

Vincent Pak

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EDUCATION

2019 – 2023: **Joint PhD programme in English Language and Linguistics**

National University of Singapore, Department of English, Linguistics and Theatre Studies
King's College London, Centre for Language, Discourse and Communication

- Dissertation title: Homecoming: Discursive Metanoia as Homophobia
- Concentrations: Discourse Studies, Linguistic Anthropology, Gender and Sexuality
- Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Mie Hiramoto (NUS) and Prof. Alexandra Georgakopoulou-Nunes (KCL)

2015 – 2019: **BA (Hons, Highest Distinction) in English Language with Minor in Gender Studies**

National University of Singapore, Department of English, Linguistics and Theatre Studies

- Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Mie Hiramoto

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Sociocultural linguistics; linguistic anthropology; digital ethnography; cultural studies; social semiotics; corpus-assisted discourse analysis; gender and sexuality

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR

Present: Assistant Lecturer, School of English

Summer 2025: Instructor, Summer Institute in the Arts & Humanities, Faculty of Arts

Jan – Aug 2025: Teaching Assistant and Writing Consultant, School of English
Editor, Alumni Magazine, School of English

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Pak, Vincent (2025). *Queer Correctives: Discursive Neo-homophobia, Sexuality and Christianity in Singapore*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.

Journal articles

Pak, Vincent (2025). Language, gender and sexuality in 2023: Writing from the Thorny Place. *Gender & Language* 19(1), 104-123. <https://doi.org/10.3138/gl-2025-1005>

Pak, Vincent and Hiramoto, Mie (2023). Sticky Raciolinguistics. *Signs and Society* 11(1), 45-67. <https://doi.org/10.1086/722622>

Pak, Vincent (2023). Lighting, signing, showing: The circulability of Pink Dot's counterpublic discourse in Singapore. *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 27(1), 24–41. <https://doi.org/10.1111/josl.12568>

Pak, Vincent (2023). (De)coupling race and language: The state listening subject and its rearticulation of antiracism as racism in Singapore. *Language in Society* 52(1), 151-172. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0047404521000373>

Starr, Rebecca Lurie, Go, Christian and **Pak, Vincent** (2022). 'Keep calm, stay safe, and drink bubble tea': Commodifying the crisis of Covid-19 in Singapore advertising. *Language in Society* 51(2), 333-359. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0047404521000567>

Pak, Vincent and Hiramoto, Mie (2022). "Itching to make an impact": Constructing the mobile Singaporean voluntourist in Instagram travel narratives. *Social Semiotics* 32(3), 332-354. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10350330.2020.1766263>

Pak, Vincent (2021). Coming out 'softly': Metapragmatic reflections of gay men in illiberal pragmatic Singapore. *Gender & Language* 15(3), 301-323. <https://doi.org/10.1558/genl.20008>

Pak, Vincent and Hiramoto, Mie (2021). For family, for friends, for (true) love: Negotiating discourses of love within the LGBTQ community in Singapore. *Journal of Language & Sexuality* 10(2), 105–128. <https://doi.org/10.1075/jls.20009.hir> 2021

Pak, Vincent (under review). Bundling multiracialism, Ontologising racism: State media reflections and deflections. *Journal of Asian Studies*.

Pak, Vincent (under review). Narrative formatting, chronotopic orderings, and moralisation in ex-gay stories. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*.

Book chapters

Pak, Vincent and Hiramoto, Mie (forthcoming). Declassifying the racialised inhabitant: Stories from 'Other' women. In Wu Mingdan, Sibö Rugwiza Kanobana, and Jaspal Singh (eds.), *Subverting Space and Race: Towards a Geopolitically Conscious and Antiracist Epistemology in the Sociology of Language*. Mouton de Gruyter.

Hiramoto, Mie and **Pak, Vincent** (in preparation). Mediatization of misogyny: female impersonation characters in Singapore's public announcements. In Chen Li-Chi and Lu Wei-lun (eds.), *Signs of Conflict: Multimodal Dimensions*. De Gruyter Brill.

Pak, Vincent (forthcoming). Inflammatory semiotics. In Kira Hall, Rodrigo Borba, and Mie Hiramoto (eds.), *Language, Gender, and Sexuality: An Anticipatory Retrospective*. Equinox Publishing.

Go, Christian, Hiramoto, Mie, and **Pak, Vincent** (under review). Gender variation in linguistic landscapes. In Quentin Williams, Amiena Peck, and David Malinowski (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Landscapes*. Oxford University Press.

Hiramoto, Mie and **Pak, Vincent** (under review). Linguistic constructions of gender in pop cultural media. In Valentin Werner, Andrew Moody, and Cecelia Cutler (eds.), *The Handbook of Language and Pop Culture*. Mouton de Gruyter.

Book Reviews

2021: Pak, Vincent. “Scott F. Kiesling (2019). *Language, Gender, and Sexuality: An Introduction*. London and New York: Routledge, 188pp.” *Gender & Language*. <https://doi.org/10.1558/genl.19531>

2021: Pak, Vincent. “Robert Phillips. 2020. *Virtual Activism: Sexuality, the Internet, and a Social Movement in Singapore*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.” *Journal of Language and Sexuality*. <https://doi.org/10.1075/jls.00020.pa>

2020: Pak, Vincent. “Heiko Motschenbacher, *Language, Normativity and Europeanisation: Discursive Evidence from the Eurovision Song Contest*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016. Pp. 369. Hb. £74.99.” *Language in Society* 49 (1), 162-163. doi:10.1017/ S0047404519000927

Commentaries

Pak, Vincent (2025). “What we do with the meanings we make”. *Journal of Sociolinguistics*. 1–4. <http://doi.org/10.1111/josl.12718>

GRANTS & AWARDS

2024:	Valedictorian, PhD, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS.
2022:	Centre for Doctoral Studies Small Funding Award, KCL. Conference funding (£300)
2022:	Department Conference Funding Award, NUS. Conference funding (£510)
2019 - 2023:	NUS Research Scholarship, NUS. Full tuition coverage and monthly stipend (£1700/month)
2019 - 2020:	Graduate Fellowship, Tembusu College, NUS. Accommodation fee coverage (£2745).
2019:	Outstanding Undergraduate Paper, Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender. Awarded for undergraduate thesis.
2018:	Regional Winner (Asia), The Undergraduate Awards. Awarded for top performing essay in Anthropology and Cultural Studies
2018:	Dean’s Scholars List, NUS. Awarded to top 1% of cohort (AY18/19 Semester 1).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

As instructor of record

The University of Hong Kong

ENGL3040 Internship in English Studies (AY24/25, Summer semester) • 6 students

ENGL2025-2 Language and You: An Introduction to Linguistics (AY24/25, Summer semester) • 8 students

ENGL2039 Gender, sexuality and discourse (AY25/26, Semester 1)

ENGL7110 Gender, discourse and Society (AY25/26, Semester 1)

ENGL2175 Bad Identities (AY25/26, Semester 2)

ENGL7994B Capstone Experience: Final research project (AY25/26, Semester 2)

CCHU9032 Language, Institution and Power (AY25/26, Semester 2)

As teaching assistant

The University of Hong Kong

ENGL7105 Intercultural Communication • Dr Jacqueline Militello (AY24/25, Semester 2; AY25/26 Semester 2) • 62 students

ENGL7101 Introduction to Language and Communication • Dr Agnes Kang (AY25/26, Semester 1)

National University of Singapore

EL2111 Historical Variation in English • Dr Peter Tan (AY20/21, Semester 2) • 37 students

EL3216 Language and the Internet • Assoc. Prof Vincent Ooi (AY19/20, Semester 2) • ~20 students

EL2151 Social Variation in English • Assoc. Prof Rebecca Starr (AY19/20, Semester 1) • 55 students

Guest lectures

National University of Singapore

EL4253 Language, Gender and Sexual Identities • Assoc. Prof Mie Hiramoto (AY20/21, Semester 2)

EL4253 Language, Gender and Sexual Identities • Assoc. Prof Mie Hiramoto (AY22/23, Semester 1)

EL3251 Language, Society and Identity • Prof Joseph Park (AY24/25, Semester 2)

Brown University

ANTH 0800 Sounds and Symbols: Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology • Asst. Prof Joshua Babcock (AY24/25, Semester 1)

SEMINARS AND INVITED TALKS

2025: “Corrective Language and Neo-Homophobia”. School of English Seminar Series, The University of Hong Kong, 23 October.

“Queer Correctives: Discursive Neo-homophobia, Sexuality and Christianity in Singapore”. New Books Network, 3 October. [Online, [Podcast episode interview](#)]

“The limits of antiracist language in Singapore”. PhD Residential Programme, Lancaster University, 7 July. [Online]

“The Corrective Potentials of Discourse”. Language, Ideology and Power Research Group, Lancaster University, 13 March. [Online]

“The Moral Economy of Storytelling”. MAES Reading Group, The University of Hong Kong, 18 March.

2024: “(Dis)course corrections”. Brown Linguistics Colloquium, Brown University, 13 November.

“The language of correction: Neo-homophobic discourses in Singapore”. LT Research Forum Series, City University of Hong Kong, 6 May.

“The Lines and Curves of Neo-homophobia in Singapore”. Linguistic Anthropology Lab, University of California San Diego, 19 April. [Online]

2022: “Christians, conversions, change: Sex and sexualities in discursive metanoia”. Cambridge Sociolinguistics Circle, University of Cambridge, 15 March.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2023: “How much for gay rights in Singapore?” American Anthropological Association/Canadian Anthropological Society 2023 Annual Meeting, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Canada, 15-19 November. [Accepted and withdrawn]

“The queer sinner”. International Gender and Language Association 12th Biennial Conference, The University of Queensland, Australia, 4-6 July.

“Uncritically queer: Queer speech and visual semiotics of characters in shōnen anime”. Sociolinguistics of Pop Culture, University of Bamberg, Germany, 30-31 March. (with Mie Hiramoto)

“The queer sinner: Christians, conversions, change”. Lavender Languages and Linguistics 29th Annual Meeting, Boise State University, USA, 9-11 March. [Accepted and withdrawn]

2022: “Circulability and counterpublicity: Fragmenting queer activism discourse”. Lavender Languages and Linguistics 28th Annual Meeting, University of Catania, Sicily, 23-25 May.

“Linguistic-semiotic representations of queer (okama) characters in shōnan anime”. Lavender Languages and Linguistics 28th Annual Meeting, University of Catania, Sicily, 23-25 May. (with Mie Hiramoto)

“Sticky raciolinguistics: The reproduction of racial categorisation in ‘Chinese Privilege’”. Society for Linguistic Anthropology Spring Conference, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, 7-9 April. (with Mie Hiramoto)

“Researching change/changing research: Lessons from metanoia”. ECS Doctoral Conference, King’s College London, London, 5 March.

2021: “From manhood with love: Shifting masculinities in James Bond films”. International Gender and Language Association 11th Biennial Conference, Queen Mary University of London, London, 22-24 June. (with Mie Hiramoto)

“(De)coupling race and language: The state listening subject, rearticulation, and antiracist discourse in Singapore”. Sociolinguistics Symposium 23rd Annual Meeting, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, 7-10 June.

“For family, friends, and love: Discourses of love in Christianity and advocacy in Singapore”. Lavender Languages and Linguistics 27th Annual Meeting, California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, 21-23 May. (with Mie Hiramoto)

2020: “Race and panic-buying: Challenging racial privilege through sinophobia in the COVID-19 pandemic”. Coalition of English Departments in Asia 3rd Annual Meeting, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 25 September. (with Christian Go)

2019: “Writing worries: A case study of compensative strategies taken by Singaporean students in the writing tasks of an English language class”. 20th English in South East Asia conference, Raffles Town Club, Singapore, 6-7 December. (with Mie Hiramoto)

“‘I am gay’: Identities and performative pragmatics in the coming-out narratives of Singaporean gay men”. Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender 42nd Annual Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, 17-20 October. [Accepted and withdrawn]

“‘I felt like a Global Citizen’: Constructing the mobile Singaporean voluntourist in travel narratives”. Coalition of English Departments in Asia 2nd Annual Meeting, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, 4-5 October.

“‘I am gay’: Identities and performative pragmatics in the coming-out narratives of Singaporean gay men”. Singapore Undergraduate Research Conference, Yale-NUS College, Singapore, 23 August.

“‘I don’t like girls’: Identities and performative pragmatics in the coming-out narratives of Singaporean gay men”. Lavender Languages and Linguistics 26th Annual Meeting, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, 2-4 May. (with Mie Hiramoto)

REVIEWING BY INVITATION

2025: Book proposal reviewer, *Bloomsbury Academic*

2022: Book chapter reviewer, *Mouton DeGruyter; Routledge; John Benjamins*

2021 – Present: Journal reviewer, *Journal of Language and Sexuality; Gender & Language; Language and Communication; Sexualities; Linguistics Vanguard; Journal of Gender Studies; Language in Society; Sexuality Research and Social Policy;*

Journal of Sociolinguistics; Language & Intercultural Communication; Journal of Pragmatics

2019 – Present: Conference abstracter reviewer, *New Ways of Analyzing Variation-Asia Pacific*; *American Association for Applied Linguistics*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2020 – 2021: Graduate Associate, Gender and Sexuality Research Cluster, NUS

2020: Research Associate, Ministry of Communications and Information, Singapore

2019: Research Assistant, Department of English, Linguistics and Theatre Studies, NUS (PI: Assoc. Prof Mie Hiramoto)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

2020 – 2021: Graduate Associate, Gender and Sexuality Research Cluster, NUS

2019 – 2020: Graduate Fellow, Tembusu College, NUS
- Organizer and presenter, Work in Progress Seminar (2020)

2020: Student Conference Organizer, New Ways of Analyzing Variation-Asia Pacific 6, NUS

LANGUAGES

English: Native
Mandarin Chinese: Fluent
Cantonese: Intermediate

RESEARCH SOFTWARE

NVivo
AntConc
SketchEngine

REFERENCES

Mie Hiramoto • Associate Professor of Sociolinguistics
National University of Singapore
ellmh@nus.edu.sg

Joseph Park • Professor of Sociolinguistics
National University of Singapore
ellpjs@nus.edu.sg

Rodrigo Borba • Professor of English Language and Applied Linguistics
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
rodrigoborba@letras.ufrj.br