Bishkek: UNDP.

SERVICE

Served as reviewer for International Journal of Qualitative Methods, Women's Studies International Forum

Served on various committees during my tenure at the American University of Central Asia including Faculty Senate, Academic Council (chair), Research Committee, Academic Policy Committee, Faculty Welfare Committee, Course Evaluation Committee, Institutional Review Board, Hiring Committee, International Student Exchange Selection Committee, Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee and other internal ad hoc committees.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

2023-present	American Psychological Association
2023-present	Society for the Teaching of Psychology, Division 2, American Psychological Association
2023-present	International Council of Psychologists
2022-present	Society for the Psychology of Women, Division 35, American Psychological Association, USA
2022-present	Society for Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology, Division 5, American Psychological Association, USA
2017-present	Central Eurasian Studies Society, USA - Canada
2017-present	Association for the Study of Nationalism, Columbia University

AWARDS

Fellowships and Scholarships

2023	Mathew Nimetz Award for Outstanding Research, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
2022	Mathew Nimetz Award for Outstanding Research, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
2021	Open Society University Network, Faculty Mobility Fellowship
2022	Open Society University Network, Faculty Mobility Fellowship
2021	Mathew Nimetz Award for Outstanding Research, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
2020	Mathew Nimetz Award for Outstanding Research, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Aug 2019-Oct 2019	Visiting Scholar Fellowship, School of Global Studies, University Indiana, Bloomington, USA
2018	Mathew Nimetz Award for Outstanding Research, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

- 2014-2015 Post-doctoral fellowship by Volkswagen-funded project “Translocal goods”, Institute for Asian and African Studies, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 Award to conduct collaborative research project on “Gender and Development at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway.
- 2013 Award to participate in the “Enduring Question of Hate in Human Civilization” program, Hannah Arendt Center, Bard College, New York, USA.
- 2010-2013 Doctoral fellowship by German Academic Exchange Service to pursue program at the Center for Development Research, University of Bonn, Germany
- 2011-2012 Research award by the Fiat Panis Foundation (Germany) to conduct research on “Social organization of gender”.
- 2005-2012 Returning Scholar fellowship by Academic Fellowship Program at Open Society Institute, Budapest, Hungary
- 2002-2003 Full scholarship by Open Society Institute to pursue MA program at Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
- 2000-2001 Full scholarship by the United States State Department’s Global Undergraduate Exchange Program (ACCELS/ACTR)

LANGUAGES Native speaker of Russian, fluent speaker of English

TECHNICAL SKILLS Communication software, online teaching platforms, standard office software applications

REFERENCES

Dr. Marie Campbell
Professor Emerita, Human and Social Development
University of Victoria, British Columbia
1.372.5319.2725 mariecam@uvic.ca

Dr. Sharon Horne
Professor, Counseling Psychology
University of Massachusetts in Boston
1.617.287.7495 sharon.horne@umb.edu

Dr. Gwendolyn Murdock
Associate Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Counseling
Pittsburgh State University
1.417.434.2454 gmurdock@pittstate.edu