Jenny Chio received her PhD in Socio-Cultural Anthropology from UC Berkeley and came to Emory University in 2012. Her dissertation explored the consequences of tourism development in two rural ethnic minority villages in China. This research forms the core of her forthcoming book, titled A Landscape of Travel: The Work of Tourism in Rural Ethnic China, which is forthcoming in 2014 from the University of Washington Press, in the series "Studies on Ethnic Groups in China."

Dr. Chio is also an ethnographic filmmaker. She directed and produced a film about ethnic tourism in the villages she has studied (农家乐 Peasant Family Happiness, 2013). The film is distributed for educational, institutional, and other non-profit public viewing by Berkeley Media, LLC.

Her teaching interests focus on culture and society in the People’s Republic of China; contemporary rural livelihoods and development; tourism, identity, and forms of cultural representation; and documentary image studies. Broadly speaking, her current projects aim to explore the intersections between mobility, modernity, and media in China’s cultural politics.