

Jody Youjeong Park

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Research Interests American Politics: Race, Ethnicity, and Politics; Political Ideology;
Public Policy; Social Inequality; Migration

Education

The Pennsylvania State University 2025–Present
Ph.D. in Political Science & Social Data Analytics
Supervisor: Dr. Bruce Desmarais

KDI School of Public Policy and Management 2022–2024
Master of Development Policy (M.D.P.)
Specialization in Data Science (*Summa Cum Laude*)
Thesis: Does Banning Affirmative Action Hurt Racial Diversity?
Evidence from U.S. Universities (*Best Thesis Award Winning*)
Supervisors: Dr. Chungmun Yoon and Dr. Inbok Rhee (Yonsei University)

Ottawa University 2023
Undergraduate Mathematics, Non-Degree Seeking
Cumulative GPA 4.0/4.0 for Linear Algebra I and Calculus I

University of Prince Edward Island 2018–2021
Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.)
Honors in First Standing

Working Papers

Park, J. Y. (2024). Does banning affirmative action hurt racial diversity? Evidence from U.S. universities. *KDI School of Public Policy and Management*.

Min, S., & **Park, J. Y.** (invited to revise & resubmit). Exploring the factors affecting workforce integration of international graduate students in South Korea. *International Journal for Education and Vocational Guidance*.

Min, S., **Park, J. Y.**, & Yoon, H. (2023). Characteristics of international students in Korea by region. *Korean Educational Research Association 2023*. (in Korean)

Conference Presentations

Lee, C., **Park, J. Y.**, & Lee, H. H. (2023, Aug 26). *K-Developedia: Telling history through visualization*. 2023 Korean Economic History Society Summer International Conference. (Keynote)

Park, J. Y. (2023, Aug 26). *Affirmative action, racial diversity, and representation*. 2023 Korean Economic History Society Summer International Conference. (Poster)

Park, J. Y. (2023, Jun 20). *The impact of ethnic/racial diversity of students on tuition: Evidence from U.S. universities and colleges*. 2023 Korean Association for Public Administration Conference. (Paper Presentation)

Invited Talks

Park, J. Y. (2025, Mar 7). *From graduate student to a researcher: How to become a researcher at national research institutes*. 2025 KDI School Job Information Session.

Research Experience

The Pennsylvania State University Aug 2025–Present
Research Assistant, PI: Dr. Tracee Saunders
Assisted in BRFSS and PLACE data cleaning and analysis using R.

Korea Development Institute (KDI) Oct 2024–Jul 2025
Researcher, Dept. of Public Finance & Social Policies
Assisted in panel data cleaning and analysis using R and Stata.

Korea Institute for Vocational Education and Training (KRIVET) Jun 2022–Aug 2024
Researcher, Center for Tertiary & Continuing Education Research
Served as one of the National Project Managers of the [OECD PIAAC](#) Cycle 2 Main Study.
Prepared Korean PIAAC datasets; data cleaning using R and Stata.
Translated PIAAC survey questionnaires and interviewer training materials (ENG–KOR).

KDI School: K-Developedia Dec 2022–Aug 2023
Research Assistant, KDI School of Public Policy & Management
Built data visualizations and research articles on Korean ODA history.
Redesigned UI/UX of the [K-Developedia](#) website.
Organized data science bootcamp: “Techniques for Building and Analyzing Historical Data using Machine Learning” (Seoul, Feb 12–15, 2023).

KDI School: Collaboration Network Oct 2022–Mar 2023
Research Assistant, KDI School of Public Policy & Management
Built cross-country datasets on the U.S. Visa Waiver Program and non-immigration statistics from 40+ years of DHS yearbooks (Stata).
Web-scraped co-authorship network data (Python).

KDI School: Kurdistan Regional Government Policy Consultation Aug 2021–Dec 2021
Intern, Cooperative Research Division
Contributed to English policy consultation reports for the Kurdistan Regional Government in northern Iraq.

Government of Prince Edward Island Jan 2020–Apr 2020
Research Assistant, Public Service Commission
Supported focus group interviews and literature reviews on DEI policies for the PEI Diversity & Inclusion Policy (2020).

Teaching Experience	KDI School of Public Policy and Management May 2023–Jul 2023 Teaching Assistant, Korean Economic Development (Summer 2023) Developed data visualization class materials using R, Stata, and Notion. Consulted students’ data visualization projects, particularly for cleaning quantitative data and designing research articles.
	English Tutoring Service Apr 2021–Apr 2022 Private Tutor (Self-Employed) Taught elementary/middle school students and adults English speaking and writing (60-min sessions, two sessions per week per student)
Honors & Awards	KDI School of Public Policy and Management Outstanding Thesis Award (Class of 2024) Aug 2024 Student Community Service Award Aug 2023 Dean’s Honors List (Every Semester) 2022–2023 Dean’s Honors List (With Distinction) Mar, Jul 2023
	University of Prince Edward Island Dean’s Honors List (Every Semester) 2018–2021 Academic Excellence Award (1,000 CAD) 2018–2021 Ambrose Lee International Student Prize (500 CAD) Mar 2019, 2021 Diamond Awards (500 CAD) Apr 2020 Student Adversity Awards (500 CAD) Apr 2020 Roderick Stirling Macdonald Scholarship Prize (1,000 CAD) Dec 2019 University Prize, First Year Business (Highest) (1,000 CAD) Oct 2019
	Grants & Fellowships Penn State Political Science Department 2025–2030 Fully funded graduate assistance scholarship for the doctoral program
	KDI School Academic Excellence Scholarship 2022–2024 Fully funded scholarship for the master’s program (28,000,000 KRW; 21,320 USD)
	Leadership KDI School of Public Policy and Management Feb 2022–May 2022 Student Ambassador, PR Division
	UPEI–PEI Fencing Club Dec 2019–Dec 2020 Vice President
	Soup for the Soul (UPEI Faculty of Arts) Sep 2019–Dec 2020 Volunteer Manager
	Professional Experience Fitzpatrick & Co. Charlottetown May 2020–Aug 2020 Junior Accountant
	Skills Programming: R, Stata, Python, L ^A T _E X, QGIS Languages: English (Fluent); Korean (Native)
	<i>Last update: October 5, 2025</i>