

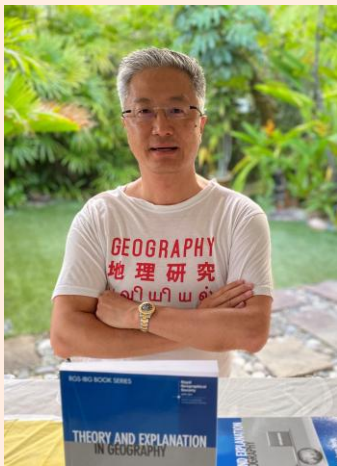
MASTER CLASSES *for Aspiring Geographers*

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Method in Relational-Explanatory Geography

20 February 2025 (Thu)
4:30 – 6:00 pm (UTC+8)
Room 109, Chen Kou Bun
Building, CUHK

Human geography's onto-epistemological expansion in recent decades has not been well matched by methodological development. Learning from the methodological pluralism in four relational approaches, this paper reflects on key issues in relational-explanatory theorizing before introducing a social science method of process tracing in relation to a comparative methodology. I argue that contrastive explanations can be developed through deploying comparable methodological practices as different "moments" of a research process in appropriate evidential contexts. This research process-based comparative methodology can better trace actors and their relational networks through in situ research and generate explanatory theoretical insights into the complexity of socio-spatial life. Participants are strongly encouraged to download and read the paper published recently in *Progress in Human Geography* in advance of the seminar: <https://journals.sagepub.com/eprint/DFMI5ZA6CSQRPSDX5T5D/full>



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Henry Wai-Chung Yeung received his Ph.D. from the University of Manchester in 1995. He had served as Distinguished Professor (and Professor of Economic Geography since 2005) at the Department of Geography, National University of Singapore, until 31 December 2024. In January 2025, he took up the Choh-Ming Li Professorship at the Department of Geography and Resource Management, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. His research interests cover broadly theories and the geography of transnational corporations, global production networks and global value chains, East Asian firms and developmental states in the global economy. He is the recipient of multiple research awards, including the 2022 Sir Peter Hall Award for Lifetime Contribution by the Regional Studies Association in the UK, the 2018 Distinguished Scholarship Honors by the American Association of Geographers, and the 2017 Murchison Award by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), UK. He has published 7 monographs and 1 textbook (3 editions), 7 edited books, 110 journal articles, and 50 book chapters. His most recent books are *Theory and Explanation in Geography* (RGS-IBG Book Series, Wiley, September 2023), *Interconnected Worlds: Global Electronics and Production Networks in East Asia* (Innovation and Technology in the World Economy Series, Stanford University Press, June 2022), *Strategic Coupling: East Asian Industrial Transformation in the New Global Economy* (Cornell Studies in Political Economy Series, Cornell University Press, 2016), and *Global Production Networks: Theorizing Economic Development in an Interconnected World* (with Neil Coe, Oxford University Press, 2015). For over two decades since 2001, he has been a co-editor of two top journals in Geography – *Economic Geography* and *Environment and Planning A*. He is also a past editor of the *Review of International Political Economy* (2004–2013) and serves on the editorial boards of 19 other journals.



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