

Kwanchanok Jaisuekun, PhD

Institute for Population and Social Research | Mahidol University

Email: kwanchanok.jai@mahidol.ac.th Tel: +66 2441-0201-4 Ext. 501

Research Interest

- International Retirement and Lifestyle Migration
- Gender, Ageing and Migration
- Care Regimes and Social Protection
- Transnational Mobility, Privilege, and Inequality

Education

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MULTICULTURAL STUDIES (INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM) AUGUST 2017 – FEBRUARY 2023

Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University, Thailand

Dissertation: The Impacts of Long-Stay Western Tourism on Local Society: A Case Study of Pattaya City, Thailand

Advisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sirijit Sunanta

Scholarship: The Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Scholarship Program, National Research Council of Thailand
Awarded Excellent Thesis Award, Fiscal Year, 2024, Faculty of Graduate Student, Mahidol University

MASTER OF ARTS IN CULTURAL STUDIES | AUGUST 2013 – MARCH 2017

Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University, Thailand

Master Thesis: “German Migrants in Pattaya, Thailand: Lifestyle, Motivations, and Integration”

Advisor: Asst. Prof. Dr. Sirijit Sunanta

Scholarship: Master Research Grants (TRF: MAG), Thailand Research Fund, Thailand

Awarded Distinguished Thesis Award, Fiscal Year, 2017, Faculty of Graduate Student, Mahidol University

Awarded Dean’s list, in Recognition of Academic Excellent, Faculty of Graduate Student, Mahidol University

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN GERMAN (1ST CLASS HONOURS) JULY 2008 – FEBRUARY 2012

Faculty of Humanities, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

Independent study: Migration and Integration in Germany after the Second World War (in German)

Advisor: Mr. Christian Koerner, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Lecturer

Teaching Experiences

- Adjunct Lecturer at the College of Industrial Technology, King Mongkut’s University of Technology North Bangkok (KMUTNB) | June 2024 – September 2025
- Adjunct Lecturer at the Office of General Education, King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT) | August 2025 – December 2025
- Guest Lecturing | 19 May 2021
Department of Sociology, Paris Lodron University of Salzburg: MA Research Methods in Migration and Transnational Context

Visiting Researcher

1. Sussex Centre for Migration Research, Sussex University, UK September 2018 – December 2018
2. Sussex Centre for Migration Research, Sussex University, UK January 2020 – March 2020
3. Department of Sociology, Paris Lodron University of Salzburg, Austria (Erasmus+ Program) May 2021

Research Experiences

Postdoctoral Researcher | January 2023 – December 2025 “Decision Making of Aspiring (Re)Migrants to/within the EU: The Case of Labour Market Leading Migrations from Asia” (Funded by the European Union’s Horizon Europe research and Innovation Program under the call HORIZON-CL2-2022-TRANSFORMATIONS-01-04)

Research Assistant | September 2018 – December 2019 “Selling Thai-ness to Westerners: The social and development impacts of marketing “Thai-ness” on entrepreneurs and people who work in the small-scale service sector” (Funded by the British Academy and Thai Research Fund under the Newton Advanced Fellowship Scheme)

Research Assistant | August 2017 – April 2018 “Female Labour Migration in Care and Domestic work in ASEAN and Skill Development Opportunity” (Research University Network Thailand)

Publications

- **Jaisuekun, K.** (2025). Outsider by choice? Lifestyle Migrants and their Evolving Aspirations for Integration in Thailand. In D. Chattoraj. *Privileged Migrants Across the Globe: Experiences of Inclusion, Exclusion and Mobility*. Routledge.
- **Jaisuekun, K. & Sunanta, S.** (2024). *Aspiring Migrants’ Behaviour in Mobility Policies: The case of Thailand (Country report)*. Brussels: *Aspire*. Available at: <https://aspire.ulb.be/impact/reports/mobility-policyreport-thailand>
- **Jaisuekun, K. & Sunanta, S.** (2023). Til death do us part? End-of-life care for ageing Western husbands in Thailand, *Gender, Place and Culture*. 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0966369X.2023.2229059>
- Sunanta, S. & **Jaisuekun, K.** (2022). Care as right and care as commodity: positioning international retirement migration in Thailand’s old age care regime. In C. Schweppe (Ed.). *Retirement Migration to the Global South*. Palgrave.
- **Jaisuekun, K. & Sunanta, S.** (2021). German migrants in Pattaya, Thailand: Gendered mobilities and the blurring boundaries between sex tourism, marriage migration and lifestyle migration. In N. Piper & C. Mora (Eds.). *The Palgrave Handbook of Gender and Migration: Global Perspectives* (pp.137-150). Palgrave Macmillan. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-63347-9>
- **Jaisuekun, K.** (2020). The Face Men Thailand: Representations of Modern Thai Identity on Reality Television. *Proceedings of the 14th Thai Humanities Research Forum, “iHumanities: Technology, Health and Life* (pp. 555-566).
- **Jaisuekun, K. & Sunanta, S.** 2018. German Migrants in Pattaya: Negotiating Cross Cultural Marriage, Family and Relationships in Thailand. *Proceedings of the 13th International Conference on Thai Studies Globalized Thailand? Connectivity, Conflict, and Conundrums of Thai Studies* (pp. 612-624).
- **Jaisuekun, K.** (2017). A Search for a Better Life: Economic Motivation of the German Relocation to Pattaya. *Walailak Journal of Social Sciences*, 10(2), 41-80 (in Thai)
- **Jaisuekun, K. & Sunanta, S.** (2016). Lifestyle Migration in Thailand: A Case Study of German Migrants in Pattaya, *Thammasat Review* 19(2): 89-103

Book Translation

Health Justice and Thailand's Covid-19 Response. 2022. National Health Foundation. From English to Thai

Conference

- **Jaisuekun, K. 2025.** Thai wild berry Pickers in Finland under Contradictory Mobility Regime. 7th MMC Regional Conference, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand, 24-25 November, 2025
- Seikkula, M. & **Jaisuekun, K. 2024.** From rice field to berry forest: The mobility infrastructure enabling seasonal labour from Thailand for the berry industry in Finland. 21st IMISCOE Annual Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, 2-5 July, 2024
- **Jaisuekun, Kwanchanok. 2019.** Socio-Economic Implications of Long-Term Western Migrants on Local Society: A Case Study of Pattaya, Thailand. The 10th EUROSEAS Conference, Berlin, Germany, 10-13 September.
- **Jaisuekun, Kwanchanok. 2018.** "Dreams to Retire in Pattaya: German Migration and the Commodification of Elder Care in Thailand". Workshop on Transnational Migration, Family, and (Health) Care, Sussex Centre for Migration Research, United Kingdom, 1 May. (Funded by Newton Fund)
- **Jaisuekun, Kwanchanok. 2015.** "German Migrants in Pattaya, Thailand: Motivations, Lifestyle and Integration". The 8th EUROSEAS Conference 2015, Vienna University, 11-14 August.
- **Jaisuekun, Kwanchanok. 2015.** "Where is Thai men in cross-cultural marriage: A case study of "White Buffalo" film". The National Conference on Languages and Cultures 2015. Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University, 27 July. (in Thai)
- **Jaisuekun, Kwanchanok. 2015.** "Nostalgia in Popular Culture: A case study of "Goodbye Lenin" Film. The National Conference on Languages and Cultures 2014. Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University, 28 July. (in Thai)

Public Seminar Guest Speaker

10 October 2025 | Geneva forum on East Asia, the Contemporary East Asian Studies Initiative, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva, Switzerland Invited Panelist: Panel Discussion: "Sex Tourism in East Asia and Beyond".

11 March 2025 | Faculty of Sociology and Anthropology, Thammasat University, Thailand - "From Home to Hospital: Experiences, Choices, and Challenges of Thai Wives in Caring for Their Foreign Spouses"

23 November 2022 | Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University, Thailand - "Til death do us part?: End of life care for aging Western husbands in Thailand"

19 July 2022 | Faculty of Sociology and Anthropology, Thammasat University Thailand – "Til death do us part?: End of life care in cross-cultural marriage"

9 September 2020 Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, Thailand – "Implications of Western migrants on Thailand's healthcare Services"

13 November 2017 Thammasat University, Thailand - "German Migrants in Pattaya, Thailand: Negotiating Cross-Cultural Marriage, Family and Relationships in Thailand"

Moderated Workshops and Seminars

- International workshop on "Anthropology of Tourism, Gender, and Postcoloniality". Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University, Thailand. 26 April, 2024
- RILCA Research Talks & Publicity on Cultural diversity in the host society emanating from international migration flows: An exploration through transnational perspectives, webinar, 17 January 2023

Last updated: January 2026