

ALEX WEIJIE CHOW

450 Jane Stanford Way
Building 120, Room 160
Stanford, CA 94305-2047
(650) 407-9639
alexwjchow@stanford.edu

July 2025

EDUCATION

- 2020 – **Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology**
Present *Stanford University, Stanford, CA*
Doctoral Thesis: “The Social Significance of Education.”
Dissertation Committee: Dr. Michelle Jackson (Advisor),
Dr. Florencia Torche, Dr. David Grusky
Qualifying Exams: Social Stratification, Economic Sociology
- 2022 **Master of Arts, Sociology**
Stanford University, Stanford, CA
Master’s Thesis: “Expansion and Returns: A Causal Inference
Approach to the Positional Value of Education.” (Co-Advisors: Dr.
Michelle Jackson, Dr. Florencia Torche)
- 2016 – 2020 **Bachelor of Arts, Sociology (Honours)**
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.
Honors Thesis: “Complicating the International Student Classification
in Canada: A Computational Grounded Theory Approach”
(Supervisor: Dr. Qiang Fu)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Stratification, Inequality, Mobility, Educational Inequality, Higher Education,
Quantitative & Statistical Methods, Computational Methods, Network Analysis, Natural
Language Processing

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Chow, Alex, and Neil Guppy. 2021. “Intergenerational Educational Mobility Over the Past
Century in Canada.” *Canadian Review of Sociology*.

Selected Works in Progress

- Chow, Alex. “The Subjective Social Ladder: Actual, Perceived, and Projected Mobility in 22
Countries.” *Under review*.
- Chow, Alex. “Perceptions of Social Status: Findings from a Conjoint Experiment.”
- Chow, Alex. “Large-scale Evidence of Social Capital in U.S. Colleges.”
- Chow, Alex. “An Educational Prestige Scale for U.S. Colleges.”
- Chow, Alex et al. “Individuals or Neighborhoods? Descriptive and Causal Evidence for
Variation in Exposure Segregation.”

FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020 – 2023 **Knight-Hennessy Scholars Program, Stanford University**
2019 **Data Science for Social Good (DSSG) Fellowship, Data Science Institute, UBC**

RESEARCH GRANTS

2025	Graduate Research Opportunity , <i>Stanford School of Humanities and Sciences</i>
2025	Sociology PhD Dissertation Research Opportunity , <i>Stanford Department of Sociology</i>

HONORS & AWARDS

2020	Governor General's Silver Medal in Arts , <i>UBC</i>
2020	Outstanding Graduating Student , <i>Canadian Sociological Association</i>
2020	Kaspar Naegele Memorial Prize in Sociology , <i>UBC</i>
2019	University of British Columbia Scholarship , <i>UBC</i>
2019, 2018	Faculty of Arts International Student Scholarship , <i>UBC</i>
2019, 2018	Katherine Brearley Arts Scholarship , <i>UBC</i>
2018	Mo Lin Yu Memorial Prize in the Faculty of Arts , <i>UBC</i>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Aug 2025	"Perceptions of Social Status: Findings from a Conjoint Experiment." <i>American Sociological Association Annual Meeting 2025, Chicago, IL.</i>
Nov 2023	"Leveraging Cell Phone Data for Studying Social Mobility." <i>New Methods to Measure Intergenerational Mobility, Stone Center for Research on Wealth Inequality and Mobility, University of Chicago, IL.</i>
Aug 2023	"The Subjective Social Ladder: Actual, Perceived, and Projected Mobility in 22 Countries." <i>American Sociological Association Annual Meeting 2023, Philadelphia, PA.</i>
Jun 2022	"The Post-Liberal Social Classes: Actual and Perceived Levels of Income Inequality and Associated Values." <i>International Sociological Association World Congress of Sociology 2023, Melbourne, Australia.</i>
Aug 2022	"Expansion and Returns: A Causal Inference Approach to the Positional Value of Education." <i>American Sociological Association Annual Meeting 2022, Los Angeles, CA.</i>
2021	"Intergenerational Educational Assortative Mating: A Study of Individuals Born Between 1970 and 1985."
Aug 2021	<i>American Sociological Association Annual Meeting 2021, Virtual.</i>
May 2021	<i>Canadian Population Society Annual Meeting 2021, Virtual.</i>
2019	"Intergenerational Educational Mobility Over the Past Century in Canada."
Aug 2019	<i>American Sociological Association Annual Meeting 2019 (Honors Program), New York, NY.</i>
Jun 2019	<i>Canadian Sociological Association Annual Meeting 2019, Vancouver, BC.</i>
May 2019	<i>UBC Anthropology and Sociology Undergraduate Conference 2019, Vancouver, BC.</i>
Mar 2019	<i>UBC Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference 2019, Vancouver, BC.</i>
Jan 2019	<i>Harvard University National Collegiate Research Conference 2019, Cambridge, MA.</i>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Stanford University (2020 – Present)

Mar 2023 – Present	Social Networks Lab. Lab Coordinator for Dr. David Grusky, <i>Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality</i>
Mar 2023 – Present	"SafeGraph Mobility Data." Research Assistant for Dr. David Grusky, <i>Stanford Department of Sociology</i>
Sep 2022 – May 2023	"COVID and Infant Health." Research Assistant for Dr. Florencia Torche, <i>Stanford Department of Sociology</i>

University of British Columbia (2016 – 2020)

- May 2018 – **“Intergenerational Educational Mobility Over the Past Century in Canada.”** Co-Investigator with Dr. Neil Guppy, *UBC Department of Sociology*
- May 2021
- May 2019 – **“Developing Natural Language Processing Tools for Sharing of Indigenous and Community Knowledge.”** 2019 Data Science for Social Good Research Fellow, *National Energy Board & UBC Data Science Institute*
- Dec 2019
- May 2019 – **“Romantic Relationships in Canada.”** Research Assistant for Dr. Yue Qian, *UBC Department of Sociology*
- Dec 2019

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

Stanford University (2020 – 2023)

- 2021 – 2023 **Graduate Teaching Assistant.**
- Jan 2023 – *SOC 382: Sociological Methodology II – Statistics for an Open Science: Principles of Regression II* by Dr. Michelle Jackson, *Stanford Department of Sociology*
- Mar 2023
- Sep 2022 – *SOC 381: Sociological Methodology I – Introduction* by Sasha Shen Jobfre, *Stanford Department of Sociology*
- Dec 2022
- Sep 2021 – *SOC 114/214: Economic Sociology* by Dr. Mark Granovetter, *Stanford Department of Sociology*
- Dec 2021
- Nov 2024 – **Graduate Research Assistant Internship Supervisor.** Stanford Institute for Research in the Social Sciences Research Experience Program, *Stanford School of Humanities and Sciences*
- Present
- Jun 2021 – **Graduate Research Mentor.** Stanford Summer Research Early Identification Program with Dr. David Grusky, *Stanford School of Humanities and Sciences*
- Aug 2021

University of British Columbia (2016 – 2020)

- 2018 – 2020 **Undergraduate Teaching Assistant.**
- May 2020 – *ANTH/SOCI 480: Urban Ethnographic Field School* by Dr. Kerry Greer and Dr. Patrick Moore, *UBC Departments of Anthropology and Sociology*
- Jun 2020
- Jan 2020 – *SOCI 372: Contemporary Directions in Theory* by Dr. Sanjeev Routray, *UBC Department of Sociology*
- Apr 2020
- Sep 2019 – *DSCI 100: Introduction to Data Science* by Dr. Tiffany Timbers, Dr. Trevor Campbell, and Dr. Melissa Lee, *UBC Department of Statistics*
- Apr 2020
- Sep 2019 – *SOCI 301: Development and Underdevelopment* by Dr. Oral Robinson, *UBC Department of Sociology*
- Dec 2019
- Sep 2018 – *SOCI 100: Introduction to Sociology* by Dr. Kerry Greer, *UBC Department of Sociology*
- May 2019
- Sep 2019 – **Student Directed Seminar Leader and Coordinator.** SOCI 433: Scaling the Ivory Tower – Sociology of Higher Education (Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Neil Guppy), *UBC Department of Sociology*
- Apr 2020
- Oct 2019 **Workshop Leader and Coordinator.** Undergraduate Social Statistics Study Group, *UBC Department of Sociology*
- Sep 2017 – **Mentorship Program Coordinator (2018-2019) | Peer Mentor (2017-2019)**
- Apr 2019 Coordinated Arts Program, *UBC Arts First Year Programs*

ACADEMIC SERVICE

University of British Columbia (2016 – 2020)

- Jan 2019 – **Advisory Committee Member.** Advanced Research Cohort (ARC) Program, *UBC Department of Sociology*
- May 2020
- Jan 2019 – **Tenure-Track Instructor Hiring Committee Member.** Coordinated Arts Program, Arts First Year Programs, *UBC Faculty of Arts*
- May 2019

Sep 2017 – **Lead Typesetter (2018- 2019) | Associate Editor (2017-2018)** Sojourners:
May 2019 Undergraduate Journal of Sociology, *UBC Department of Sociology*
Feb 2018 **Selection Panel Member.** Arts Undergraduate Society Humanities and Social
Sciences Conference, *UBC*

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Python, R, Stata

LANGUAGES

English, Mandarin

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association

Canadian Sociological Association

Canadian Population Society

International Sociological Association