

August 10, 2022

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## EDUCATION

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- 2018 Ph.D., Sociology, Northwestern University  
2013 M.A., Sociology, Northwestern University  
2010 B.A., *Summa cum laude*, Cornell University  
*Majors:* College Scholar: Marriage and Society, Biological Sciences: Neurobiology and Behavior.

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2018- Assistant Professor of Sociology, Yale University  
Research Fellow, Macmillan Center for International and Area Studies  
Member, Council on Southeast Asian Studies  
Faculty Fellow, Yale Center for the Study of Race, Indigeneity, and Transnational Migration

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Book

**Menon, Alka V.** In press. *Refashioning Race: How Global Cosmetic Surgery Crafts New Beauty Standards*. University of California Press.

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2022 **Menon, Alka V.** and Chloe Sariego.\* “Engendering connection: The embodied emotional labor of U.S. cosmetic surgeons.” *Social Science & Medicine* 306: 115092. DOI: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2022.115092.
- 2020 Nelson, C.A., L.M. Pérez-Chada, A. Creadore, S.J. Li, K. Lo, P. Manjaly, A. Pournamdari, E. Tkachenko, J.S. Barbieri, J.M. Ko, Alka V. Menon, R.I. Hartman, A. Mostaghimi. “Patient perspectives on the use of artificial intelligence for skin cancer screening.” *JAMA Dermatology* 156(5):501-512. DOI: 10.1001/jamadermatol.2019.5014
- 2019 Menon, Alka V. “Cultural gatekeeping in cosmetic surgery: Transnational beauty ideals in multicultural Malaysia.” *Poetics* 75: 1-11. DOI: 10.1016/j.poetic.2019.02.005

*Winner of the 2021 American Sociological Association Section on the Body and Embodiment Best Publication Prize*

- 2017 Menon, Alka V. “Do online reviews diminish physician authority? The case of cosmetic surgery in the U.S.” *Social Science & Medicine* 181: 1-8. DOI: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2017.03.046
- 2017 Menon, Alka V. “Reconstructing Race in American Cosmetic Surgery.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 40(4): 597-616. DOI: 10.1080/01419870.2016.1206590.
- Winner of the 2017 American Sociological Association Section on the Body and Embodiment Best Graduate Student Paper Award*
- 2009 Linster, C., Menon, A.V., Singh, C.Y., & Wilson, D.A. “Odor-specific habituation arises from interaction of afferent synaptic adaptation and intrinsic synaptic potentiation in olfactory cortex.” *Learning & Memory* 16(7): 452-59.

\* Denotes graduate student co-author

### Book Chapters, Essays, and Book Reviews

- 2021 Menon, Alka V. “Global disease surveillance systems and cooperation in COVID-19: Lessons not learned,” in *Corona: Weltgesellschaft im Ausnahmezustand?*, edited by Markus Heidingsfelder and Maren Lehmann. Germany: Velbrück Wissenschaft, pp.117-126.
- 2021 Menon, Alka V. *Beauty Diplomacy: Embodying an Emerging Nation*, by Oluwakemi M Balogun. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press. *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* 50(5):394-395. DOI: [10.1177/009430612111036051a](https://doi.org/10.1177/009430612111036051a)
- 2020 Menon, Alka V. *Mobilizing Mutations: Human Genetics in the Age of Patient Advocacy* by Daniel Navon. University of Chicago Press. *American Journal of Sociology* 126(3): 741-743. DOI: [10.1086/710827](https://doi.org/10.1086/710827)
- 2016 Menon, Alka V. *Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-first Century*, by Dorothy Roberts. *Spontaneous Generations* 8(1): 109-111.

### Op-eds

- 2021 Amir, Sulfikar and **Alka Menon**. “Kerentanan Pandemi dan Paradoks Resiliensi.” (Title in English: “Pandemic vulnerability and the paradox of resilience”) *Media Indonesia* Kolom Pakar. September 27, p. 6.
- 2020 Lanzaotta, Tess and **Alka Menon**. Public health needs the mail: The surprising history of the USPS delivering vaccines and drugs. *Slate*. September 2, 2020. <https://slate.com/technology/2020/09/usps-is-a-public-health-tool.html>  
Reprinted in the North Carolina Examiner. <https://ncexaminer.com/public-health-needs-the-mail/>

### AWARDS

- 2021 American Sociological Association Section on the Body and Embodiment Best Publication Prize for “Cultural gatekeeping in cosmetic surgery”

- 2021 Yale University Mildred Priest Prize for Best Undergraduate Thesis awarded to senior advisee Jason Louis Contino
- 2017 American Sociological Association Section on the Body and Embodiment Graduate Student Paper Award for “Reconstructing Race and Gender in American Cosmetic Surgery”
- 2016 Robert F. Winch Award for Best Published Graduate Student Paper for “Reconstructing Race and Gender in American Cosmetic Surgery,” Department of Sociology, Northwestern University

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

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### **External Funding**

- 2021-2024 Designing Accountable Software Systems, CISE/CCF 2131466, U.S. National Science Foundation. Role: PI. Co-PIs: Xenophon Papademetris and Lynn Fiellin
- 2021-2024 Academic Research Fund Tier-1 Grant for “State Politics and the Covid-19 Mitigation in Southeast Asia,” Singapore Ministry of Education. PI: Sulfikar Amir, Collaborator: Alka Menon
- 2016-2018 Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, SES 1556591, Section of Science, Technology & Society, National Science Foundation, PI: Steven Epstein, Co-PI: Alka Menon
- 2014 Social Science Research Council Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship

### **At Yale University**

- 2021-2022 Race, Indigeneity and Transnational Migration Faculty Fellowship
- 2021-2022 Public Voices Fellowship
- 2021 Accessibility Professional Development Program

## **INVITED TALKS**

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- 2021 “Crafting Race: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art and Science of Racial Difference,” Health and Society Working Group, University of California at Los Angeles (November)
- 2021 “Crafting Race: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art and Science of Racial Difference,” Sociology Colloquium, University of Massachusetts at Amherst (October)
- 2021 Panel Discussion on Race, Beauty, and Bodily Capital in a Comparative Perspective, Culture and Social Analysis Workshop, Harvard University (October)
- 2020 “Constructing an Asian Look: Beauty Ideals and Cosmetic Surgery in Malaysia,” School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University Malaysia (March)
- 2020 “Constructing an Asian Look: Beauty Ideals and Cosmetic Surgery in Malaysia,” Institute of

- Malaysian and International Studies, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (February)
- 2019 “Producing Racial Profiles: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art of Standardization,” Sociology Colloquium, University of California at Santa Barbara (November)
- 2019 “Producing Racial Profiles: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art of Standardization,” Science and Technology Studies Colloquium, Cornell University (November)
- 2019 “Constructing an Asian Look: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art of Standardization,” Culture Workshop, New York University (October)
- 2019 “Producing Racial Profiles: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art of Standardization,” Sociology Colloquium, Boston University (October)
- 2019 “Producing Racial Profiles: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art of Standardization,” Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice, St. Francis College (October)
- 2019 “Producing Racial Profiles: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art of Standardization,” Fries Center for Global Studies, Wesleyan University (March)
- 2018 “Producing Racial Profiles: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art of Standardization,” Science and Technology Studies Colloquium, Brown University (December)

## **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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- 2021 “Beauty Matters: Cosmetic Surgery, Race, and Technologies of Adornment,” Society for the Social Studies of Science, Toronto, CA (virtual, October)
- 2021 “Beauty Matters: Race and Inequality in U.S. Cosmetic Surgery,” Beauty and Inequality: A Virtual Workshop, KU Leuven (virtual, May)
- 2021 “‘Looking Right’: Racialized Clinical Judgment in U.S. and Malaysian Cosmetic Surgery,” Session on Culture and Identity, American Sociological Association annual meeting (virtual, August)
- 2020 “Racial Projections and the Role of Clinical Judgment in U.S. Cosmetic Surgery,” Body and Embodiment Section Roundtables, American Sociological Association (virtual, August)
- 2020 “Guidelines and Global Expertise in the Prevention and Treatment of Ebola Virus Disease,” Problem-Solving Sociology Workshop, Singapore Management University (March)
- 2019 “Selling Surgery: The Role of Race in Transnational Medical Markets,” Race in Medicine Beyond the Lab: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mobilizations, King’s College London (September)
- 2019 “Selling Surgery: The Role of Race in Transnational Medical Markets,” Race in the Marketplace (RIM) Research Forum, Universite Paris-Dauphine, Paris, France (June)
- 2019 “Cultural gatekeeping in cosmetic surgery: Transnational beauty ideals in multicultural

- Malaysia” Session on Popular Culture, American Sociological Association meeting, New York, NY (August)
- 2019 “‘Objectifying the Face’: Visualization Technologies and the Doctor-Patient Relationship in Cosmetic Surgery,” Society for the Social Studies of Science annual meeting, New Orleans, LA (August)
- 2019 “Cosmetic Surgery and the Problem of Doctor Patient-Communication,” 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Global Science, Technology, and Society (Global STS 2.0), Hasanuddin University, Makassar and Gowa, Indonesia (July)
- 2018 “Feminist Cosmetic Surgeons? Role of Surgeons’ Social Identities in Clinical Interactions.” Sociologists for Women in Society Winter Meeting, Atlanta (January)

## **CAMPUS TALKS**

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- 2022 “Crafting Race: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art and Science of Racial Difference,” History of Science and Medicine Colloquium (February)
- 2021 “Crafting Race: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art and Science of Racial Difference,” Center for Race, Indigeneity and Transnational Migration (September)
- 2021 “Race, Standardization and Cosmetic Surgery,” Department of Plastic Surgery Grand Rounds, Yale School of Medicine (July)
- 2021 “COVID-19 and Global Health,” Comparative Research Workshop (March)
- 2019 “Constructing an Asian Look: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art of Standardization,” Southeast Asian Studies Colloquium (October)
- 2018 “Producing Racial Profiles: Global Cosmetic Surgery and the Art of Standardization,” Health, Humanities, and History Workshop (October)

## **TEACHING**

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### **Yale University**

Health and Illness in Social Context—undergraduate lecture (Fall 2018, Fall 2020, Fall 2021)

Methods of Inquiry –undergraduate seminar (Spring 2019, Spring 2021, Spring 2022)

Senior Essay and Colloquium Seminar--for undergraduate majors writing their senior thesis (Fall 2018, Spring 2019)

Race, Medicine and Technology—seminar for advanced undergraduates and graduate students (Fall 2021)

Comparative Research Workshop—graduate seminar and department workshop (Spring 2022)

### **Northwestern University**

Second-Year Paper Seminar—graduate seminar (Fall 2017, Winter 2018)

Sociology of Beauty—undergraduate lecture (Summer 2017)

Sociology of Infectious Disease—medical school seminar (Winter 2015)  
Sociology of the Body—medical school seminar (Winter 2014)

## SERVICE

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### University Service

2021-2022 Committee for the Marshall, Mitchell, and Rhodes Scholarships  
2021-2022 Yale Ethnography Hub Informal Working Group  
2021-2022 Sociology Department Junior Faculty Search Committee  
2021 First-Year Scholars Summer Program Panel on Faculty Perspectives  
2020-2021 Department of History of Science and Medicine Students for Health Equity Action (SHEA) Committee  
2020-2021 School of Public Health Racism and Health Junior Faculty Search Committee  
2020-2021 Council on Southeast Asian Studies Postdoctoral Fellow Selection Committee  
2020-2021 Sociology Department Graduate Admissions Committee  
2018-2019 Sociology Department Sussman Dissertation Prize Committee  
2018-2019 Sociology Department Mildred Frank Priest Prize Committee  
2018-2019 Gender and Social Science Working Group  
2018-2019 Postgraduate Fellowships Committee

### Professional Activities

2022 American Sociological Association Body and Embodiment Section Council Member  
2021 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting – Organizer, Regular Sessions on Sociology of Science  
2021 Society for the Social Studies of Science Panel organizer  
2020-present Editorial Board Member, *Sociological Theory*, American Sociological Association  
2019-present American Sociological Association Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section Council Member (Chair of Star-Nelkin Best Paper Award Committee in 2021, chair of Mentoring Committee in 2020)  
2018 American Sociological Association Body and Embodiment Section Graduate Paper Award Committee

**Ad-Hoc Reviewer:** *American Journal of Sociology*, *Sociological Theory*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *Gender & Society*, *Qualitative Sociology*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *American Journal of Cultural Sociology*, *Kybernetes*, *Poetics*

**Press:** Connecticut WNPR, CNN, WIRED, Media Indonesia, Media Studies Asia, Top Rank Podcast

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Public Health Associate, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA and Houston, TX, 2010-2011. Stationed at the City of Houston Bureau of Tuberculosis Control.