

Betsy Kwong

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Humanities

September 2021 – present

Hong Kong Baptist University – Hong Kong SAR, China

Department of Humanities & Creative Writing | Faculty of Arts

Thesis (Tentative): “Monstrous Girlhood: An Ecofeminist Reading of Young Adult Fantasy Literature”

Advisors: Dr. Daisy Tam (principal); Dr. Patrick Holland; Dr. Emily Zhong

Master of Arts in Creative Writing (Fiction for Young Readers) – with Distinction

October 2017

University of Roehampton – London, UK

Department of English & Creative Writing

Dissertation: “Making the Past Present: The Role of Transcultural Narratives for Early Readers”

Advisor: Dr. Ariel Kahn

Bachelor of Arts in Communication, Minor in Marketing

May 2013

University of Southern California – Los Angeles, CA, USA

Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism | Marshall School of Business

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Researcher | Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

September 2021 – present

Hong Kong Baptist University

- Investigate the notions of gender violence in contemporary young adult literature with an objective to promulgate the discourses of ecofeminism and youth culture in environmental humanities and philosophy
- Fully funded by the University Grant Council in Hong Kong (Full-time studentship for four years)

Research Assistant | Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism

September – December 2011

University of Southern California

- Conducted a three-month quantitative research study under the supervision of Dr. Stacy Smith on gender and ethnic representations in films by recording and documenting the number of speaking-characters in the top 100 Hollywood films of the year

PUBLICATIONS

- Kwong, Betsy. “Monstrous Girlhood: An Ecofeminist Reading of New Fairy Tales for Young Adults,” *International Journal of Young Adult Literature*, Special Section on Environmental Futures and Global/Transnational YA Literature, Issue 5 (2024). [accepted]
- Kwong, Betsy. ““Nature-Other”: A Posthuman Feminist Reading of Jeanette Winterson’s *The Stone Gods*,” *Critical Asia Archives*, June 2022, <https://caarchives.org/nature-other/>.
- Kwong, Betsy. (2011). “Asian Americans Defy Traditional Notions of Success as YouTube Entertainers,” *Bamboo Offshoot*, 16-17.

HONORS & AWARDS

Studentship, UGC-Funded Postgraduate Research, Hong Kong Baptist University

2021 – present

First Prize, 17th Short Story Competition (Postgraduate Category), Hong Kong Baptist University

March 2023

CONFERENCE

Convenor, “Negotiating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity in Times of Crisis” for Creativity, Self and Society Faculty Niche Research Area, Hong Kong Baptist University (organizer), Hong Kong, December 1-2, 2023. [forthcoming]

Panel Chair & Panelist, “Revolution, Reclamation, and Intersectional Ecofeminism” Panel. “Reclaiming the Commons,” Association for the Study of Literature and Environment & Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (organizer), Portland, OR, USA, July 9-12, 2023.

Title: “Gender Violence & “Rape of the Earth”: An Ecofeminist Reading of New Fairy Tales for Young Adults”

Moderator, “Creative Writing, Community & COVID-19” Panel. “Bringing Creative Writing into the Community: An International Symposium,” Hong Kong Baptist University (organizer), Hong Kong, December 5, 2022.

Invited Speaker, “Environmental Literature” Panel. “Heterotopic Junction Graduate Conference,” Hong Kong Baptist University (organizer), Hong Kong, April 30, 2022.

Title: “Changelings, Chaos, and Power: An Ecofeminist Reading of Frances Hardinge’s *Cuckoo Song*”

Discussant, “Risks, Crisis, Restorations” Panel. “Negotiating Identity and Creativity in Times of Crisis” for Creativity, Self and Society Faculty Niche Research Area, Hong Kong Baptist University (organizer), Hong Kong, September 24-25, 2021.

TEACHING & ADVISING

Teaching Assistant | *Department of Humanities and Creative Writing*
Hong Kong Baptist University

September 2021 – present

Courses: Introduction to the Art of Theatre (Fall 2021, 2022, 2023); Great Works in the Humanities (Spring 2022, 2023)

- Organize presentation assignments for 90 students into four tutorial sessions and grade each presentation independently according to assessment rubric and criteria
- Supervise and lead the weekly discussions as it relates to the lectures to foster the students’ interest in the topic and their critical thinking and analytical skills
- Advise students on the preparations of their assignments to ensure each of them understands the objectives to optimize their learning experience

Guest Lecturer | *Department of Humanities and Creative Writing*
Hong Kong Baptist University

March 2022 – present

Course: Human Beings and Their Imaginary Monsters (March 2022, 2023)

- Planned a 3-hour lecture for an advanced level undergraduate course in hybrid mode (both virtual and in-person)
- Taught contemporary concepts and theories as it relates to the thematic and discourse of monstrous representations, such as environmental humanities and abject theory
- Led discussions with 32 students to ensure their critical understanding of the concepts previously introduced and aid them in retaining high levels of engagement and interests

Group Leader | *Summer School for Global Leadership*
Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (Leadership Institute)

August 2022

- Guided a group of 12 secondary school students through a 5-days intensive summer school program by training them on leadership skills
- Facilitated the development of their knowledge on the theme of resilience by assisting them during workshops and lectures by field specialists and invited government officials
- Mentored the students on the proceedings of their capstone project daily to ensure they meet each milestone, which resulted in them winning the “Best Team Award,” an indicator of the feasibility of the proposed solution, their creativity, and the overall cohesiveness of their presentation structure and style

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Cohort Representative, Hong Kong Baptist University

September 2022 – present

- Act as a liaison between the postgraduate student body and the faculty of the Department of Humanities & Creative Writing to ensure feedback and suggestions are conveyed, considered and/or executed accordingly

President, USC Annenberg Student Communication Association

January 2010 – May 2012

- Managed and spearheaded monthly meetings with an executive board of 13 members to ensure programs and events proceeded as planned and scheduled
- Represented the organization in public appearances and speaking opportunities to retain and attract new members

Executive Board Member, USC Alumni Association (Los Angeles) June 2019 – May 2020

- Organized events for alumni in the Los Angeles region and managed all logistics involved to ensure each event proceeded smoothly
- Contributed to monthly meetings to pitch new ideas and evaluate past events in relation to initial objectives

Executive Board Member, HKBU Postgraduate Association (Hong Kong) September 2021 – May 2022

- Conceptualize and execute events for members of the association to create a sustainable community

PROFESSIONAL MEMEBERSHIP

Member, **Association for the Study of Literature and Environment**

Member, **Children’s Literature Association**

Member, **Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators**

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Fluent: English, Cantonese, and Mandarin Chinese

Intermediate Fluency: Japanese and French

Limited Proficiency: Korean

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