

# Curriculum Vitae

## MATHIEU BERBIGUIER

Carnegie Mellon University  
Department of Languages, Cultures & Applied Linguistics  
4980 Margaret Morrison St, Posner Hall 341  
Pittsburgh, PA 15123

[mathberbi@gmail.com](mailto:mathberbi@gmail.com)  
<http://mathberbi.com>

### EDUCATION

**University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)**

**Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, Los Angeles, CA**

*Ph.D. in Asian Languages & Cultures, 2024*

- Cultural & Comparative Studies Track (Korea Focus)
- Certificate in Digital Humanities and Concentration in Gender Studies
- Dissertation: "K-pop Fandom(s): Divergent Understandings of Narrated Authenticity."

**Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Graduate School of International and Area Studies, Seoul, South Korea**

*Master of Arts (MA), Korean Studies, 2016*

- Thesis: "Studying the Significance of K-pop's Globalization from the Perspective of Korean Fandom"

**Université Paris Cité, UFR des Langues et Civilisations de l'Asie Orientale, Paris, France**

*Bachelor of Arts (BA), Korean Studies with high honors (Top 1%), 2014*

- Exchange Student at Seoul National University, Department of Korean Language and Literature, *September 2013 – August 2014*

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**Carnegie Mellon University, Department of Languages, Cultures & Applied Linguistics**

*Visiting Assistant Professor in Korean Studies, August 2024 – Present*

**University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Asian Languages and Cultures**

*Instructor of Records, Spring 2024*

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

*Research Interests*

- The expressions of authenticity, national identity and national language in Korean popular culture through its making and its consumption
- K-pop and K-pop fandom(s): fandom culture in Korea and its spread (especially North America and Europe), the relationship between K-pop fans inside and outside Korea
- Cybernationalism, its evolution in East Asian fandom communities and beyond
- East Asian queer popular culture, its global popularity and its effects on the national contexts
- Influencer culture and how it converses with narratives crafted by East Asian popular culture

### *Teaching Interests*

- Korean popular culture and its popularity around the world: the Korean Wave or Hallyu
- Finding ways to keep a connection between Korean popular culture and Korean Studies as a field
- Digital Humanities and using digital tools to professionalize students interested in Korean Studies
- The paradox between difficulties faced by LGBTQ+ communities in Korea and the Queer potential of Korean popular culture in other countries
- Effective ways to incorporate Korean popular culture in Korean language education

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2025). "French Influencers and the Construction of Korea's Superiority: Social Media Content Analysis and Follower Responses" *Asian Communication Research*, 22(3).

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2023). "When they say they are a K-drama fan, but their first drama is Squid Game: What is an authentic K-drama?" *Journal of Fandom Studies*, 11(2).

Berbiguier, Mathieu and Younghan Cho (2017). "Understanding the Korean Fandom of the K-pop: Focusing on Its Perspectives on Foreign Fans." *Korean Journal of Communication & Information*, 81(2), 272–98.

### **Book Chapters**

Berbiguier, Mathieu (Forthcoming, 2026). "The Aftermath of the Korean Wave: K-pop fandom(s) facing a shift from sub-culture to 'mainstream.'" In Vincenzo Cicchelli, Juhyun Lee & Sylvie Octobre, Eds. *An Alternative Globalization: Youth, Cultural Commodity, and Soft Power from East Asia to the World*. Leiden: Brill.

### **Work in Progress**

- Book Project: *K-pop Nation(alism): Narratives of Authenticity after the Korean Wave* (Currently drafting manuscript, Expected publication in 2027).
- Journal Article: "PLAVE: 'Virtual Idols' as representatives of K-pop's contemporary struggles." *The Review of Korean Studies* (Forthcoming, June 2026)
- Book Chapters: "Localized understandings of Gender and Queerness in the K-pop Fandom(s): BTS' United Nations Speech as a Case Study" in *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Gender in Popular Music Industries* (Forthcoming, 2026).

### **Book Reviews**

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2025). Review of Korean Pop Culture Beyond Asia: Race and Reception. Edited by David C. Oh and Benjamin M. Han. University of Washington Press, 2024. 292 pp. *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 275–77.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2023). Review of K-pop dance: fandoming yourself on social media: Oh, Chuyun., London: Routledge, 2022. 194 pp. \$48.95 (paperback). *Text and Performance Quarterly* 43(4), 261–62.

## Other Publications

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2023). *K-Pop Le Fan Quiz*. Paris: Hors Collection.

Hamilton, Kate (2022). *BTS Le Fan Quiz*. Translated by Mathieu Berbiguier. Paris: Hors Collection.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Research Fellow**, Academy of Korean Studies (Seoul, South Korea), September 2022 – December 2022.

Conducted interviews of K-pop professionals for Ph. D. thesis.

**Junior Fellow**, Kyujanggak Institute for Korean Studies (Seoul, South Korea), September 2021 – August 2022.

Conducted majority of Ph.D. thesis fieldwork and participated in the 2021 Kyujanggak International Symposium.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2025). “K-pop, K-Nationalism and Multiculturalism in the era of the Transnational: the Making of a Narrative through Children Educational Comics” MARAAS (Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies) Annual Meeting, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA; November 2025.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2025). “K-pop as a Pedagogical Tool in Korean Studies: Finding the Balance between Personal Interest and Professional Skills” Twentieth International Conference on the Arts in Society, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA; May 2025.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2025). “PLAVE: ‘Virtual Idols’ as best representatives of K-pop’s Humanity” Digital Korea Conference (James Joo-Kim Center of Korean Studies, University of Pennsylvania), Philadelphia, PA; April 2025.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2025). “Mapping the Authenticity of K-Pop: the Reality of Production Network vs. Fandom Interpretation (Poster Presentation)” Association for Asian Studies, Columbus, OH; March 2025.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2024). “Entre Fan et Citoyen du Monde : Quand les Fans Français de K-pop se Mettent à la Politique” Association Française Pour les Etudes Coréennes, Paris; December 2024.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2024). “‘They do not deserve them’: Changing Power Dynamics in the Kpop Fandom(s)” K-pop: Musical Production and Consumption (Yale University), New Haven, CT; November 2024.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2024). “Roundtable: Connecting the Nodes: Graphs and Networks in Digital Korean Studies, from Sino-Korean Poetry to K-Pop” Association for Asian Studies, Seattle, WA; March 2024.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2023). “*Kukppong* and Authenticity: A new wave of “K-nationalism” in Kpop Fandom(s)” K-pop and the West Symposium (University at Buffalo), Buffalo, NY; October 2023.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2023). “K-pop fans’ illusions of Authenticity through Influencers’ narratives of the ‘Korean Dream.’” Association for Korean Studies in Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark; June 2023.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2023). “K-pop Fandom(s) and K-pop Narratives: Instrumentalizing Authenticity.” Popular Culture Association, San Antonio, TX; April 2023.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2022). “The Aftermath of the Korean Wave: K-pop fandom(s) facing a shift from sub-culture to ‘mainstream.’” Alternative Cultural Globalization, Paris, France; December 2022.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2022). “(Dis)identifications of Queer K-pop Fans in the Online Sphere.” Queering the Korean Wave Symposium, Sydney, Australia (Online); December 2022.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2022). “Parsing the Queering interpretations of K-pop Fandoms: reframing idols into LGBTQ+ rights activists.” Crossroads in Cultural Studies, Lisboa, Portugal (Online); November 2022.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2022). “When they say they are a K-drama fan, but their first drama is *Squid Game*:” What is an “authentic” K-drama?” Symposium: Is Netflix riding the Korean Wave or Vice-Versa?, Seoul, South Korea; April 2022.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2021). “Power Dynamics of K-pop Fandom(s): when nationalist discourse meets authenticity.” Kyujanggak International Symposium, Seoul, South Korea; November 2021.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2021). “Roundtable: BTS and Critical Pedagogies.” Society for Ethnomusicology, Online; October 2021.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2019). “케이팝의 한국 팬덤과 해외 팬덤이 다르게 해석하는 메시지: BTS x UNICEF “러브 마이셀프” 캠페인을 중심으로.” (*K'eip'abüi han'guk p'aendömgwa haeoe p'aendömi tarüge haesök'anün meshiji: BTS x UNICEF “Love Myself” k'aemp'einül chungshimüro*, BTS x UNICEF “Love Myself” Campaign: same message, different interpretation from K-pop fandoms) K-pop Beyond BTS: Media Technology, Creative Industries, and Fandom Culture, Seoul, South Korea; December 2019.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2019). “Same situation, Different reactions: when Geopolitics generate Tensions among K-pop Fandoms.” American Anthropological Association, Vancouver, Canada; November 2019.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2018). “Re-localizing the Korean Fandom as the center of attention in Kpop: using Fandom as a tool of analysis.” American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA; November 2018.

## INVITED TALKS

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2025). “La Vague Coréenne est-elle terminée ? Coup de projecteur sur le(s) K-pop fandom(s).” *Paysages Culturels et Médiatiques en Asie*, Toulouse, France (Online); April 2025.

Berbiguier, Mathieu (2022). “Les fans de K-pop face aux répercussions de la Hallyu.” Seoul Colloquium in Korean Studies, Seoul, South Korea; November 2022.

## WORKSHOP PARTICIPATIONS

**Stanford-UCLA Graduate Student Workshop in Japanese-Korean Studies**, November 2023.  
Workshop for Graduate Students in Japanese and Korean Studies from Stanford and UCLA.  
Presentation title: The Aftermath of Hallyu: K-pop fandom(s) and Korean Studies.

**8<sup>th</sup> Research Institute of Korean Studies Academy**, Korea University, August 2023.  
Workshop conducted in Korean for junior researchers in Korean Studies.  
Presentation title: (Dis)Identification of K-pop fans through gender and sexuality.

**Advanced Topics in Digital Korean Studies**, Seoul National University/University of Copenhagen, April – August 2022.  
Series of lectures, workshops, and project incubation under the main theme of Digital Humanities.  
Project title: Mapping the authenticity of K-pop – the reality of production network vs. fandom interpretation.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Carnegie Mellon University**, *Department of Languages, Cultures & Applied Linguistics*

- 82255 Beyond the Korean Wave: A Critical Exploration of K-pop – Fall 2024, Fall 2025
- 82151 Elementary Korean I – Fall 2024, Fall 2025
- 82553 Korean Society through Literature and Film – Spring 2025, Spring 2026
- 82152 Elementary Korean II – Spring 2025
- 82254 Korean Media & Professional Communication: Building Career-Ready Language Skills – Spring 2026

**University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)**, *Department of Asian Languages and Cultures*  
*As an Instructor of Records selected as part of the CUTF (Collegium of University Teaching Fellows)*

- KOREA98T, Beyond the Korean Wave: A Critical Exploration of K-pop – Spring 2024

*As a Teaching Fellow*

- KOREA1, KOREA2, KOREA3, Elementary Korean – Academic Year 2019-2020, Summer 2020, Winter & Spring 2023
- KOREA80, Introduction to Korean Cinema – Fall 2020, Winter 2024
- KOREA40W, Globalization of Korean Popular Culture – Winter 2021
- KOREA50, History of Korean Civilization – Spring 2021, Fall 2023

## ACADEMIC AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE

**Reviewer**, *New Media & Society*, *Journal of Fandom Studies*, *International Journal of Communication*, *Korea Journal*, *Text and Performance Quarterly*, 2023 – Present.

**Review Editor**, *Riffs Journal*, 2023 – Present

Co-editor for forthcoming Riffs Vol 8 Issue 1: Asian and Oceanic Popular Music.

**Committee Member**, *Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship*, September 2024. Evaluation and Interview of Candidates before their National interview.

**Chair**, *ALC Graduate Student Council, UCLA*, October 2023 – June 2024.  
Call and preside meetings of the Graduate council once a month during the school year.

**Member**, *Hwaiting!: The K-pop Music Research Accelerator*, September 2022 – May 2024.  
Hwaiting! houses an online research community that publishes music analyses. Directed by Dr. Crystal Anderson, its mission is to generate comprehensive, well-informed discourse around K-pop music.

**Social Chair**, *ALC Graduate Student Council, UCLA*, January – June 2019. Organization of social events among graduate students.

**Member in charge of Planning**, *GSIAS, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies*, January – August 2016.  
Organization of social events for the Graduate School of International and Area Studies.

**Teaching Assistant**, *Department of Korean Studies, GSIAS, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies*, September 2015 – August 2016.

In charge of overall communication between the teaching team and graduate students, facilitating administrative tasks for both parties and organizing events inside the department.

## HONORS/AWARDS

Korean Studies Grant, Academy of Korean Studies, 2025. (as Co-researcher)

ICI Course Development Grant, Carnegie Mellon University, LCAL Department, Summer 2025.

### *Ph.D.*

Korea Foundation Fellowship for Graduate Studies, 2024-2025. [Declined]

Collegium of University Teaching Fellows, 2023-2024.

Korea Foundation Fellowship for Graduate Studies, 2023-2024.

Terasaki Center of Japanese Studies, Summer 2023.

UCLA Center of Korean Studies Summer Fellowship, Summer 2023.

Academy of Korean Studies Fellowship, September – December 2022.

Kyujanggak Junior Fellowship, September 2021 – August 2022.

ALC Teaching Assistant Award for Excellence in Teaching, June 2021.

UCLA University Fellowship, 2019-2020, 2021-2022.

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program (GSRM), Summer 2019. Mellon Fellowship of Distinction, 2018-2019, 2021-2022.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Korean to French Translator**, Freelance, August 2019 – June 2024.

Webtoon translation from Korean to French.

Worked with four different clients based in France and Korea. Translated over 30 series.

## **SKILLS**

### **Foreign Languages**

French (native), English (fluent), Korean (fluent), Spanish (low-intermediate), Japanese (equivalent to N4)

### **Computing**

Microsoft Office, Adobe (Photoshop, Premiere Pro)  
Programming Languages: Python, HTML5, CSS3