CHU MAY PAING

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EDUCATION

2023	**PhD in Cultural Anthropology**, University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Anthropology Graduate certificates in Critical Media Practices; Culture, Language, and Social Practices Program; Asian Studies
2020	**MA in Cultural Anthropology,** University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Anthropology Thesis: "Worldmaking Media: A Review on the Anthropology of Mediation and the Case of Myanmar." (Committee: Carla Jones (chair), Alison Cool, Carole McGranahan)
2017 – 2019	**PhD Coursework in Linguistics,** University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Linguistics Prelim Exam Paper (Linguistics): "On Focus: Syntax-Semantic Interface in Burmese Focus Sensitive Particles" (Advisor: Laura Michaelis-Cummings)
2017	**BA in General Linguistics (graduated with summa cum laude)**, Queens College, City University of New York Honors Thesis: "To Know a Bāthā: Family Language Socialization among Buddhist Burmese Immigrant Families in New York City" Minors: Honors in Social Science and French
2015	**AA in Secondary Education**, LaGuardia Community College, City University of New York Area of Concentration: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

RESEARCH INTERESTS

affect, semiotics, anthropology of mediation, feminist anthropology, linguistic anthropology, discourse analysis, Buddhist nationalism, decoloniality, Southeast Asia (Myanmar)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2019 – present	Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder **Doctoral Researcher** Conducted ethnographic research on semiotic culture of political communication in Myanmar.

2017 – 2019	Department of Linguistics, University of Colorado Boulder **Doctoral Researcher** Conducted discourse analysis on the rhetoric of nationalism and gender in the Interfaith Marriage Law of Myanmar. Conducted a corpus study on eight Burmese focus sensitive particles and copy verb construction in Burmese.
2015 – 2017	Department of Linguistics, Queens College CUNY **Undergraduate Researcher** Conducted a year-long ethnographic research on Burmese heritage language maintenance with Sino-Burmese immigrant families in New York City.
2016	Center for Integrated Language Communities (CILC), CUNY Graduate Center **Research Assistant** Coded 2500 survey results for heritage language maintenance research and assisted Drs. Tomonori Nagano, Alexandar Funk, and Eric Ketchum.

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

2019 – 2024	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (up to $150,000)
2017 – 2021	CU Boulder Office of Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement Fellowship ($4000)
2020 – 2021	CU Engage Arts and Humanities Fellowship ($2000)
2020 – 2021	SEARG (Southeast Asia Research Group) Committee Pre-dissertation Fellowship (up to $2000)
2020 – 2021	CAORC Inya Institute Pre-dissertation Fellowship ($4275)
2019	Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute Fellowship ($2500)
2019	CU Boulder Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences Grant ($1000)
2016 – 2017	CUNY Pipeline Fellowship (up to $6000)
2016 – 2017	Queens College Honors in the Social Sciences Fellowship
2015 – 2017	Queens College Transfer Honors Fellowship (up to $5000)

HONORS & AWARDS

2020	Schwalbe Travel Award, CU Boulder Center for Humanities and the Arts ($1000)
2017	NSF Travel Award, International Gender and Language Association Conference ($750)
2017	CU Boulder Graduate School Travel Award ($500)
2017	The Molly Weinstein Prize, Queens College, CUNY ($6000)
2017	R.M. R Hall Memorial Award, Department of Linguistics, Queens College, CUNY
2017	Excellence in French Award, Department of European Languages, Queens College, CUNY

2016 – 2017	Presidential Scholar, Queens College, CUNY
2016	Linakis Research Scholarship, Queens College, CUNY ($1500)
2016 – 2017	Finch College Alumnae Foundation Scholarship ($4000)
2015	Asian Pacific Islander American Scholarship, Wells Fargo Foundation ($1000)
2015	Guttman Transfer Scholarship, CUNY ($2000)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2020 Graceland University, Department of Psychology
Adjunct Professor – "Cross-cultural Psychology"
Created curriculum for multicultural understandings of emotions. Taught an undergraduate course of approximately 30 students.

2017-2019 University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Linguistics
Teaching Assistant – "Languages of the World," "Introduction to Linguistics," "Language in US Society"
Collaborated on curriculum and exam development, met with students upon request, and graded all written work, including final exam papers.

2015-2017 LaGuardia Community College, CUNY, Center for Teaching and Learning
Student Success Mentor – "First Year Seminar"
Administered lab practicum and met with students upon request.

WORK EXPERIENCE

12/2020 – present Aruna Global South Non-Profit Organization
Founder/Director
Directed programming initiatives highlighting underrepresented junior scholars working on Asian Global South. Organized working groups on the topics of global south, higher education in Myanmar, and more. Recruited junior researchers and thinkers interested in experimental modes of scholarship beyond academia.

09/2017 – 05/2019 The Literacy Practicum Program, Department of Linguistics, CU Boulder
Graduate Student Program Director
Coordinated volunteering activities for CU undergraduate students, initiated contacts with local literacy organization partners, and oversaw a group of 3-4 MA students for administrative tasks.

10/2015 – 12/2015 Department of Anthropology, Queens College, CUNY
Administrative Assistant
Assisted Dr. Larissa Swedell with converting primate research tapes into digital format.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & MENTORSHIP

2019 – present Chu Toe Toe Burmese Language Podcast and Blog

Co-host and Blogger
Wrote blogs on the issues of colonialism, gender, ethnicity, education in Myanmar in Burmese language. Co-hosted monthly podcast episodes in Burmese.

2019 – present Radical BIPOC Femme/Womxn Collective
Founding Member
Organized events and activism for black, interracial, and womxn of color in Boulder community.

2019 – present **Institute for Behavioral Sciences and The Graduate School, CU Boulder**
Graduate Peer Mentor
Advised incoming social science graduate students for adapting to graduate life, copy-edited their essays for applying NSF GRFP fellowships, met with students upon requests.

2018 – present Mango House, Aurora, CO; Richland County, Public Defender Office, SC; The SEAD Project, MN; Saddha: Buddhists for Peace; Doa-a-Yae: Coalition for Civil Rights in Burma, Myanmar and diaspora, EMBARC (Ethnic Minorities from Burma Advocacy and Research Center)
Language Consultant and Content Creator
Translated Burmese-English documents, interpreted conversations for Rohingya refugee community and conversations for the public defenders in SC. Translated & interpreted for Burmese speakers during the COVID-19 outbreak.

2018 – present Graduate Students of Color Collective, CU Boulder
Social Event Organizer
Organized events and activism for graduate students and faculty of color for campus community.

2019 – 2020 Anthro Grad Student Association, Department of Anthropology, CU Boulder
Social Media Committee Lead
Managed online presence of the department and the association. Promoted the department social media presence (from approx. 300 followers on both Facebook and Instagram to 678 on Facebook and 1075 on Instagram within one year).

2019 – 2020 Culture, Language, and Social Practice Program, Department of Linguistics, CU Boulder
Program Chair for Anthropology Society for Linguistic Anthropology Conference
Administered the graduate student paper competition and attended conference planning meetings.

PUBLICATIONS

2020 "Viral Satire as Public Feeling in Myanmar." *In "Pandemic Diaries: Affect and Crisis," Carla Jones, ed.,* American Ethnologist website*, May 20 2020.*

2020 In Need of Daughters of Good Lineage: Placing Gender in Burmese Buddhist Nationalist Discourse. *Journal of Southeast Asian Linguistics Society. Special Issue.* https://evols.library.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10524/52466

2018 To Know a Bāthā: Family Language Socialization among Buddhist Burmese Immigrant Families in New York City. *Journal of Southeast Asian American Education and Advancement, Vol 13: Issue 1, Article 10. (**peer -reviewed**)*

BOOK REVIEWS

Forthcoming *Demanding Images: Democracy, Mediation, and Image-events in Indonesia.* Duke University Press. Karen Strassler. 2020. *Asian Journal of Social Sciences.*

2020 *Myanmar's Buddhist-Muslim Crisis: Burman, Arakanese, and Rohingya Narratives of Siege and Fear.* University of Hawai'i Press. John Clifford Holt. 2019. *Oxford Tea Circle.*

2018 *Deaf to the Marrow. Deaf Social Organizing and Citizenship in Viet Nam.* Gallaudet University Press. Audrey C. Cooper. 2017. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology.*

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

2020 *Exposed Soul.* Pandemic Posts. Center for Humanities and Arts. CU Boulder.

2020 *Ethnography: Rethinking from the Interstice.* Online Blog post. The New Ethnographer. April 20, 2020.

2019 *Subtitled Dreams.* Online Blog Post. Society for Linguistic Anthropology.

2016 *Are You a Myanmarian, Myanmarese, or Myanmarish? Or Just a Burmese?* Newspaper Column (in Burmese). Myanmar Gazette. Issue. 93. P. A24. September.

2016 *Me and My Linguistic Story.* Newspaper Column (in Burmese). Myanmar Gazette. Issue. 91. P. A24. 2016, July.

2016 *Nature? Or Nurture? Or Nature and Nurture?* Newspaper Column (in Burmese). Myanmar Gazette. Issue. 90. P. A24. May.

2016 *Heritage Language Maintenance and Its Benefits.* Newspaper Column (in Burmese). Myanmar Gazette. Issue 89. P. A24. April.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2021 ***"Talking back to white Researchers in Burma Studies."***
Co-presenter with Than Toe Aung.
International Graduate Student Conference, University of Hawaii at Manoa. February 11-13.

2020 ***"IBSC Roundtable: Access, Ethics, and Risk in Knowledge Production."***
Organized by Rosalie Metro. (Presenter)

International Burma Studies Conference, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. September 24-27. (postponed due to covid.)

2020 ***"AAA Roundtable: Truth, Responsibility, and Mental Health in Anthropology."*** Organized by Beatriz M. Reyes-Foster, Miriam R. Dike, & Rebecca Lester. (Presenter)
American Anthropological Association Conference, University of Missouri. St. Louis, MO. November 18-22. (CANCELLED due to COVID-19 Outbreak)

2020 ***"Secrets and foreign Agents: Myanmar's Narratives of Belonging and Resistance."***
Association of Asian Studies in Asia Conference, Kobe Convention Center, Kobe, Japan. June 19-July 1.
(POSTPONED and unable to attend due to COVID-19 Outbreak)

2020 ***"Isn't it What Buddha Says? Repositioning Myanmar's Future in Wirathu's Radical Buddhist Discourse."***
Society for Linguistic Anthropology Conference, University of Colorado Boulder. April 2-5. (POSTPONED and unable to attend due to COVID-19 Outbreak)

2020 **"Secrets and Foreign Agents: Myanmar's Narratives of Belonging and Resistance."**
CU Boulder Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference, University of Colorado Boulder. Feb 14-15.

2019 ***"Daughter of Good Lineage and Bitchy Prostitutes in Buddhist Nationalist Discourse."***
Anthropology of Language Workshop on Mainland Southeast Asia Languages, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia. Aug 19-21.

2019 ***"On Focus: Syntax-Semantic Interface in Burmese Focus Sensitive Particles."***
Workshop on Constructional Morphology. Department of Linguistics, University of Colorado Boulder. April 5.

2019 ***"Encompassing Language and Religion in Transnational Burmese Identities."***
Conference on Asian Linguistic Anthropology, Pannasatra University of Cambodia, Siam Reap, Cambodia. January 23-26.

2018 ***"Women in the Race and Religion Laws of Myanmar."***
International Gender and Language Association (IGALA) 10th Annual Conference**,** University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana. June 20-22.

2016 ***"To Know a Bāthā: Family Language Socialization among Buddhist Burmese Immigrants in New York City."***
International Burma Studies Conference, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. October 6-9.

2016 ***"Assessing the Knowledge of Burmese Classifiers among 1.5- and Second-Generation Burmese Children in New York City."***
Undergraduate Linguistics and Language Studies Conference, Hunter College, CUNY. May 6.

INVITED TALKS

2020 ***"Together against anti-Blackness: Eradicating Discrimination in Latinx, Arab, Asian, and Indigenous Communities."*** (speaker for Asian communities)
OLA Colorado (Observatorio des les América) Webinar, July 24.

2020 ***"Guided Dialogue on Racism and Privilege: Politics of Allyship."*** (Organizer and Moderator)
Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder. June 19.

2019 ***"Legalizing Intimacy: The Effects of Myanmar Nationalist Anti-Rohingya Agenda."***
Spring 2019 Luncheon Series, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder. February 7.

LANGUAGES

English – speak fluently and read/write with high proficiency
Burmese – native language
French – intermediate reading competence

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association | Society for Cultural Anthropology | Association for Feminist Anthropology | Society for Visual Anthropology | Association for Political and Legal Anthropology | American Ethnological Society | Society for Linguistic Anthropology | Linguistics Society of America | Linguistics Society of America Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics | Scholars of Color in Language Studies | National Association of Student Anthropologists | Association of Asian Studies

REFERENCES

Carla Jones
Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder
Email – carla.jones@colorado.edu

Miki Makihara
Associate Professor of Anthropology, Queens College, CUNY
Email – miki.makihara@qc.cuny.edu