

Kevin Caffrey teaches social theory and anthropological topics at Harvard University, where he is the Course Director and Lecturer in The Committee on Degrees in Social Studies. He earned his Ph.D. in anthropology from The University of Chicago in 2007, with a research focus on Chinese culture and politics. He conducted ethnographic fieldwork with Muslim and other minority groups on the southwest China-Burma-Tibet frontier, and has continuing topical interests in the anthropological analysis of this area. Most specifically, he has focused on the Chinese Muslim Hui people of that region and their interlocutors, with particular emphasis on the stigma and stereotyping of the Hui as a “dangerous” people. He has previously taught social theory and methods at The University of Chicago’s Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences, anthropological theory in the Ph.D. program at The American University, and Human Justice at The George Washington University, Washington, DC. His specific academic interests include culture and politics, China, frontiers & boundaries, ritual & religion, and conflict & violence. Along with this, he has a growing interest in the cultural politics of the environment. He has published on Chinese Muslim social history, stigma and Chinese nationalism, the political realities of the Beijing 2008 Olympics, international sporting events, and counterinsurgency. Caffrey is currently preparing a book on Chinese Muslims, revitalization, security, and the mechanics of minority interaction. He also has continuing projects on comparative security epistemes, “gun culture,” and extreme motivations.