



# Curriculum Vitae

김성우 [金成宇]

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**Academic title** PhD (SOAS University of London)  
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## Short profile

I am assistant professor for Korean language and literature at the department of Asia, Africa and the Mediterranean at Università di Napoli L'Orientale. As a German-Korean **linguist and language professional with a Ph.D. in Linguistics**, I have an extensive track record with respect to minority language research and documentation, language teaching, Koreanic languages and cultures, and freelance work such as translation and interpretation. **My research areas:** Language documentation and description, Koreanic languages, especially Jejuan, clause linkage, egophoricity, politeness, multilingualism, language ideology, language and power, grounded theory, constructivism and linguistic practice, linguistic anthropology, fieldwork and reflexivity, language shift and revitalisation.

## Academic career path

since 10/2023 [Ricercatore con contratto a tempo determinato di tipo "B"](#), D.M. 445/2022. Assistant professorship for Korean language and literature. Department of Asia, Africa and the Mediterranean, Università di Napoli L'Orientale.

09/2021–31/07/2023 **Research Associate:** Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, SOAS University of London.

09/2016–09/2021 **Research Fellow:** Centre of Korean Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, SOAS University of London.  
 Five-year Laboratory Program for Korean Studies funded by the Korean Studies Promotion Service (see Grants and Awards below). Linguistic research on Koreanic languages, especially Jejuan, a Koreanic language of Jeju Province, South Korea.

09/2013–11/2018 **Ph.D. Linguistics:** SOAS University of London: thesis on "Finiteness in Jejuan Adverbial Clauses – a Canonical Typology Approach." Supervisors: Prof Irina Nikolaeva, Prof Peter Austin and Prof Jaehoon Yeon (SOAS); Examiners: Prof Peter Sells (University of York), Prof Jieun Kiaer (University of Oxford).

09/2013–03/2018 **Project lead:** language documentation project 'A multi-modal documentation of Jejuan conversations' funded by Arcadia's Endangered Languages Documentation Programme (ELDP).

10/2012–09/2013 **MA Language Documentation and Description** at SOAS University of London (Field Methods pathway): dissertation on 'Language attitudes on Jeju Island – an analysis of attitudes towards language choice from an ethnographic perspective.'  
Supervisor: Prof Julia Sallabank.





10/2008–09/2012

**BA Linguistics** at University of Leipzig: thesis on ‘Valency Classes in Korean’, paired with on-line database at valpal.info.  
Supervisors: Prof Martin Haspelmath (MPI EVA Leipzig) and Prof John Peterson (University of Kiel).

### Academic teaching

My teaching philosophy aims at fostering students’ interaction, inquisitiveness and critical engagement with socio-political contexts, as well as the cultivation of a safe and supportive environment attuned to a learner’s individual knowledge level and needs. For instance, I taught advanced Korean in a language course at M.A. level at the University of Bonn, where we focused on reading Korean-language papers relating to marginalised linguistic and social groups within Korean culture. My course had a unique focus on reading papers about groups located on social and regional margins, such as Jeju Province, or queer women in the Korean countryside. When teaching my students Korean vocabulary on socially stigmatised, indigenous religious practices we took a culturally sensitive learning approach in which the lexical meaning of words is explained in their embeddedness in the socio-historical meanings of their use. At the same time, I focused on the teaching of complex grammatical structures commonly encountered in Korean scientific writing (e.g., -며, -(었)던), accompanied by continued comparison with spoken registers in order to widen my students’ linguistic skillset. Similarly, I strive for critical appraisals of linguistic nationalism and its manifestations in classroom teaching, fostering awareness of the existence and intrinsic value of Korean standard languages and Koreanic non-standard varieties. In the long run, I wish to include the teaching of such language varieties, alongside more profound development of students’ *Hanja* competence. Two ultra-long-term projects close to my heart are the development of a collaborative-reflexive teaching programme for heritage language speaker-learners (with a focus on Korean in Germany), and the inclusion of Korean Deaf Culture Studies within Western Korean Studies.

- since 02/2024 **Letteratura Coreana 2** B.A. course: history of Korean literature, Joseon period.
- since 10/2023 **Lingua Coreana 2** Intermediate Korean language course for B.A. students, grammar-focused lecture.
- 20/05/2025 **Invited seminar:** The Jejuan area-a (아래아): 무시거 헝꿈 알아지크냐? [Can you understand a bit?]. Seminar as part of B.A. course in Korean philology by Prof. Wiseon Kim.
- 15/10/2024 **Invited seminar:** Buona educazione: cosa ne pensano i coreani? [Politeness: what do Koreans think about it?]. Seminar series organised by Prof. Junga Kim, Università di Napoli L’Orientale.
- 05/2022 **Invited workshop** ‘Doing fieldwork, being human: an introduction to linguistic fieldwork and language documentation practice.’ Hands-on workshop on research practice and funding application for PhD-students at the Dipartimento di Studi sull’Asia e sull’Africa Mediterranea, Ca’ Foscari. Part of the PhD research student seminar of Prof. Elisabetta Ragagnin.
- 12/2021 **Video lecture contribution** to international course *Languages, Cultures and Interaction in Asia* under Prof Shimako Iwasaki and Prof Lucien Brown, at School of Languages, Literature and Linguistics, Monash University, Melbourne. Lecture topic: ‘Multilingual Asia – Korea.’
- 08/2020–05/2021 **Temporary lectureship for MA course** ,Wissenschaftliche Lektüre Koreanisch’ [Reading Academic Texts in Korean] as part of Module ‘Scientific Readings in Korean’ at the Department of Japan and





01/2020	Korean Studies, University of Bonn. Focus on reading Korean literature on social and linguistic minorities in South Korea. <b>Invited seminars for linguistic software training:</b> Two consecutive seminars on ELAN software use for linguistics field research as part of Field Methods course of Prof. Lutz Marten, Linguistics department at SOAS University of London.
11/2017 and 11/2016	<b>Romanisation of Korean Hangeul Script seminars,</b> Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, SOAS University of London.
02/2015–06/2015	<b>Teaching and Marking Assistance</b> in Department of Linguistics, SOAS University of London, MA course: Language Support and Revitalisation under Prof Julia Sallabank.
01/2015–05/ 2015	<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant for BA course:</b> Introduction to Grammatical Structure under Dr Aicha Belkadi, in the Department of Linguistics, SOAS University of London.

### Academic assistance, consultancy and additional training

02/06/2025	<b>Programme committee</b> member for the Foundation for Endangered Languages FELXXVII 2023 conference in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain, 22–25 Oct 2025.
23/06/2025	<b>Invited expert and consultancy</b> at 2025 Jejueo Forum ‘Nul’ for the Preservation of Endangered Languages organised by the Jeju Studies Research Center at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, 23 June 2025.
23/02/2024	<b>Conference organisation and assistance</b> at conference ‘Korean Women in History, Literature and Contemporary Media’ at Università di Napoli L’Orientale, Napoli, 23 February 2024.
01/08/2023–17/08/2023	<b>Programme committee</b> member for the Foundation for Endangered Languages FELXXVII 2023 conference in Rabat, Morocco, 23–25 Nov 2023.
11/2019–12/2019	<b>Scientific committee</b> member for Heritage Languages Around the World conference, of the Centro de Linguística da Universidade de Lisboa, Centro de Estudos Humanísticos da Universidade do Minho, Portuguese Program & Heritage Language Research Group at UMass Amherst. Postponed to 19 – 21 May 2021 due to CoVid-19.
13/2019–11/2019	<b>Conference organisation and assistance</b> at The 3rd International Jeju Studies Congress of the Jeju Research Institute’s Center for Jeju Studies: Jejueo Endangerment, Conservation and Revitalization: Linguists’ Insights from Around the World. 11–13 November 2019, Jeju City.
11/2019	<b>Linguistic consultancy</b> for education department of Jeju Provincial Government: knowledge exchange roundtable for Jejuan language teachers at middle and high schools.
09/2014–09/2014	<b>Assistant</b> at the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme scholars’ training workshop, SOAS University of London.
04/2013–09/2014	<b>Student Research Assistant,</b> Department of Linguistics, SOAS University of London.
12/2012–03/2013	<b>Archive Assistant,</b> Endangered Languages Archive, Department of Linguistics, SOAS University of London.
04/2012–06/2012	<b>Internship</b> at Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig under Dr Iren Hartmann: toolbox implementation of the





03/2010–01/2012

Comparative Siouan Dictionary under Dr Sven Grawunder: phonetic analysis of German vowel lengthening.

**Student assistant** at Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology Valency Classes Project under Prof Bernard Comrie, Prof Martin Haspelmath, Prof Andrej Malchukov, Dr Iren Hartmann.

09/2011–09/2011

**Training at summer school:** Theory and Methods of Language Documentation, University of Regensburg.

### Research and publication profile

My general research interests lie in morphosyntax, linguistic typology, and the role of semantic-pragmatic and social factors such as kinds of knowledge and experience, politeness and the presence or absence of an addressee in grammar. My PhD research focused on how sentences are connected in Jejuan, a Koreanic regional language of South Korea, together with an audio-visual, electronic language documentation project. In recent years, I have become interested in studying linguistic anthropology and linguistic ideology to study what sociocultural subtexts, intentions and presuppositions are conveyed by what is said in a message. Through this interest, I have become increasingly aware of the connection between social power and language, and how critical awareness of it should be part of both linguistic theory and language-pedagogical practice.

- Kim, Soung-U. In prep. Cultivating awareness: ideologies of code choice and language documentation practice. Originally accepted for publication in special issue of *Language Documentation and Conservation*, now unpublished manuscript as of Nov 2025.
- Kim, Soung-U. Forthcoming. Les llengües coreàniques. To appear in Catalan in Junyent i Figueras, Maria Carme (ed.), *Manual de les llengües del món* [Handbook of the World's Languages]. To be published as part of the project *Grup de Lingüistes per la Diversitat (GLiDi)* at the University of Barcelona.
- Kim, Soung-U. 2025. Documenting Diversity: Enriching Koreanic Linguistics Through Language Documentation. *Annali, sezione Orientale* 85(1-2).
- Lucien, Brown and Kim, Soung-U Kim. 2025. *Politeness Metapragmatics: Inductive Research, Multimodality and Critical Theory*. Cham: Springer.
- Kim, Soung-U and Lucien Brown. 2024. What do Korean speakers know about politeness? In Shin Kim, Mary (ed.), *Exploring Korean politeness Across Online and Offline Interactions*, 9-33. Cham: Springer.
- Brown, Lucien, Soung-U Kim & Hyunji Kim. 2022. The embodied enactment of politeness metapragmatics. *Journal of Politeness Research* 19(1). 149–83. <https://doi.org/10.1515/pr-2021-0033> [accessed 2023-03-06]
- Dal Corso, Elia and Soung-U Kim (eds). 2022. *Endangered Languages of East Asia: Typological Approaches to Language Obsolescence*. Leiden: Brill.
- Kim, Soung-U. 2022. Person-sensitivity and egophoricity in Jejuan: the -no/-ko suffixes. Jeon, Hae-Sung and Chen Xi (eds.), *Japanese-Korean Linguistics* 28. 259-273. Stanford: CSLI Publications.
- Kim, Soung-U. 2022. Jejuan corpus contribution to the DoReCo (*Language Documentation Reference Corpora: Cross-linguistic phonetics and morphology using a time-aligned multilingual reference corpus built from documentations of 50 languages: Big data on small languages*). Project at ZAS (Leibniz-Centre General Linguistics) Berlin. <http://doreco.info/project/> [retrieved 2022-08-10]
- Kim, Soung-U. 2021. Emotions and Relationships in Language Revitalisation and Maintenance. In Olko, Justyna and Julia Sallabank (eds.), 123-124. *Revitalizing Endangered Languages: A Practical Guide*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108641142>
- Kim, Soung-U. 2019. The morphosyntax of Jejuan -ko clause linkages. *Language Research* 55. 315–354. doi:10.30961/lr.2019.55.2.315.



- Kim, Soung-U. 2018. *A multi-modal documentation of Jejuan conversations*. Online archive. London: SOAS, Endangered Languages Archive. URL: <https://elar.soas.ac.uk/deposit/0351> [accessed on 2020-09-08].
- Kim, Soung-U. 2018. *Finiteness in Jejuan Adverbial Clauses: a Canonical Typology approach*. SOAS University of London PhD thesis. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25501/SOAS.00030889> [accessed on 2025-06-02]
- Kim, Soung-U. 2017. The End of Korean Monolingualism – Discovering a Multilingual Korea. 28th AKSE conference at Charles University Prague, Czech Republic, 20–23 April 2017. Unpublished Manuscript.
- Kim, Soung-U. 2015. Book review of *Jeju Language and Tales from the Edge of the Korean Peninsula* by Jieun Kiaer (Lincom). Published on LinguistList under <http://linguistlist.org/issues/26/26-3009.html> [accessed on 2020-08-31]

### Talks and poster presentations

- 06/05/2025 *Standard language ideology, linguistic nationalism and marginalisation: the case of South Korea*. Invited talk at Wolfson Humanities Society, Wolfson College, University of Cambridge.
- 24/04/2025 *Legacy Materials in Koreanic Linguistics: their creation, role and use*. Discussions on Legacy Materials at University of Bern, 24–25 April 2025.
- 26/02/2025 *Heritage Language Studies in the Korean-speaking World*. Invited talk at Asia's Archaeology and Heritage Group, University of Cambridge.
- 07/12/2024 *Sprachenvielfalt lehren: das Problem der Inklusion koreanischer Sprachvarietäten im Koreanischunterricht* [Teaching Linguistic Diversity: the Problem of Including Koreanic Language Varieties in Korean Language Teaching]. Workshop für Koreanisch-Lehrende an deutschsprachigen Universitäten at Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main, 6–7 December 2024.
- 14/11/2024 *Countering Monolingualism: Towards the Study and Teaching of Koreanic Languages*. Convegno Internazionale di Studi Coreani at Università per gli Stranieri di Siena, 14–15 November 2024.
- 12/07/2024 *Language Ideologies, Linguistic Descriptive Practice, and the Writer*. Eleventh Cambridge Conference on Language Endagerment at University of Cambridge, July 12, 2024.
- 05/05/2022 *Egophoricity in Jejuan? A look at -no/-ko and -m=i- constructions*. Conference on Endangered Languages of East Asia CELEA2 at Ca' Foscari, May 3–5 2022.
- 06/09/2021 *Egophoric and evidential marking in Jejuan*. Evidentiality 2.0: Integrating egophoricity, focusing on equipollent contrasts, and re-examining visual evidentials, University of Bern, 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Sep 2021.
- 29/06/2021 *The Embodied Enactment of Politeness Metapragmatics*. 17th International Pragmatics Conference at Winterthur, Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW), 27<sup>th</sup> June to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021. With Lucien Brown as first author.
- 19/09/2020 *Egophoric marking patterns in Jejuan*. Japanese-Korean Linguistics 28 at Lancaster University, held on-line, 7<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020.
- 11/07/2019 *Talking Selves: Egophoricity and Jejuan Morphosyntax*. 21st Biennial Meeting of the International Circle of Korean Linguistics. Monash University, Melbourne, 10–12 July 2019.
- 11/07/2019 *Emic Perspectives on Korean Politeness Metaconcepts: A Qualitative Study*. 21st Biennial Meeting of the International Circle of Korean Linguistics. Monash University, Melbourne, 10–12 July 2019. With Lucien Brown as first author.
- 16/05/2019 *Power through dialectology? Reflections on ideological motivations for linguistic classification and description*. Symposium on Ideologies, Attitudes, and Power in Language Contact Settings. Stockholm University, 16–17 May 2019.

- 13/04/2019 *Perceptions of code choice by Jeju islanders: a language ideological view.* 29th Academy of Korean Studies Europe conference. Sapienza University of Rome, 11–14 April 2019.
- 13/09/2018 *Documenting Diversity: Enriching Koreanic Linguistics Through Language Documentation.* World Congress of Korean Studies. Academy of Korean Studies, Seongnam, South Korea, 12–14 Sep 2018.
- 25/07/2018 *Orthographic Prescriptivism and the Documentation of Koreanic.* 3rd International Conference on Documentary Linguistics – Asian Perspectives. Mahidol University, Bangkok, 24–25 July 2018. First author Simon Barnes-Sadler.
- 24/07/2018 *Exploring ideologies of code choice for language documentation and revitalisation.* 3rd International Conference on Documentary Linguistics – Asian Perspectives. Mahidol University, Bangkok, 24–25 July 2018.
- 04/07/2018 *Managing ideology: language-ideological surveying for language revitalisation.* 8th Cambridge Conference on Language Endangerment. Cambridge University, 4 July 2018.
- 22/04/2017 *The End of Korean Monolingualism – Discovering a Multilingual Korea.* 28th Academy of Korean Studies Europe conference at Charles University Prague, Czech Republic, 20–23 April 2017
- 05/07/2016 *Researching Endangered 'Dialects': countering ideologies of linguistic subordination.* Cambridge Endangered Languages and Cultures Group Postgraduate Workshop. Cambridge University, 5 July 2016.
- 13/02/2015 *Documenting conversations in Jeju Language.* Poster presentation at British Researcher Links Workshop, Documenting and preserving indigenous languages: principles, practices and tools. Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, 08 – 14 February 2015.
- 12/09/2014 *Some ideas on 'language ideological clarification' for language documentation and description.* Seoul National University, Workshop on Language Documentation and Linguistic Typology. 12 September 2014.

### Grants, scholarships and awards

- 02/2023 **Seal of Excellence** for MSCA proposal 101106931 (JISL) under the EU call HORIZON-MSCA-2022-PF-01 (score: 92.8/100)
- 05/2022 **Seal of Excellence** for MSCA proposal 101062595 (JISL) under the EU call HORIZON-MSCA-2021-PF-01-01 (score: 88/100)
- 03/2021 **Seal of Excellence** for MSCA proposal 101030740 (JILS) under the EU call H2020-MSCA-IF-2020 (score: 85/100)
- 09/2016–08/2021 **Five-year Laboratory Program** for Korean Studies funded by the Korean Studies Promotion Service, 'Varieties of Korean: Global, Local and Individual' (Proposal co-writer; AKS-2016-LAB-2250003, Amount: 1,470,000,000 KRW, ca. 1,040,454 EUR)
- 10/2013–09/2016 **Individual Graduate Scholarship** by the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme by Arcadia Fund (IGS0208, Amount: 59,892 GBP, ca. 66,461.85 EUR)
- 10/2013–09/2016 **UK Arts and Humanities Research Council** Doctoral Scheme studentship (Amount: ca. 11,991 GBP in total, ca. 13,307.17 EUR)
- 10/2012–09/2013 **1-year Graduate Scholarship** of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) (Amount: 15,025 EUR)



## Language-related freelance work

since 09/2021	<b>Freelance work</b> in NGOs, and language-related commissions. Translation and interpretation commissions (German, English, Korean). Freelance Linguistic Editor work for DeepL (Korean, German, English).
since 11/2020	<b>German language teaching:</b> one-to-one lessons, with focus on differences between spoken and written German.
05/2022–06/2022	<b>Freelance collaborator</b> at Korea Verband e.V., Berlin. Decolonial-feminist education association that focuses on the East Asian context on various matters regarding social margins and minorities. Proofing and translation of documents (Korean, German, English), organisation and promotion of events, research for international meetings.
04/2015–10/2022	<b>Consecutive interpretation assistance</b> at presentations, lectures, book readings, interviews and business fairs, for example: Korea Division Image Center qualitative interview research July 2022 (German, Korean, English); London Language Live Show Sejong Institute Korea Pavilion 2016, London Book Fair Korea Pavilion 2015 (Korean, English, German).
07/2022–10/2022	<b>Commissioned translation work</b> between German, English and Korean: essay translation Korean–German for art exhibition exposé by Zinu Kim ( <a href="#">click here</a> ); subtitle translation for advertisement (English–Korean), interview transcript translation and cultural-linguistic commentary (Korean–English) for Jung von Matt agency. Commissioned by Hyundai Kia Cars in July 2022.
10/2022	<b>Writing workshop organisation and facilitation:</b> creative writing workshop for queer Koreans in Berlin, funded by the Comeln project of Migrationsrat.
04/2014–10/2014	<b>Web content management assistant</b> for Eli Timan's deposits on Jewish Iraqi at ELAR, SOAS University of London.
12/2012–08/2014	<b>Web Content Editor</b> of selected website content within the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme (ELDP) and Endangered Languages Archive (ELAR) at SOAS UoL.

## Skills and competences

### SOFTWARE & TECHNOLOGY

basics of HTML5 & CSS  
Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point)  
LaTeX compilation  
Zotero  
XMind  
Audacity  
handling audio and video equipment

### CONTENT-RELATED

project management and coordination  
application writing for funding  
scientific consultancy  
HTML content management  
basic video and audio editing  
language teaching, translation and localisation  
(German, English, Korean)

**PERSONAL STRENGTHS:** quick-learning, inquisitive, detail-oriented and empathetic





## Language skills & knowledge

### professional

GERMAN  
KOREAN  
ENGLISH  
ITALIAN

### spoken fluency

FRENCH  
SPANISH  
CATALAN  
BÄRNDÜTSCH  
JEJUAN

### conversational

FARSI  
JAPANESE  
WELSH

### basic knowledge

RUSSIAN  
NORWEGIAN  
MONGOLIAN  
(Cyrillic and Uyghur script)  
KOREAN SIGN LANGUAGE  
HAUSA

## Other interests and hobbies

Currently, I am studying Welsh and Korean Sign Language as part of my language learning passion. I love studying Classical Chinese as used in Korean culture (*Hanja*), and play the Western flute and Korean drums. Meditation, mindfulness, knitting, plant care and readings in racism and unconscious bias studies are important parts of my life.

