



International Summer Research or Residency Award

Ji Hyun Hwang, summer 2024

Korean Studies in Multicultural Education Curriculum & Instruction

Thanks to the generous support from the Global Engagement Office, my summer in Korea significantly advanced my dissertation project. My time there allowed me not only to diversify the sources of my data but also to enhance my data analysis and elaborate my interpretation by incorporating archival materials and contextualizing the practices.

Presenting my initial dissertation analysis at conferences organized by the Korean Association for Multicultural Education (KAME) and the Korean Educational Research Association (KERA) was particularly beneficial. The feedback from both academic and practical audiences, including educators and practitioners, allowed me to refine my interpretations and ensure that my analyses resonated with those familiar with multicultural education. This process was crucial in developing two key chapters of my dissertation. Engaging with Korean and international scholars broadened my perspectives, especially in re-evaluating Western theories and incorporating Asian racial theories into my work. And the comments from a Korean scholar working on curriculum reform helped me contextualize global epistemic aspects of multicultural education within South Korea, particularly regarding the International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum trend.

Moreover, attending workshops in Seoul deepened my understanding of multicultural education in South Korea. Workshops at APCEIU on global citizenship education and sessions from the Migrant Youth Foundation provided valuable insights into the local application of multicultural education, helping me critically assess the challenges and discrepancies within the system. My exploration of historical archives at the National Library of Korea further enriched my research, allowing me to trace the evolution of Korean identity and its implications for contemporary education.

Lastly, participating in cultural events, such as the K-family festival celebrating Multicultural Day, offered a firsthand view of the societal discourse surrounding multiculturalism in Korea. These experiences have been invaluable in shaping my research, and I am deeply honored to have been a recipient of the 2024 Graduate Student International Summer Research or Residency Award, which made this enriching opportunity possible.

