

**Ethan Siu Leung Cheung, Ph.D., MSW, MA, RSW**

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**Research Areas in Social Gerontology**

- Environmental determinants of health and well-being among older adults
- Aging in place; Age-friendly community and housing policy
- Older adults with burgeoning health needs (hearing, vision, cognitive impairment)
- Dementia care

**Education**

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|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>PhD</b> | <b>Columbia University School of Social Work NY, USA</b><br>Social Work; Social Policy Analysis and Economics<br>Dissertation: Age-friendly Environment and Health | <b>May 2023</b>  |
| <b>MSW</b> | <b>Columbia University School of Social Work NY, USA</b><br>Accelerated Policy Program; Field of Practice: Aging                                                   | <b>May 2020</b>  |
| <b>MA</b>  | <b>City University of Hong Kong, Department for Public Policy</b><br>Urban Management and Housing Policy                                                           | <b>May 2017</b>  |
| <b>BA</b>  | <b>York University, Canada</b><br>Business Administrative Studies and Marketing                                                                                    | <b>June 2014</b> |

**Research Experiences**

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|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2025 – 2028 | <b>Assistant Professor</b> , Department of Social Work and Social Administration, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.                          |
| 2023 – 2025 | <b>Postdoctoral Research Associate</b> to Professor David Curtis, Family and Consumer Studies Department, University of Utah. Salt Lake City, USA. |
| 2020 – 2023 | <b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> to Professors Jinyu Liu and Ada Mui, Columbia University School of Social Work. NY, USA.                        |
| 2022        | <b>Research Assistant</b> to Professor Qin Gao, Columbia University School of Social Work. NY, USA.                                                |
| 2018 – 2020 | <b>Research Assistant</b> to Professors Jinyu Liu and Ada Mui, Columbia University School of Social Work. NY, USA.                                 |
| 2018 – 2020 | <b>Research Assistant</b> to Professor Ngai Ming Yip, Department of Public Policy, City University of Hong Kong.                                   |
| 2017 – 2018 | <b>Research Assistant</b> to Professor Wadu Mesthrige Jayantha, Department of Building and Real Estate, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.      |
| 2016 – 2017 | <b>Research Assistant</b> to Professor Miguel A. Martínez, Department of Public Policy, City University of Hong Kong.                              |

**Honors & Awards**

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|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2023 | Ruth Fizdale Doctoral Dissertation Support Program. Columbia University School of Social Work. |
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| 2023        | Sylvia Rosenberg Dissertation Award in Aging and Mental Health. Columbia University School of Social Work.   |
| 2022        | Geriatric Field Development Research Award. Columbia University School of Social Work.                       |
| 2022        | Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF) Grant. Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University. |
| 2021        | ACRM Poster 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place. 2021 American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine.                        |
| 2021        | Geriatric Innovative Research Grant. Columbia University School of Social Work.                              |
| 2021        | Doctoral Student Summer Grant. Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University.                        |
| 2020        | Geriatric Field Development Research Award. Columbia University School of Social Work.                       |
| 2020 – 2023 | Doctoral Travel Grant. Columbia University School of Social Work.                                            |
| 2020 – 2023 | Phyllis and Joseph Caroff Doctoral Fellowship. Columbia University School of Social Work.                    |
| 2020 – 2023 | Doctoral Tuition Fellowship. Columbia University School of Social Work.                                      |

#### **Teaching Experiences (Graduate Level)**

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|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2024 Spring | <b>Teaching Assistant</b> , <i>Dementia</i> (online). Columbia University School of Social Work.                                                    |
| 2023 Spring | <b>Course Instructor</b> , <i>Advanced Research Methods and Statistics for Policy Practice</i> (online). Columbia University School of Social Work. |
| 2022 Fall   | <b>Teaching Assistant</b> , <i>Aging: Issues, Policy, Research</i> (online). Columbia University School of Social Work.                             |
| 2022 Fall   | <b>Teaching Assistant</b> , <i>Program Evaluation in Social Services</i> (in-person). Columbia University School of Social Work.                    |
| 2022 Spring | <b>Teaching Assistant</b> , <i>Dementia</i> (in-person). Columbia University School of Social Work.                                                 |
| 2022 Spring | <b>Lab Instructor</b> , <i>Advanced Research Methods and Statistics for Policy Practice</i> (online). Columbia University School of Social Work.    |

#### **Invited Lectures**

##### ***Guest Lectures***

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| 2025 | Guest Lecturer, <i>Age-friendly community and food insecurity: Role of Gentrification</i> . Course title: Aging: Issues, Policy, Research. Columbia University School of Social Work.                                                                    |
| 2024 | Guest Lecturer, <i>From an ecological model: What is the health impact of the neighborhood environment among older adults?</i> Course title: Human Behavior and the Social Environment. Southern Connecticut State University Department of Social Work. |
| 2024 | Guest Lecturer, <i>Residential segregation and change in cardiometabolic disease risk and mortality</i> . Course title: Aging: Issues, Policy, Research. Columbia University School of Social Work.                                                      |
| 2023 | Guest Lecturer, <i>Age-friendly communities and health disparities</i> . Course title: Aging: Issues, Policy, Research. Columbia University School of Social Work.                                                                                       |
| 2023 | Guest Lecturer, <i>Association between hard of hearing and social participation</i> . Course title: Aging: Issues, Policy, Research. Columbia University School of Social Work.                                                                          |
| 2022 | Guest Lecturer, <i>Late-life depression</i> . Course title: Aging: Issues, Policy, Research. Columbia University School of Social Work.                                                                                                                  |
| 2022 | Guest Lecturer, <i>Cohousing: Opportunity and challenges</i> . Course title: Dementia. Columbia University School of Social Work.                                                                                                                        |

- 2022 Guest Lecturer, *Empirical evidence: The role of age-friendly communities in older adults' health and wellbeing*. Course title: Aging: Issues, Policy, Research. Columbia University School of Social Work.

### **Social Work Practice and Community Service Experiences**

- 2021 – 2024 Volunteer  
Mount Sinai Hospital, NY, USA.
- 2019 – 2020 Social Work Intern  
NYC Department for the Aging. NY, USA.
- 2018 – 2019 Clinical Social Work Intern  
Wayside Outreach Development, Inc. NY, USA.
- 2020 Volunteer, Phone Angel Program for Chinese Older Adults during COVID-19. NY, USA.
- 2020 Volunteer, Home delivered meal program for older adults during COVID-19. NYC Department for the Aging. NY, USA
- 2019 Volunteer, Case management for older adults, Tompkins Park senior center. NY, USA.

### **Publications**

#### ***Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles***

- Cheung, E. S. L.**, Curtis, D. S., Grineski, S., Wei, Y. D., & Wen, M. (2025). Spatial Social Polarization and Cardiometabolic Disease Prevalence and Incidence: What Is the Role of the Neighborhood Environment? *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 00221465251349818.
- Grineski, S., **Cheung, E. S. L.**, Clark, A., Curtis, D. (2025). Fine particulate matter is associated with lower executive functioning in middle-aged and older adults: Cardiometabolic disease as a mediator. *Journal of Gerontology Series A: Biomedical Sciences and Medical Sciences*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/gerona/glaf104>
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, & Liu, J. (2025). Racial and ethnic disparities in cognitive difficulty among older adults: Evidence from New York City. *Ageing International*, 50, 14. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12126-025-09591-2>.
- Cheung, E. S. L.** (2024). Neighborhood gentrification and food insecurity among urban older adults: Evidence from New York City. *The Gerontologist*, 64(7). <https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnae048>
- Cheung, E. S. L.** (2024). The association between residential environment and self-rated mental health among older Canadians: The moderating effects of education and gender. *Canadian Journal on Aging*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0714980824000230>
- Cheung, E. S. L.** (2024). Social participation patterns among community-dwelling older adults before and during the COVID-19 pandemic: Roles of community social cohesion and health. *The International Journal of Aging and Human Development*, 00914150241253237.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00914150241253237>
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, & Zhang, Z. (2024). Moderating role of neighborhood environment in the associations between hearing loss and cognitive challenges among older adults: Evidence from US National Study. *Research on Aging*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01640275241234372>
- Clark, A., Grineski, S., Curtis, D. S., & **Cheung, E. S. L.** (2024). Identifying groups at-risk to extreme heat: Intersections of age, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. *Environment International*, 191, 108988.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envint.2024.108988>
- Liu, J., **Cheung, E. S. L.**, Lou, Y., & Wu, B. (2024). A peer mentoring program for Chinese American dementia caregivers: A pilot randomized controlled trial. *Aging and Mental Health*, 28(11), 1479-1488.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13607863.2024.2346599>
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, & Mui, A. C. (2023). Home and neighborhood environmental correlates of civic participation among community-dwelling older adults in Canada. *Journal of Housing and the Built Environment*, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10901-023-10057-7>

- Liu, J., Lou, Y., & **Cheung, E. S. L.** (2023). Beyond dichotomy and stability: ICT use among Asian American older adults during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 07334648231204781. <https://doi.org/10.1177/07334648231204781>
- Cheung, E. S. L.** (2022). Food insecurity among older adults in New York City: Does location matter?. *Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition*, 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19320248.2022.2143738>
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, & Zhang, Z. (2022). Associations between deaf/hard of hearing and social participation among older Americans. *Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education*, 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1093/deafed/enac046>
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, & Mui, A. C. (2022). Do home and community environments explain self-rated health among older Canadians? Evidence from the 2018 Canadian housing survey. *HERD: Health Environments Research & Design Journal*, 1–14. <https://doi.org/19375867221085603>
- Liu, J., Lou, Y., **Cheung, E. S. L.**, & Wu, B. (2022). Use of tangible, educational and psychological support services among Chinese American dementia caregivers. *Dementia*, 21(6), 1914-1932. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F14713012221099781>
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, & Mui, A. C. (2021). Gender variation and late-life depression: Findings from a national survey in the USA. *Ageing international*, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12126-021-09471-5>
- Mesthrige, J. W., & **Cheung, S. L.** (2020). Critical evaluation of ‘ageing in place’ in redeveloped public rental housing estates in Hong Kong. *Ageing & Society*, 40(9), 2006–2039. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0144686X19000448>
- Qian, X., Chen, Y., & **Cheung, E. S. L.** (2019). Changes and trend of public housing policy in Netherlands, Hong Kong and Mainland China. *Advances in Social Science, Education and Humanities Research*, 315, 428–433. <https://doi.org/10.2991/icpcs-19.2019.95>

## Presentations

### Invited Presentation

- Cheung, E.** (2025, September). Invited commentary on keynote lecture. Social Gerontology Educational Symposium at Yan Fook Center, Evangelical Free Church of China Alliance, Hong Kong.
- Curtis, D., & **Cheung, E. S. L.** (2024, March). Midlife morbidity and mortality trends in the US: The local environment and individual-level psychosocial well-being as contributors. Oral presentation at Policy Platter organized by Department of Family and Consumer Studies at University of Utah. UT, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.** (2023, May). Food insecurity among older adults in New York City: Does location matter? Oral presentation at Poverty Track Symposium organized by Center on Poverty & Social Policy at Columbia University. NY, USA.

### Scientific Conference Presentations

- Cheung, E. S. L.**, Wen, M., Curtis, D., Grineski., & Wei, Y. D. (2024, November). Prospective associations between multidimensional neighborhood contexts and psychosocial outcomes in later life. Poster presentation at GSA 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting. Seattle, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, & Zhang, Z. (2024, November). Moderating role of neighborhood environment in associations between hearing loss and cognition among older adults. Poster presentation at GSA 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting. Seattle, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, Grineski, S. E., & Curtis, D. (2024, November). Cardiometabolic disease risk partially mediates associations between fine particulate matter and cognitive functioning in US adults. Poster presentation at GSA 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting. Seattle, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, Curtis, D., & Cheung, P. Y. (2024, September). The role of place in midlife mortality in the US. Session moderator and panel presentation at IAPHS 2024 Annual Conference. St. Louis, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.**, Curtis, D., Wen, M., Grineski, S., & Wei, Y. D. (2024, September). Residential segregation and change in cardiometabolic disease risk: What is the role of the neighborhood environment. Oral presentation at IAPHS 2024 Annual Conference. St. Louis, USA.

- Cheung, E. S. L.,** Curtis, D., Wen, M., Grineski, S., & Wei, Y. D. (2024, April). Residential segregation and change in cardiometabolic disease risk: What is the role of the neighborhood environment. Poster presentation at PAA 2024 Annual Meeting. Columbus, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** De Fries, C., & Nguyen, D. (2024, January). The role of race and place on older adults' health in NYC. Poster presentation at SSWR 28th Annual Conference. Washington, DC, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.** (2023, November). Does neighborhood gentrification affect food insecurity among urban older adults? Evidence from New York City. Poster presentation at GSA 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Tampa Bay, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.** (2023, November). Neighborhood characteristics and sleep problems: Mediating roles of health behaviors and mental health. Poster presentation at GSA 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Tampa Bay, USA.
- Liu, J., **Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Lou, Y. (2023, November). A pilot study of a peer mentoring support intervention for Chinese American dementia caregivers. Symposium at GSA 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Tampa Bay, USA.
- Nguyen, D., De Fries, C., & **Cheung, E. S. L.** (2023, November). Social determinants and health equity among NYC older adults. Poster presentation at GSA 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting. Tampa Bay, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Mui, A. (2022, November). Housing characteristics, neighborhood environments, and self-rated mental health among older Canadians. Poster presentation at GSA 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting. Indianapolis, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Liu, J. (2022, November). Racial and ethnic disparities in cognitive difficulty among older adults: Evidence from New York City. Poster presentation at GSA 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting. Indianapolis, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.** (2022, November). Food insecurity among older adults in New York City: Does location matter? Poster presentation at GSA 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting. Indianapolis, USA.
- Lou, Y., **Cheung, E. S. L.,** Liu, J., & Wu, B. (2022, November). Reopening under COVID-19: The impact of reopening society on older Asian American's mental health in New York City (NYC). Poster presentation at GSA 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting. Indianapolis, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Mui, A. (2022, October). The association between residential environment and self-rated mental health among older Canadians: The moderating effects of education and gender. Poster presentation at CAG 2022 Annual Scientific and Education Meeting. Regina, Canada.
- Liu, J., Lou, Y., **Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Wu, B. (2021, November). Use of tangible, educational and psychological supportive services among Chinese American dementia caregivers. Poster presentation at GSA 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting. Online.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Liu, J. (2021, November). Residential environment, depressive symptoms, and anxiety symptoms among community-living older adults. Poster presentation at GSA 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting. Online.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Mui, A. (2021, November). Does cognitive status moderate the relationship between environmental factors and self-reported health among community-living older adults? Poster presentation at GSA 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting. Online.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Mui, A. (2021, November). Housing and neighborhood factors and cognitive status among older adults living in houses versus in apartment buildings. Poster presentation at GSA 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting. Online.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Mui, A. (2021, October). Dwelling characteristics, civic engagement, and volunteering among older Canadians living in low-income housing: Do age and gender matter? Poster presentation at CAG 2021 Annual Scientific and Education Meeting. Toronto, Canada.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** Lee, E., & Mui, A. C. (2021, September). The role of socioecological factors in cognition in older Blacks and Whites. Poster presentation at American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Dallas, USA.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Mui, A. (2020, November). The association between environmental system, cognitive status and race. Poster presentation at GSA 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting. Online.

- Cheung, E. S. L.,** Mui, A. & Hoffman, S. (2020, November). The correlates of cognitive status among older Americans living in the community: Does gender make a difference? Poster presentation at GSA 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting. Online
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Mui, A. (2020, November). Race differences and depressive symptoms among community-dwelling older Americans. Poster presentation at GSA 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting. Online.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Mui, A. (2020, November). Age cohort differences and depressive symptoms among community-dwelling older Americans. Poster presentation at GSA 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting. Online.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Mui, A. (2020, November). Gender, cognitive status, and depressive symptoms: Findings from the National Social Life, Health and Aging Project. Poster presentation at GSA 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting. Online.
- Cheung, E. S. L.,** & Ding, K. (2019, November). Effects of social support network on American older adults' memory functions. GSA 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting. Austin, USA.

### **Professional Affiliations**

Fellow, Sau Po Centre on Ageing, The University of Hong Kong  
 Associate, China Center for Social Policy, Columbia University  
 Member, Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science (IAPHS)  
 Member, The Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGESW)  
 Member, The Gerontological Society of America (GSA)  
 Member, The Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)