

## YIM MING (CONNIE) KWONG

Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Research  
Email: [connie.kwong@leibniz-zmt.de](mailto:connie.kwong@leibniz-zmt.de)

Fahrenheitstraße 6, 28359 Bremen, Germany  
+49(0)421 238 00-148

---

### EDUCATION

---

<i>PhD (Geography)</i>	Oct 2015-May 2019	Durham University, United Kingdom
	Thesis: Navigating with East Asian Volunteer Tourists: Moral Landscape, Community, Transformation Supervisors: Professor Mike Crang (Geography), Professor Simone Abram (Anthropology)	
<i>MPhil (Geography)</i>	Sep 2012-Aug 2014	The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
	Thesis: Mall as Leisure Space: A Comparative Analysis of Perceptions between Hong Kong Residents and Mainland Visitors in Shopping Malls in Hong Kong Supervisor: Professor Yiping Li Awarded Dr. S.F. Hui Prizes in Geography (Best MPhil thesis)	
<i>Bachelor of Social Sciences (1<sup>st</sup> Class Hons) (Geography &amp; Sociology)</i>	Sep 2008-Jun 2011	The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
	One-semester exchange to Peking University Awarded Dr. S.F. Hui Prizes in Geography (Best Year 3 Geographer)	

---

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

---

<i>Research interests</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Cultures, identities and practices</li><li>○ Moral geographies, responsibility, tourism and development</li><li>○ Host-guest relationship and community building for sustainable development</li><li>○ Qualitative methods</li></ul>	
<i>Postdoctoral Researcher</i>	Jan 2020-Present	Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) Supporting the research group leader in a mixed-method integrated social and natural science research project on participation, deliberation, and decision-support to meet the challenge of wastewater management for small-scale nature-based tourism communities in the tropics
<i>IHRR Intern</i>	Jul 2019-Oct 2019	Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience (IHRR), Durham University Collaborated and supported drafting academic papers with non-academic partner (National Society for Earthquake Technology – Nepal)
<i>PhD researcher</i>	Oct 2015-May 2019)	Durham University Conducted ethnographic research (participant observations and in-depth interviews) through joining two service trips to Cambodia with volunteers from Hong Kong and Taiwan to explore rationalities and practices of East Asian volunteer tourists
<i>Project Coordinator/ Research Assistant</i>	Jul 2015-Sep 2015	Assistant to Dr. Jiajie Zhang for a study on Mainland Chinese day-tripping to Hong Kong <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Conducted Irridex survey with shop owners to build the ‘Mainland Chinese Irridex Model’, personal interviews with residents in a border town in Hong Kong, and documentary research analysing timeline and media coverage of conflicts concerned; coordinated work of other research assistants and administrative work; managed project Facebook page</li><li>○ Organised the ‘Sheung Shui on the Move’ Photo Exhibition on 11-18 October 2016 and co-authored one publication (worked beyond employment contract)</li></ul>
<i>MPhil researcher</i>	Sep 2012-Aug 2014	The University of Hong Kong Conducted questionnaire survey and personal interviews with residents and Chinese visitors in Hong Kong to examine mutual perceptions and conflicts in using leisure space; coordinated work of Student RAs; analysed data using SPSS and content analysis
<i>Research Assistant</i>	Mar 2011-Jul 2012	Assistant to Prof. Becky P.Y. Loo for projects on walkability, mobility and safety in Hong Kong

Conducted data collection using mapping and integrated research design consisting of computer test, walking test, clinical test and questionnaire survey, assisted in data analysis using SPSS and ArcGIS, and coordinated research logistics and venue design/setup

---

**RESEARCH PROJECTS/AWARDS/HONOURS/SUPPORT**

---

<i>International collaboration grant</i>	2019	UKRI-GCRF Resilient Silk Route Cultural Heritage Network (£148011, involved in developing proposal and responsible for budgeting; Network Member, 2019-2021)
<i>Grant for Organising conference</i>	2016	Durham University PG Conference Fund (£500 for organising 2nd Ustinov Annual Conference)
<i>Awards/scholarships/grants for postgraduate studies</i>	2017	Allan and Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust Grant (£4,000 for final-year PhD)
	2016	Sir Richard Stapley Educational Trust Grant (£400 for general PhD support)
	2015/2017	Ustinov College GCP Scholarship (Full accommodation award)
	2015	Durham University Stipend (£13,000 annually for 3 years)
	2015	Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Postgraduate Scholarship (HK\$100,000 for overseas graduate studies)
	2015	True Light Scholarship (HK\$50,000 for overseas graduate studies)
	2012	HKU Postgraduate Studentship (HK\$13,600 monthly for 2 years)
<i>Grant for Fieldwork/Conference</i>	2016	Norman Richardson Postgraduate Research Fund (£600 for PhD fieldwork)
	2017/2018	Departmental Postgraduate Conference Fund (£500)

---

**PUBLICATIONS**

---

<i>Peer-reviewed journal articles</i>	<b>Kwong, Y.M.</b> & Li, Y. (2017). <i>In-place or out-of-place? Host-guest encounter under 'One Country, Two Systems'.</i> <i>Current Issues in Tourism</i> . DOI: 10.1080/13683500.2017.1398218
	Zhang, J.J. and <b>Kwong, Y.M.</b> (2017). <i>Reconceptualising host-guest relations at border towns.</i> <i>Annals of Tourism Research</i> . DOI: 10.1016/j.annals.2017.06.007
	Ruszczuk, H.A., <b>Kwong, Y.M.</b> Upadhyay, B.K., Bracken, L., Khanal, O., & Bastola, S.P.R. (Under review). <i>Giving Nepali Women a Voice in Disaster Risk Reduction</i> . Manuscript submitted to <i>International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction (Special Issue by invitation)</i> in November 2019.
	<b>Kwong, Y.M.</b> & Crang, M.A. (In preparation). <i>Touring moral landscape in Chinese societies in East Asia: Rationalities of travelling as a volunteer</i> . Manuscript to be submitted to <i>Environment and Planning D: Society and Space</i> .
	<b>Kwong, Y.M.</b> (In preparation). <i>Moralising volunteer tourism differently</i> . Manuscript to be submitted to <i>Tourism Geographies</i>
<i>Book chapter/edited volume</i>	Ajebon, M.O., <b>Kwong, Y.M.</b> , & Astorga de Ita, D. (Eds.; In preparation) <i>Navigating the field: Experiences of postgraduate fieldwork</i> . Switzerland: Springer.
	<b>Kwong, Y.M.</b> (In preparation). A post-place field: Researching on temporary communities of volunteer tourists on the move. In M.O. Ajebon, Y.M. Kwong & D. Astorga de Ita (Eds.), <i>Navigating the field: Experiences of postgraduate fieldwork</i> .
<i>Blogposts</i>	'Connie's Eventful Year with the Ustinov Intercultural Forum', <i>The Ustinovian</i> , 1 July 2016 ( <a href="https://community.dur.ac.uk/the.ustinovian/?p=610">https://community.dur.ac.uk/the.ustinovian/?p=610</a> )
	'Fundraising for the Foundation: Volunteering Team and UIF's events raise money and a smile' (co-authored with Jana Hengstler & Lea Muething), <i>The Ustinovian</i> (The Epiphany 2016 Issue), 17 March 2016 ( <a href="https://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/ustinov.college/Ustinovian_Epiphany_2016.pdf">https://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/ustinov.college/Ustinovian_Epiphany_2016.pdf</a> )

---

**CONFERENCES**

---

<i>International Geographical Union</i>	6-10 Aug 2018	Quebec City, Canada
		Presented paper: Building moral community among Asian volunteer tourists
<i>Connecting Communities: Participatory Arts and Social Action Research</i>	10-11 Nov 2017	London, UK
		Presented paper: Participation and Collaboration in International Volunteering: A Reflection from Research in Cambodia

<i>American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting 2017</i>	5-9 Apr 2017 Boston, Massachusetts, USA Presented paper: Geography of care and volunteer tourism in Asia
<i>International Conference on Emerging Tourism in the Changing World</i>	12-13 Nov 2016 Chiang Mai, Thailand Presented paper: Everyday ethics in volunteer tourism in Asia
<i>American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting 2014</i>	8-12 Apr 2014 Tampa, Florida, USA Presented paper: Mall as leisure space: A comparative analysis of perceptions between Mainland visitors and local residents in shopping malls in Hong Kong
<i>HKU Social Sciences Faculty Research Postgraduate Conference 2013</i>	1 Jun 2013 Hong Kong Presented paper: Leisure Space in Conflicts? A comparative analysis of shopping experiences between local residents and Mainland visitors in Hong Kong's shopping malls

---

#### OTHER ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

---

#### TEACHING

<i>Part-time Teacher</i>	2015-2019 Durham University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tutor of L1 Geographies of Crisis (2017-2018)</li> <li>○ Demonstration and supervision duties in practical and fieldtrips on using various research methods in L1 Introduction to Geographical Research (2015-2016; 2017-2019) and L2 Social Research (2017-2019)</li> <li>○ Demonstration duties and gave a short lecture in L4 Using Geographical Skills and Techniques (2018-2019)</li> </ul>
<i>Part-time Teaching Assistant</i>	Jul-Aug 2016; Jul-Aug 2017 The University of Hong Kong Assisted with local logistics and teaching during 2-week Overseas Field Trip to the UK for Geography Majors; gave a short talk on tourism development in York
<i>Teaching Assistant (Part-time during 1 Sep 2012-31 Aug 2014)</i>	Sep 2012-Sep 2015 The University of Hong Kong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Led in-class discussions and coordinated fieldtrip to Macau of L3 Tourism Policy and Planning (2014-2015)</li> <li>○ Coordinated local fieldtrips of L2 Tourism in the Shrinking World and L2 Leisure and Recreation in Modern Society (2012-2014)</li> <li>○ Assisted on L3 Overseas Field Trip (2014-2015)</li> <li>○ Organised departmental events and hosted at the Hong Kong Geography Day (2014-2015)</li> </ul>

#### INVITED TALKS/LECTURES

<i>Invited speaker</i>	8 Sep 2016 Durham University Invited by the International Office, Durham University to give a talk titled 'Volunteer tourism in Asia' to undergraduate students from University of Tübingen
<i>Guest lecturer</i>	30 Mar 2015 The University of Hong Kong Invited to give a lecture titled 'Mall as leisure space in Hong Kong' based on my MPhil research to undergraduate students of Leisure and Recreation in Modern Society

#### COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

<i>Ustinov Annual Conference Organising Committee</i>	Collaborated and coordinated drafting CfPs, inviting keynote speakers, selecting abstracts and chairing sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 'Citizenships to Achieve Sustainable Development: The Role of Critical Global and Environmental Citizenships', 24-26 Aug 2018</li> <li>○ 'Global Citizenship, Nationalism, and New Paradigms', 7-8 Jul 2017</li> <li>○ 'Establishing the Global Citizen: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Global Citizenship', 1-2 Jul 2016</li> </ul>
<i>Ustinov Global Citizenship Programme Scholar (Team Leader; part of Matariki Network of Universities)</i>	Oversaw event organisation of Ustinov Intercultural Forum Team and organised the following events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Seminar on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Their Lived Experiences in the UK, 20 Mar 2018</li> <li>○ Postgraduate Research Round Table, 5 Mar 2016</li> <li>○ International Dress Party, 27 Feb 2016; 10 Mar 2018</li> <li>○ Seminar on Movement and Identity, 16 Dec 2015</li> <li>○ Informal Discussion with Ruth Barnett-A Jewish Child Refugee, 16 Dec 2015</li> </ul>

*Co-Chair, Geography Research Postgraduate Committee, 2017-2018* Coordinated work of postgraduate committee members and bridged communications between postgraduates and the department and among postgraduates

ADVISORY/COORDINATING/VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES

*Department Culture Design Team Member* Mar-Sept 2018 Collaborated to collect and analyse data to explore and resolve issues in departmental culture

*Asian Education Network Advisory Board* 2018-2019 Advised on projects related to youth engagement, engaged in networking and conceptualising projects

*Project Advisor, The Bucket Wish* Sep 2016-Jan 2017 Advised on organising service trip to Cambodia and conducting community mapping

*Project Coordinator, The Bucket Wish* Sep 2014-Apr 2015 Coordinated arrangements of service trip to Cambodia and facilitated debriefings; provided interview training to volunteers and conducted interviews with migrants in Cambodia

---

**LANGUAGES AND QUALIFICATIONS**

---

*Languages* Chinese (Native in Cantonese; fluent to native in Mandarin)  
English (Fluent)  
Korean (Introductory certificate)

*Skills* Durham Key Skills Award for Researchers-Communication Skills Level 4

*Teaching qualifications* HKU Certificate of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education  
Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (UK)