

# Asian Studies Program Presents:

## Asia @ Noon

Friday, March 3, 2023

12-1pm | 280 Park Hall

### K-pop: Digital Circulation of Intimacy and Postcolonial Desires

*Stephanie Choi, Ph.D, Postdoctoral Associate*

*UB Asia Research Institute*



Stephanie Choi is a postdoctoral associate at the Asia Research Institute, investigating the global circulation of K-pop. For her ethnographic research, Choi conducted participant-observation and interviews with more than 70 participants in the K-pop world—including industry workers (CEOs, A&R directors, idol recruiters, managers, and reporters), idol singers, and fans in Seoul, Los Angeles, and New York. In this talk, Choi explores how K-pop singers as service workers provide intimacy to their fans and further investigates how this form of intimate labor is translated in the American racial politics.

***Event is free and open to all.***

***Dr. Choi earned her PhD in 2020 in ethnomusicology from the University of California-Santa Barbara, where her dissertation focused on gender, labor, and the commodification of intimacy in K-pop.***

***Dr. Choi interviews can be found in the Wall Street Journal: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/btss-new-lego-collaboration-tests-influence-of-the-bands-fans-535d41a8>***

***Event Sponsors: Academy of Korean Studies, UB Asia Research Institute***