

**Session 4 Dehumanized Population**
**Presentation 3**

## Speakers biographies

**Dr. Isabella Ng**

Assistant Professor

 Department of Asian and Policy Studies  
 The Education University of Hong Kong

**Dr. Ada Lai**

Research fellow

Vocational Training Council, Hong Kong

**Isabella NG** is an Assistant Professor of the Department of Asian and Policy Studies, The Education University of Hong Kong and one of the founders of the Hong Kong Society for Asylum-seekers and refugees. Her current research focuses on anthropology of migration; migrants and diaspora in Asia; Gender and Development in Asia; Feminist Geography, Feminist Research methods, Rural villages in Asia and media and transnational kinship. Her research mainly draws on her anthropological training and using autoethnography as a way of looking into subjects from a personal perspective into a broader context. Her recent publication include: Ng, I (2017). When [inter]personal becomes transformational: [Re]examining life-course related emotion in PhD research. DOI: 10.1111/area.12325. Area; Isabella F.S Ng., Kee Lee Chou and Winky K.F. Wong (2016). Perceived Discrimination and Integration Among New Arrivals from Mainland China: Implications for Higher Education Development for Hong Kong. Ka Ho Mok, *Managing International Connectivity - Diversity of Learning and Changing Labour Markets -East Asian Perspectives* (169-188). Singapore: Springer; and on the relationship between ICTs and transnational kinship, Ng, Isabella (2016). Love Knows No Bounds: (Re)Defining Ambivalent Physical Boundaries and Kinship in the World of ICTs. M.Friedman & S. Schultermandl, *Click and Kin: Transnational Identity and Quick Media* (197-213). Toronto, Buffalo, London: University of Toronto Press. Her forthcoming works include a book with Routledge (Taylor and Francis) on an ethnographic study about Hong Kong Rural women after the post-handover Hong Kong called *Hong Kong Rural Women under Chinese rule* and an autoethnographic book (in Chinese) about the relationship between academia and activism in working with the asylum-seeker and refugee community in Hong Kong.

**Ada, LAI** did her Bachelor and MPhil degrees at the University of Hong Kong and obtained her PhD in Sociology from the University of Essex in England. Over the years, she has been involved in numerous research projects in Hong Kong, China Australia and England in the fields of migration, education, refugee, labour, and gender studies and is currently working as a research fellow at the Vocational Training Council in Hong Kong. Her current research interest revolves around how minority or disadvantaged groups such as immigrants, refugees, ethnic minorities or students of low socioeconomic backgrounds are able to 'use' schools to satisfy the academic demands prevailing in different education systems. In particular, how the institutionalisation of the curriculum at the system and school levels in an education system could affect the employment outcomes of different student groups. Her most recent work publication is: Lai, Ada and Kennedy, Kerry (2017), 'Refugees and Civic Stratification: the "Asian Rejection" Hypothesis and its Implications for Protection Claimants in Hong Kong', *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*.