

Jinsub Song

(송진섭, 宋珍燮)

curriculum vitae

Gimpo hangang 2-ro 113, Jungheung APT 319 #502
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Research Interests: Buddhist Philosophy, Comparative Philosophy, Ethics, Philosophy of Mind
ORCID: 0009-0006-5788-7249

Education

Ph.D. in East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of EALC, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, US	Aug. 2024
- Dissertation Title: "Rethinking Huayan Ethics: Tathāgatagarbha, Morality in Huayan Thought, and Its Application to AI Ethics" - Committee: Alexander Mayer (Chair), Kai-Wing Chow (Director of Research), Helga Varden, Christopher Callahan - Result: Pass with no revisions - Focus: Buddhist Philosophy, Comparative Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, and AI Ethics	
M.A. in East Asian Studies, Department of EALC, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, US	May 2016
- Thesis Title: "A Study on the Ethical Structure of <i>Awakening of Faith in the Mahayana</i>: A Critique of the Consequentialist Approach" - Advisor: Alexander Mayer - Focus: Buddhist Ethics and Comparative Philosophy	
M.A. in Philosophy, Major in Chinese Buddhism, Department of Philosophy, Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea	Feb. 2011
- Thesis Title: "'대승기신론'의 서술구조에 대한 현상학적 접근 [Phenomenological Approach to the Descriptive Structure in the <i>Awakening of Faith in the Mahayana</i>]" - Advisor: Gyootag Shin - Focus: Buddhist Philosophy and Comparative Philosophy	
B.A. in Philosophy and Economics, Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea	Feb. 2009

Publications

“Understanding Chan Practices through the Lens of Wittgenstein's Ontological Perspective”

Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, under review. (AHCI / SSCI)

“The Application of the Buddhist Precept of Non-Killing in the Generative AI Training”

Sophia, under review. (AHCI)

“Criticizing the Nameless Master: A Study of Nanyang Huizhong’s Dialogues in the *Transmission of the Lamp*”

Journal of Seon Studies (禪學), under review. (KCI)

“Moral Responsibility in Huayan Ethics and Its Contemporary Application to AI Ethics”

Dec. 2027

The Eastern Buddhist, Third Series, 7, no.2, forthcoming. (AHCI)

“인공지능에게도 불성이 있는가?”: 인공지능의 주관성 문제에 대한 중국 화엄전통의 관점을 중심으로 [Does Artificial Intelligence Possess Buddha-Nature?: A Huayan Perspective on the Problem of AI Subjectivity]”

Jun. 2026

The Korean Journal of Ethics (倫理學) 15, no.2. 1-48. (KCI)

“대승불교 윤리이론이 지닌 정형적 형식에 대한 고찰: 법성종(法性宗)에 대한 해석을 중심으로 [A Study on the Universal Formality of the Ethical Theory of Mahayana Buddhism: Centered on the Interpretation of Beopseongjong (法性宗)]”

Nov. 2012

Journal of Philosophical Ideas (哲學思想) 46, 3–34. (KCI)

“‘대승기신론’의 서술구조에 대한 현상학적 접근: ‘진여(眞如)’ 개념이 갖는 이중성 문제를 중심으로 [Phenomenological Approach to the Descriptive Structure in the *Awakening of Faith in the Mahayana*: Focusing on the Duplicity of the Concept of ‘True Suchness (眞如)’]”

Feb. 2012

Journal of Philosophical Ideas (哲學思想) 43, 33–68. (KCI)

“윤리적 실천종교로서의 대승불교 일반이 갖는 사상적 난점과 그에 대한 해명: 하이데거의 존재론을 통한 접근 [The Ideological Crux of Mahayana Buddhism and its Explanation as an Ethical, Practical Religion: An Approach through Heidegger's Ontology]”

Aug. 2011

The Korean Buddhist Studies (韓國佛敎學) 60, 201–233. (KCI)

Presentations

“인공지능에게도 불성이 있는가?: 인공지능의 주관성 문제에 대한 중국 화엄전통의
관점을 중심으로 [Does Artificial Intelligence Possess Buddha-Nature?]:
A Huayan Perspective on the Problem of AI Subjectivity]”

May 22, 2026

Spring Conference of the Korean Society of Ethics (韓國倫理學會)

“인공지능의 학습과 도덕적 지위 [Machine Learning and the Moral Status of
Artificial Intelligence]”

Korea Military Academy, Seoul, South Korea

“AI 윤리 교과목 개발 방향 제안 [Approaches to AI Ethics Curriculum
Development]” (co-presented with Dr. Philip Choi)

Jan. 20, 2026

University Innovation Support Program: “미래인재 양성을 위한 기초 학문과

RC 교육 혁신 [Innovating Foundational Education and Residential College (RC)

Programs for the Development of Future Talent]”

Ministry of Education, Republic of Korea; National Research Foundation of Korea

Yonsei University (Mirae Campus), South Korea

“Buddhist Transcendentalism and the Dichotomy of Good and Evil
in the Mahāyāna Soteriology”

Jul. 23, 2025

Summer Conference of the Yonsei Institute of Philosophy (延世哲學研究會)

Seoul, South Korea

“Moral Responsibility in Huayan Ethics and Its Contemporary
Application to AI Ethics”

Nov. 22, 2024

Fall Conference of the Korean Society of Ethics (韓國倫理學會)

“인공지능에 대한 윤리적 검토 [Ethical Examinations of Artificial Intelligence]”

University of Seoul, Seoul, South Korea

“Does AI Have Buddha-Nature Too?:
Exploring the Huayan Perspective on AI Subjectivity”

Apr. 14, 2024

The Graduate Symposium on Asian Studies “Interconnection in Global Asia”

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, US

“The Application of the Buddhist Precept of Non-Killing
in the Generative AI Modeling”

Sep. 30, 2023

The 72nd Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs (MCAA)

Association for Asian Studies (AAS)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, US

“Understanding the Chan Practices
through the Lens of Wittgenstein's Ontological Perspective”

Jun. 28, 2021

Postgraduate Conference “Dynamic Encounters
Between Buddhism and the West”

Arts & Humanities Research Council, University of Cambridge, UK

"The Problem of Evil in Mahāyāna Buddhism"
(co-presented with Dr. Seungil Lee)

Feb. 20, 2020

The SACP-Central APA 2020

The Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy

Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, IL, US

“대승불교 윤리이론이 지닌 정형적 형식에 대한 고찰: 법성종(法性宗)에 대한 해석을 중심으로 [A Study on the Universal Formality of the Ethical Theory of Mahayana Buddhism: Centered on the Interpretation of Beopseongjong (法性宗)]”

Nov. 9, 2012

The National Fall Symposium 2012 "한국불교와 세계불교와의 대화 [Dialogue between Korean Buddhism and World Buddhism]"

The Korean Association for Buddhist Studies (韓國佛教學會)

Tongmyong University, Busan, South Korea

Group Projects

"AI Ethics Course Development Project" (in progress)

Dec. 2025 – present

University Innovation Support Program (administered by the Ministry of Education, Republic of Korea, and the National Research Foundation of Korea). Collaborative project under the supervision of Prof. Jinyong Lee.

Yonsei University (Mirae Campus), South Korea

"Ethical Concern for Medical Artificial Intelligence: Too Much Too Early?" (in progress)

Sep. 2024 – present

Collaborative project under the supervision of corresponding author, Prof. Sangho Yoo (College of Medicine, Hanyang University).

Contributed to methodology development and writing.

Invited Talk

“『대승기신론』에서의 자아관념의 분화, 그리고 선험적 조건으로서의 진아 [The Divergence of Self in the *Dasheng Qixin Lun* and True Self as A Priori Foundation]”

Jun. 7, 2025

젊은 동양철학자들의 토론회 [Young Scholars' Forum in East Asian Philosophy]

Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, South Korea

“Rethinking Huayan Ethics: Tathāgatagarbha, Morality in Huayan Thought, and Its Application to AI Ethics”

Nov. 14, 2024

Buddhist Studies Symposium Honoring the Retirement of Prof. Gyootag Shin
Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea

Awards and Honors

2025 Award for Excellence in Teaching

Dec. 2025

Yonsei University

Won the 2024 Percy Buchanan Graduate Prize (representative) and nominated to present at the 2025 AAS Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio, as well as the 73rd Annual Meeting of the MCAA in Notre Dame, Indiana.

Jul. 2024

Paper title: “The Divergence of Self in the *Dasheng Qixin Lun* and True Self as *A Priori* Foundation”

The Association for Asian Studies (AAS)

Included in the List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by The Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning.

Aug. 2015 – May 2024

Recognized for excellence in teaching for 14 semesters.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2019 Ralph S. Tyler Award

Apr. 2019

Awarded for outstanding contribution and excellence as a teaching assistant.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Wonhyo Academic Award (元曉學術賞)

May 2013

Prestigious recognition in the field of Buddhist studies in South Korea.

Paper Title: “대승불교 윤리이론이 지닌 정형적 형식에 대한 고찰: 법성종(法性宗)에 대한 해석을 중심으로 [A Study on the Universal Formality of the Ethical Theory of Mahayana Buddhism: Centered on the Interpretation of Beopseongjong (法性宗)]”

Korea Buddhism Promotion Foundation (大韓佛教振興院)

Recommended for Best Graduate Research Paper

May 2013

Recommended by the department for outstanding research; unable to receive the award due to being on leave for mandatory military service.

Paper Title: “대승불교 윤리이론이 지닌 정형적 형식에 대한 고찰: 법성종(法性宗)에 대한 해석을 중심으로 [A Study on the Universal Formality of the Ethical Theory of Mahayana Buddhism: Centered on the Interpretation of Beopseongjong (法性宗)]”

Department of Philosophy, Yonsei University

National Research Fellowship (國家研究獎學生)

Jul. 2010

Awarded for demonstrating potential and excellence in research.

The Korea Student Aid Foundation (韓國獎學財團)

Scholarships and Grants

Summer Research Fellowship

May 2019, 2021, and 2022

Recognized for outstanding research potential in research.

Department of EALC, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The Supplemental Summer Block Grant

Jun. 2020

Grant awarded to support summer research activities during the pandemic.

The Graduate College, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The Graduate Travel Grant

Mar. 2020

Funding provided for academic research travel to attend the SACP session at the Central APA 2020.

The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, University of Illinois

Research Fellowship

Nov. 2009 and Aug. 2011

Recognized for outstanding research potential in graduate studies.

The Graduate School of Yonsei University.

Research Fellowship

Jul. 2011

Funded for excellence in academic research.

The Yonsei Graduate Student Association

Leadership Roles and Work Experience

Lecturer

Mar. 2025 - Present

Department of Philosophy
Yonsei University, South Korea

Lecturer College of Confucian Studies and Eastern Philosophy Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, South Korea	Sep. 2025 - Present
Research Fellow Conducted independent research supported by a competitive fellowship. Jeonggak-sa (正覺寺) Research Institute, Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism	Mar. 2026 – Feb. 2027
Korean Language Teaching Assistant Served as the Head Teaching Assistant from January 2021 to December 2022. Taught all levels of Korean language classes, providing instruction to a diverse student body with varying backgrounds. Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Aug. 2015 - May 2024
Korean Language Support Specialist Provided language expertise and support in Korean for advanced translation and interpretation studies. Actively participated in the admission interviews of graduate students, demonstrating a key role in student selection and program development. Program in Translation and Interpretation Studies (TIS), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Aug. 2021 - May 2023
Korean Language Teaching Assistant (Summer Sessions) Engaged in intensive summer language programs, enhancing students' proficiency in Korean. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	2016, 2017, 2018, 2022
Active participant in community service and talent-sharing initiatives organized by Seodaemun District Office Dedicated significant efforts to teaching and mentoring children from underprivileged classes, providing educational support and fostering skill development. Seodaemun District Office, Seoul, South of Korea	Mar. 2012 – Jun. 2014
Public Service Worker Engaged in various social welfare activities and community service. This role was part of fulfilling the military service obligation in Korea. General Social Welfare Center, Ewha Woman's University, Seoul, South of Korea	Sep. 2011 – Sep. 2013
Teaching Assistant Supported educational activities and facilitated learning in philosophy for five semesters. Occasionally conducts lectures on behalf of the supervising professor.	Mar. 2009 – Aug. 2011

Additional Achievement and Community Involvement

Earned Korean History Certificate (Level 3)

Feb. 2014

Demonstrated in-depth knowledge and understanding of Korean history

The National Institute of Korean History

Selected as an Excellent Public Service Worker

Nov. 2012

Recognized for exceptional service and commitment to the community, including significant volunteer work.

Seodaemun District Office, Seoul, South Korea

Teaching Experience

Course Title: “제자철학특강 (Seminar on Classical Chinese Philosophy)”

Graduate Seminar, SP26, Yonsei University (Mirae Campus), Wonju, South Korea

Course Title: “동양의 수양론 (Self-Cultivation in East Asian Philosophy)”

FA25, Yonsei University (Mirae Campus), Wonju, South Korea

Course Title: “중국철학 영어강의 (Chinese Philosophy Taught in English)”

FA25, Taught in English, Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, South Korea

Course Title: “불교철학 (Buddhist Philosophy)”

SP25, Yonsei University (Mirae Campus), Wonju, South Korea

Course Title: “동아시아의 종교와 현대사회 (Religion and Modern Society in East Asia)”

Graduate Seminar, SP25 and SP26, Taught in English,
Yonsei University (Mirae Campus), Wonju, South Korea

Course Title: “철학과윤리 (Philosophy and Ethical Problems)”

SP25 to SP26 (4 classes taught), Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea

Course Title: “Korean (Elementary to Advanced Levels)”

FA15 to SP24 (22 classes taught), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA

References

Prof. Gyootag Shin (Professor Emeritus)

Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea

ananda@yonsei.ac.kr

Prof. Alexander Mayer (Retired)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, US

amayer@illinois.edu

Prof. Kai-Wing Chow (Professor Emeritus)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, US

kchow1@illinois.edu

Prof. Helga Varden

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, US

hvarden@illinois.edu

Prof. Christopher Callahan

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, US

ctc@illinois.edu