

CURRICULUM VITAE

Yoko Kugo

(907)-474-6398 (work) ykugo@alaska.edu

Education

Ph.D. University of Alaska Fairbanks, Interdisciplinary Studies (2021)
Dissertation: “Iliamna Lake Ethnogeography: Yup’ik Place Names and Sense of Place”
Co-Chairs: Drs. Mary Ehrlander and Walkie Charlies

M.A. University of Alaska Anchorage, Anthropology (2014)
Thesis: “Subsistence Practices of Iliamna Lake Villages: An Investigation of Dynamics of Traditional and Local Ecological Knowledge”
Advisor: Dr. Stephen J. Langdon

B.A. University of Alaska Southeast, Social Sciences (2011)

University Courses Taught

ANTH 390A Ethnographic course, Arctic and Subarctic, Yup’ik and Cup’ik Cultures (UAA)
CCS 612 Traditional Ecological Knowledge
CCS 619 Cultural Atlases

Awards and Honors

2021 The Ehrlander Award, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)
2019&20 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Dissertation Fellowship recipient, UAF
2011 Outstanding Social Science Student, UAS

Teaching and Research Interests

- Cultural anthropology
- Indigenous knowledge systems
- Oral traditions and art of Alaska Natives
- Place names and ethnogeography
- Community-based participatory research
- Oral history methodology
- Alaska history

Recent Work Experience (2015-present)

Assistant Professor, Jan. 2024 — present

Center for Cross-Cultural Studies, Indigenous Studies Graduate Programs, UAF

Postdoctoral Researcher/Term Faculty, Feb. 2022 – Dec. 2023

Project Title “Changes in Underground Food Storage Traditions: Exploring Food Life-History and Food Security in Beringian Communities” (National Science Foundation Grant Number 2133706) (PI: Michael Koskey Ph.D.) Center for Cross-Cultural Studies, Indigenous Studies Graduate Programs, UAF

Ethnographer, cultural anthropologist, owner, May 2021- Apr.2022
Northern Densho, Fairbanks, Alaska

Adjunct Instructor, Aug.-Dec. 2021
Department of Anthropology, University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA)

Research Assistant, Jul.-Aug. 2019
Project Title: “*Baseline Archaeological Inventory of Kontrashibuna and Upper Tazimina Lakes Area, Lake Clark National Park & Preserve*” (PI: Patrick Plattet, Ph.D.) Department of Anthropology, UAF

Graduate Mentor Research Assistant, Aug. 2018-Jun. 2019
Biomedical Learning and Student Training (BLaST) Program, UAF

Museum Archive Intern, Jun. 2018-Aug. 2018
University of Alaska Museum of the North, UAF

Teaching Assistant, Aug. 2015-Dec. 2017 (various semesters)
Department of Arctic and Northern Studies, UAF

Research Assistant, Aug. 2015 – Jul. 2016
Alaska Native Language Center, UAF

Archive Intern, Jan. 2015 – June 2015
Bureau of Indian Affairs Alaska Regional ANCSA Office

Professional Organizations

Alaska Anthropological Association – individual member
Alaska Historical Society – individual member
University of Alaska Southeast Alumni – individual member
Society for Applied Anthropology – individual member

Languages other than English

Japanese (native)
Central Yup'ik (intermediate)

Skills and Training

- E-learning: Blackboard, Zoom, Skype, Miro
- Mapping: Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and ArcGIS
- Oral history interviews: Express Scribe Transcription Software and Audacity (transcribing and editing audio interview files)
- Other software: Endnotes, Adobe Photoshop & Illustrators, Microsoft Office programs
- Transdisciplinary research: Transdisciplinarity for Early Career Researchers in Asia School (TERRA School), completed an online training funded by Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

Community-based Participatory Projects

Native Villages and Schools of Gambell and Savoonga (2023-25)

Youth and Elders' workshop "Sharing Knowledge of Food Life-History and Underground Food Storage Practices in Beringian Communities"

Kokhanok Village Council (2022)

Exploring local food storage practices in Kokhanok

Kokhanok Village Council (2018)

Iliamna Lake Nanvarpak Yup'ik Place Name Map Publication

Igiugig Village Council (2018)

Iliamna Lake Nanvarpak Yup'ik Place Name Workshop.

Iliamna Village Council (2016-2017)

Iliamna Yup'ik Place Names and Oral Instruction in the Iliamna Lake Area, Alaska.

Newhalen Tribal Council (2016-2017)

Newhalen Yup'ik Place Names in the Iliamna Lake Area, Alaska.

Service & Volunteer Work

- 2022 Conference session organizer, "Cooperative Research on Food Security and Food Traditions among Indigenous Peoples in Alaska" at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Seattle, November.
- 2022 Grant proposal writer, for the study of Alutiiq place names in the southern Alaska Peninsula area, Bristol Bay Native Corporation Education Foundation
- 2018-2019 Volunteer, Ethnology & History Department, University of Alaska Museum of the North, UAF
- 2017 Event coordinator, "The Past is Old, the Future is traditional: Ircenrraat, the DOT and the Inventiveness of Tradition" speaker, Dr. Ann Fienup-Riordan, UAF Resilience and Adaptation Program
- 2016-2018 Board member, Alaska Anthropological Association
- 2014 Volunteer, Anchorage Museum
- 2013&14 Demonstrator, Tlingit Basketry Weaving, Archaeology Day at UAA
- 2010-17 Student Volunteer, Alaska Anthropological Annual Meeting
- 2010-14 *Celebration* Volunteer, Sealaska Corporation Biennial Event

2010-11 Organizer, University of Alaska Southeast Japanese Club

College Class Guest Lectures

- 2022 Cultural Atlases as a Pedagogical Strategy (CCS F619), UAF
“Iliamna Lake Ethnogeography”
- 2021 Panelist in the One Health Colloquium (DVM 621), UAF
- 2020 Applied Anthropology, University of Göteborg
“Community-based Iliamna Lake Nanvarpak Yup’ik Place Names Project”
- 2020 Cultural Knowledge of Native Elders (ANS 401), UAF
“Community-based Iliamna Lake Yup’ik Place Names Project”
- 2020 Sustainable Livelihoods and Community Well-being (CCS 656)
“Exploring a Community-based Participatory Research”
- 2019 Alaska Native Language Center Presentation, UAF
“Iliamna Lake Yup’ik Place Names Project” by Kugo, Y. and Jenkins, H.
- 2019 Cultural Knowledge of Native Elders (ANS 401), UAF
“Iliamna Lake Yup’ik Place Names Project”

Publications

- Kugo, Y. ed. (2024 in press). *Nanvarpagmiut Qanemciit-Illu/ Iliamna Lake People and Their Stories: Place Names and Sense of Place*. Fairbanks: Alaska Native Language Center.
- Koskey, K. and Kugo, Y. (2023) Doing Ethnography and Engaging with Indigenous Alaskan Communities Based on Ethnographers’ Identities. *Witness Community Highlights* 25 April 2023 Issue, Arctic Research Consortium of the United States.
<https://www.arcus.org/witness-the-arctic/2023/4/highlight/2>.
- Kugo, Y. (2022). Community Voices, Practices, and Memories in Environmental Communication: Iliamna Lake Yup’ik Place Names, Alaska. In A. Lindqvist, I. Murin, and M. Dove (Eds.), *Anthropological Perspectives on Environmental Communication*. Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland AG. 103-125
- Kugo, Y. (2021). Iliamna Lake Nanvarpak Ethnogeography: Yup’ik and Contemporary Place Names and Stories of these Places. *Northern Review*(52) 5-28.
- Kugo, Y. (2020). Place Names of *Nanvarpak, Niva Vena*, Iliamna Lake Alaska. National Science Foundation Arctic Data Center. <https://arcticdata.io/catalog/data>.
- Kugo, Y. and Iliamna Lake Place Names Committee. (2019). *Place Names of Nanvarpak, Nila Vena, Iliamna Lake*. Fairbanks: Alaska Native Language Center.

- Kokhanok Village Council, Iliamna Lake Place Names Committee, and Kugo, Y. (2019). *Place Names of Iliamna Lake, Nanvarpak, Nila Vena*. Kokhanok: Kokhanok Village Council and Bristol Bay Native Corporation Education Foundation.
- Kugo, Y. (2018). Memoir of the Japanese Sea Otter Hunting Vessel Kaisei-maru. *Alaska Journal of Anthropology*. (16)2, 94-100.
- Kugo, Y (2018). Yup'ik Geographic Knowledge and Sense of Place in the Iliamna Lake, Southwest Alaska, in *North to the Future*. Hokkaido: Hokkaido Hoppominzoku Museum, the 33rd special exhibition. 57-61.
- Kugo, Y (Ed.) (2017). *Local Travel Routes, Oral Narratives, and Place Names in the Iliamna Lake Area*. Alaska: Iliamna Village Council (Funded by Bristol Bay Native Corporation Place Name Grant 2016)
- Kugo, Y (Ed.) (2014). *Traditional and Local Ecological Knowledge: Ways of Living in Pedro Bay and Newhalen, Iliamna Lake, Alaska*. Anchorage, Alaska.
- Kugo, Y. (2011). Researching in the Woods. In L. Kaleigh, (Ed.), *Tidal Echoes: UAS Literary & Arts Journal 2011* (Pp. 27-28). Juneau, Alaska: The University of Alaska Southeast and Capital City Weekly.

Conference Presented Papers and Posters (2015-present)

- Kugo, Y. “Sharing Knowledge of Food Life-History of Underground Food Storage Practices in Beringian Communities,” paper presented at the Beringia Days 2023 Meeting, Anchorage, October. (Invitation by ARCUS, Arctic Research Consortium of the United States)
- Kugo, Y., Y., M. Koskey, G. Iwahana, T. John, K. Saito, Y. Hirasawa, and S. Tatsuzawa (2023). “Food Life History Project in Alaska: Community-based Participatory Research on Underground Caches,” paper presented at the 7th International Symposium on Arctic Research, Tokyo, Japan, March.
- Kugo, Y., and M. Koskey (2023). “How Ethnographers Learn and Engage with Alaska Natives’ Food Traditions Based on Researcher Identities,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association, Anchorage, March.
- Kugo, Y. (2022). “Iliamna Lake Ethnogeography and Yup’ik and Contemporary Place names, Alaska,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Salt Lake City, March.
- Kugo, Y., Koskey, M., Iwahana, G., Saito, K., Tatsuzawa, S., & Hirasawa, Y. (2022). “Community-based Participatory Food Life History Projects in Siberia and Alaska,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association (online), March.

- Koskey, M. and Kugo, Y. (2021). “Talking Circle—Conducting Collaborative Community-Based Participatory Research,” panel session organized at the annual meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association (online), March.
- Kugo, Y. (2019). “Memories, Languages, Place Names, and Landscapes in Iliamna Lake, Alaska,” paper presented at the Kohklux Map 150 Years Conference, Whitehorse Canada, October.
- Kugo, Y. (2019). “Place Names and Stories about “Japanese” Related Localities: History of Japanese Alaskans in Local Perspectives,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alaska Historical Society, Kodiak, September.
- Kugo, Y. and Jenkins, H. (2019). “Iliamna Lake Yup’ik Place Names Project,” paper presented at the Alaska Native Language Center Presentation on UAF Campus, Fairbanks, April.
- Kugo, Y. and Yanez, E. (2019). “Iliamna Lake Place Names Project: Connecting the Communities to their Homeland by Sharing Local Knowledge, Southwest Alaska,” poster presented at the 5th International Conference on Language Documentation & Conservation, Honolulu, Hawaii, March.
- Kugo, Y. (2018). “Iliamna Lake Place Name Project from Local Perspectives,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alaska Historical Society, Nome, September.
- Kugo, Y. (2018). “Community-based Iliamna Lake Place Name Project,” paper presented at the Language Conference on UAF Campus, Fairbanks, April.
- Kugo, Y. (2018). “Perceptions, Memories, Histories, and Languages in Indigenous Place-naming Practices,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Philadelphia, April.
- Kugo, Y. (2018). “Iliamna Lake *Nanvarpak* Community-based Central Yup’ik Place Name Project,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association, Anchorage, Alaska, March.
- Kugo, Y. (2018). “Place Names, Landscapes, and Ways of Living from Local Perspectives in *Nanvarpak* (Iliamna Lake), Alaska,” paper presented at the 5th International Symposium on Arctic Research, Tokyo, Japan, January.
- Kugo, Y. (2017). “Iliamna Village and Newhalen Tribal Councils’ Place Name Projects,” paper presented at the Bristol Bay Native Corporation Leadership Seminar, Anchorage, December.
- Kugo, Y. (2017). “Documenting *Nanvarpak Yugcetun* Place Names Using a Community-based Participatory Approach” paper presented at the 9th International Congress on Arctic Social Sciences, Umeå Universitet, Sweden, June.

- Kugo, Y. (2017). “Exploring *Nanvarpak Yugcetun* Place Names from Local Perspectives Using a Community-based Participatory Approach,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alaska Native Studies Conference, Fairbanks, Alaska, April.
- Kugo, Y. (2017). “Documenting and Practicing Vernacular Place Names in the Iliamna Lake Communities in Alaska,” paper presented at the 5th International Conference on Language Documentation & Conservation, Honolulu, Hawaii, March.
- Kugo, Y. (2017). “Documenting Indigenous Knowledge Using an Oral History Methodology,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association, Fairbanks, Alaska, February.
- Kugo, Y. (2016). “Alaska Native Place Names: Vernacular Geographic Knowledge,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alaska Historical Society, Juneau, Alaska, September.
- Kugo, Y. (2016). “History of National and International Fur-seal Hunting Policies in Alaska around the 1900s: The Tragedy of the Japanese Sea Otter Hunting Vessel *Kaisei-Maru*,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association, Sitka, Alaska, March.

Grants and Scholarships (2015-present)

National Park Service Shared Beringian Heritage Program Grant

Project Title: Youth and Elders’ Workshop “Sharing Knowledge of Food Life-History and Underground Food Storage Practices in Beringian Communities” (PI, 2023-2025)

UAF Arctic and Northern Studies Leonard and Marjorie Wright Endowment Merit/Need-based Scholarship (2015-2021, various semesters)

UAF Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Dissertation Fellowship Program, (2019-2020)

ASUAF Travel Funding (2015-2019, various semesters)

Alaska Historical Society Student and Beginning Professional Travel Scholarship (2018)

UAF BLaST Graduate Mentor Research Assistant Fellowship (2018-2019)

Alaska Anthropological Association Ph.D. Student Scholarship (2018)

UAF Resilience and Adaptation Program Fellowship and Travel Funding (2017-18)

National Science Foundation Arctic Social Science Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, Grant Number 1640812 (2017-2019), project Title: Iliamna Yup’ik Geographic Knowledge and Sense of Place in Southwest Alaska

UAF Center for Global Change Research Grant (2016-2017), project Title: Iliamna Yup’ik Place Names: Changes in Landscape and Local Environment in Southwest Alaska