

# Edward B. Kang

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## Academic Appointments

2023      **Assistant Professor**, Department of Media, Culture, Communication (MCC)  
Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development  
New York University, New York, NY

## Education

2023      **Ph.D.**, Communication  
Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA  
  
*Graduate Certificate* in Science and Technology Studies (STS)  
Dornsife Center on Science, Technology, and Public Life  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA  
  
*Dissertation*: Machine Audibility: On its Imaginaries, Ontologies, and  
Limitations  
  
*Committee*: Larry Gross (Co-Chair), Josh Kun (Co-Chair), Mike Ananny,  
John Cheney-Lippold (U. of Michigan, American Studies)

2021      **M.A.**, Communication  
Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

2016      **B.A.**, East Asian Area Studies, Magna Cum Laude  
Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Science  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA  
  
*Minor* in Music Industry  
Thornton School of Music  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

## Grants

*National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)*

2024 – 2026 **Kang, E. B.** & Becerra-Sandoval, J. *Machine Listening in the Age of Artificial Intelligence*. [Principal Investigator]. “Dangers and Opportunities of Technology: Perspectives from the Humanities.”  
Amount awarded: \$150,000.

## Publications

*Books (peer-reviewed)*

Under Contract **Kang, E. B.** *Machine Voices: A Sonic Study of Artificial Intelligence*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

*Journal Articles & Proceedings (peer-reviewed)*

2024 Orr, W. & **Kang, E. B.** AI as a Sport: On the Competitive Epistemologies of Benchmarking. *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT'24)*.  
<https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3630106.3659012>

2024 **Kang, E. B.** & Hudson, S. Audible Crime Scenes: ShotSpotter as Diagnostic, Policing, and Space-Making Infrastructure. *Science, Technology & Human Values*, 49(3).  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/01622439221143217> \*first published online in 2022.

2023 **Kang, E. B.** On the Praxes and Politics of AI Speech Emotion Recognition. *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT'23)*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3593013.3594011>

2023 **Kang, E. B.** Ground Truth Tracings (GTT): On the Epistemic Limits of Machine Learning. *Big Data & Society*, 10(1).  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/20539517221146122>

2023 **Kang, E. B.** On Streaming-Dating Convergence: Music-Mediated Self Presentations on Tinder. *New Media & Society*, 25(8).  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448211026618> \*first published online in 2021.

2022           **Kang, E. B.** Biometric Imaginaries: Formatting Voice, Body, Identity to Data. *Social Studies of Science*, 52(4). <https://doi.org/10.1177/03063127221079599>

*Manuscripts in Preparation (peer-reviewed)*

Forthcoming   **Kang, E. B.** The Voice Disaggregate: A Computational Ontology. In (eds. Colleen Montgomery Leigh, Lisa Coulthard, and Katherine Spring) *Oxford Handbook of Media and Vocality*. Oxford University Press.

Accepted       **Kang, E. B. &** Becerra Sandoval, J.C. Dissecting Speech: The Acoustic Linguistic Divide in and through Artificial Intelligence. In (eds. Lora Koycheva, Angela VandenBroek, and Matt Artz) *Anthropology and AI*. Routledge.

In Preparation   **Kang, E. B.** The Audible Face: Machine Learning as Metaphor. In (eds. Jennifer Lynn Stoeber, Dolores Inés Casillas, and Qiushi Xu) *The Bloomsbury Encyclopedia of Sound Studies*. Bloomsbury.

*Book Reviews*

2021           **Kang, E. B.** Joseph Turow, *The Voice Catchers: How Marketers Listen In to Exploit Your Feelings, Your Privacy, and Your Wallet*. *International Journal of Communication*, 15. Retrieved from <https://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/view/18640/3582>

2020           **Kang, E. B.** Lee Humphreys, *The Qualified Self: Social Media and the Accounting of Everyday Life*. *International Journal of Communication*, 14. Retrieved from <https://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/view/16098>

2019           **Kang, E. B.** Mercedes Bunz and Graham Meikle, *The Internet of Things*. *International Journal of Communication*, 13, 3. Retrieved from <https://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/view/12162/2674>

*Essays*

2020           **Kang, E. B.** (11. 13). Thinking Through Voice: Sound, Identity and Race. *Pop Junctions*. Available at <http://henryjenkins.org/blog/2020/10/11/thinking-through-voice-sound-identity-and-race>

2020           **Kang, E. B.** (06. 09). Thematic, a Music Marketplace for Influencers and

Producers: Digital Labor and the Creative Class. *Pop Junctions*. Available at <http://henryjenkins.org/blog/2020/6/g/thematic-a-music-marketplace-for-influencers-and-producers-digital-labor-and-the-creative-class-1-of-3>

### *Reading Lists*

2022 Corry, F., **Kang, E. B.**, Sridharan, H., Luccioni, S., Ananny, M., & Crawford, K. Knowing Machines Critical Dataset Studies Reading List. Available at; <https://knowingmachines.org/reading-list>

## Research Presentations

### *Conference Panel Organization*

2024 Becerra Sandoval, J. C. & **Kang, E. B.** Machine Listening: Dissonance and Transformation. *Quadrennial Joint Conference of the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology & Society for the Social Studies of Science (EASST-4S 2024)*. July 16-19, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

### *Conference Presentations (peer-reviewed)*

2024 Orr, W. & **Kang, E. B.** AI as a Sport: On the Competitive Epistemologies of Benchmarking. *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT '23)*. June 12-15, Chicago, IL.

2023 Orr, W. & **Kang, E. B.** AI as a Sport: On the Competitive Epistemologies of Benchmarking. *Society for Social Studies of Science Conference (4S)*. November 8-11, Honolulu, HI.

2023 **Kang, E. B.** On the Praxes and Politics of AI Speech Emotion Recognition (SER). *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT '23)*. June 12-15, Chicago, IL.

2023 **Kang, E. B.** Machine Audibility: On Vocal Ontology and Machine Learning Epistemologies. *Annual Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference*, April 12-15, Denver, CO.

2022 Ananny, M., Sridharan, H., **Kang, E. B.**, & Corry, F. Tracing Training: Understanding Media Industries' Machine Learning Datasets. *Annual*

*International Communication Association Conference*, May 26-30, Paris, France.

- 2021 **Kang, E. B.** “Who Is It?”: Complicating the Cultural Logics of the Voiceprint. *Annual Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference*, March 17-21, Virtual (due to COVID-19).
- 2020 Zhang, S., Jeong, D., **Kang, E. B.**, Choi, S., Xu, J., Lee, J. Using Data Visualization and Musification to Foster Public Accessibility of LGBTQ Research. *Annual National Communication Association Conference*, November 19-22, Indianapolis, IN (changed to Virtual due to COVID-19).
- 2020 **Kang, E. B.** Sensory Appropriation in Music-Mediated Dating: Between Obfuscation and Dataveillance. *Centre for Sensory Studies Conference*, May 1-3, Montreal, QC (accepted but conference cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 2020 **Kang, E. B.** The Politics of Streaming-Dating Convergence: Spotify & Tinder. *Annual Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference*, April 1-5, Denver, CO (accepted but conference cancelled due to COVID-19).
- 2019 **Kang, E. B.** The Resume of Flesh: Performances of Excess and Subtlety in South Korea’s Hyper-Lookist Society. *Annual Cultural Studies Association Conference*, May 30-June 1, New Orleans, LA.

### *Invited Talks*

- 2023 **Kang, E. B.** Aural Cultures. *Mass Media and Popular Culture* (Undergraduate Class, University of Illinois, Chicago), March 30, Chicago, IL.
- 2023 **Kang, E. B.** Machine Audibility: On its Imaginaries, Ontologies, and Limitations. *Colloquium* (New York University), March 2, New York, NY.
- 2023 **Kang, E. B.** Machine Audibility: On its Imaginaries, Ontologies, and Limitations. *Colloquium* (Microsoft Research New England Lab), Feb 9, Cambridge, MA.
- 2023 **Kang, E. B.** Imagining K-Pop Futures. *Take Two Interactive (2K Games Inc.)*, January 11, Los Angeles, CA.

- 2022 **Kang, E. B.** Sociotechnical Imaginaries of Voice Tech: From the Sounding Body to the Flat Ecology of Numbers. *Cultures of New Media* (Undergraduate Class, University of Southern California), March 7, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2021 **Kang, E. B.,** Hudson, S. ShotSpotter as a Diagnostic, Policing & Space-Making Instrument. *Media as Socio-Technical Systems Group*, February 18, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2019 **Kang, E. B.** Transpacific Perspectives on Fandom Discourses in Hallyu. *Korean Culture: From Ancient to Modern Times* (Undergraduate Class, University of Southern California), November 18, Los Angeles, CA.

## Media

- 2024 Carter Miles, N. (06.23). Are you 80% angry and 2% sad? Why ‘emotional AI’ is fraught with problems. *The Guardian*. Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/article/2024/jun/23/emotional-artificial-intelligence-chatgpt-4o-hume-algorithmic-bias>
- 2023 McClain, J. (12.19). There’s reason to worry about AI reading emotions. *Futurity*. Available at: [https://www.futurity.org/artificial-intelligence-emotions-3010572/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_campaign=artificial-intelligence-emotions-3010572](https://www.futurity.org/artificial-intelligence-emotions-3010572/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=artificial-intelligence-emotions-3010572)
- 2023 McClain, J. (12.18). “Alexa, am I happy? How AI emotion recognition falls short.” *NYU News*. Available at: <https://www.nyu.edu/about/news-publications/news/2023/december/alexa--am-i-happy--how-ai-emotion-recognition-falls-short.html>
- 2020 Yi, D. (04.15). How K-Pop Changed the Meaning of Masculinity in South Korea. *ALLURE*. Available at: <https://www.allure.com/story/k-pop-and-masculinity>

## Teaching Experience

*Instructor of Record (developed & taught)*

Spring 2025 AI & Society (MA)  
Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University  
Enrollment: TBD

AI & Society (UG)  
Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University  
Enrollment: TBD

Fall 2024 Data & Society (MA)  
Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University  
Enrollment: 16/18

Spring 2024 AI & Society / Critical AI Studies (UG)  
Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University  
Enrollment: 20/20

Data & Society (MA)  
Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University  
Enrollment: 14/18

Fall 2023 AI & Society / Critical AI Studies (UG Seminar Inquiry)  
Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University  
Enrollment: 20/20

*Teaching Assistant*

Fall 2020 Interpreting Popular Culture (COMM 384), Prof. Hye Jin Lee  
Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, University of  
Southern California

Spring 2020 Media and Society (COMM 310), Prof. Robert Scheer  
Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, University of  
Southern California

Fall 2019 Sound Clash: Popular Music and American Culture, Prof. Josh Kun  
Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, University of

Southern California

*Guest Lecture: Jazz Up North: Tin Pan Alley Days*

## Research Collectives

- 2024–2026 Principal Investigator / Co-Director. *Machine Listening in the Age of AI* [Working Group].  
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). New York University.  
Co-PI: Juanis Becerra Sandoval (IBM Research)
- 2023 Co-Director. *AI in Society* [Working Group].  
Institute for Public Knowledge (IPK), New York University.  
Co-PIs: Nahoko Kameo (NYU), Simone Zhang (NYU)
- 2021–2023 Researcher. *Knowing Machines* [Working Group].  
University of Southern California; Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.  
PIs: Kate Crawford (USC, Microsoft), Michael Ananny (USC), Jason Schultz (NYU)
- 2021 Research Assistant.  
University of Southern California.  
PI: Jennifer Petersen (USC)

## Editorial Experience

- 2019–2020 Assistant Editor (08/2019–12/2020), *International Journal of Communication*  
University of Southern California  
Supervisors: Larry Gross, Arlene Luck, Kady Bell-Garcia

## Program Committee

### *Conferences*

Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) 2024 Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT'24)

## Academic Service

### *Board*



2024 Department Representative, AI Advisory and Insights Board.  
Steinhardt School of Education, Culture, and Human Development.  
New York University.

### *Committee*

2024 External Member, Search Committee  
Department of Music and Music Professions.  
Steinhardt School of Education, Culture, and Human Development.  
New York University.

2023 Member, MA Committee.  
Department of Media, Culture, and Communication.  
Steinhardt School of Education, Culture, and Human Development.  
New York University.

### *Advising*

2024 2025 Adva Shapira. Title TBD.  
Undergraduate Honors Thesis.  
Department of Media, Culture, and Communication.  
Steinhardt School of Education, Culture, and Human Development.  
New York University.

2024 2025 Hiro Nagata. Machine-generated Voice as Proxy of “Repetitious Content”: A  
Consideration on Sociotechnical Function of Algorithms on Platform [tentative  
title]. MA Thesis.  
Department of Media, Culture, and Communication.  
Steinhardt School of Education, Culture, and Human Development.  
New York University.

2023 2024 Keaton Ireland. Sound Studies. Independent Study. PhD Specialization Exams.  
Department of Media, Culture, and Communication.  
Steinhardt School of Education, Culture, and Human Development.  
New York University.

2023 2024 Julia Pepper. The Manifestation of Ground Truths in Foundation Models.

Undergraduate Honors Thesis.  
Department of Media, Culture, and Communication.  
Steinhardt School of Education, Culture, and Human Development.  
New York University.

### *Conference Organization*

2019            Head of Design, Conference Organizing Committee  
                    Critical Mediations, *The Unruly Canon* 2019  
                    Communication & Cultural Studies Graduate Student Conference.  
                    Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism  
                    University of Southern California

### *Workshops*

Forthcoming    Invited Participant (Spring 2025), *Machine Listening: Critical Perspectives*.  
                    McGill University (Sponsored by SSHRC)  
                    Organizers: Jonathan Sterne, James Parker

2022            Invited Participant, *Knowing Machines*  
                    New York University (Sponsored by Alfred P. Sloan Foundation)  
                    Organizers: Kate Crawford, Mike Ananny, Jason Schultz

2020            Co-Organizer, Music Production & Song-writing Panel  
                    Critical Media Project 2020, *I Too Am* Media Festival, California Humanities  
                    Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism  
                    University of Southern California  
                    Co-Organizer: Ally Arietta  
                    Director: Alison Trope

## **Reviewer**

### *Journals*

Communication, Culture, & Critique  
International Journal of Communication  
Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication  
New Media & Society  
Sound Studies

## Social Media & Society

### *Conferences*

Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency in Machine Learning (ACM FAccT)

### **Academic Affiliations**

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

Centre for Sensory Studies

Cultural Studies Association (CSA)

International Communication Association (ICA)

Institute for Public Knowledge (IPK)

National Communication Association (NCA)

Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)

Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S)

### **Fellowships and Distinctions**

- 2018 – 2023    Annenberg Graduate Fellowship & Assistantship, Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, University of Southern California  
Full coverage of tuition for doctoral program, stipend, medical insurance, and research funds
- 2016            Renaissance Scholar Distinction, University of Southern California  
Awarded to undergraduate students pursuing widely disparate fields of study while maintaining a GPA of 3.5 or above.  
Fields: East Asian Area Studies, Music Industry
- 2016            Magna Cum Laude, University of Southern California  
Cumulative GPA: 3.897 | Major GPA: 4.0
- 2015            Phi Beta Kappa Society, University of Southern California
- 2014            Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, University of Southern California
- 2014            Sigma Alpha Lambda National Leadership and Honors Organization,

University of Southern California

2014 Golden Key International Honour Society, University of Southern California

2011 - 2016 Dean's List, University of Southern California