

REBECCA NEDOSTUP

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Brown University, Providence, RI. Department of History.
Associate Professor of Modern Chinese History, July 2012-present.
Associate Professor of East Asian Studies, July 2019-present.

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA. Department of History.
Associate Professor of Chinese History, September 2009-June 2012
Assistant Professor of Chinese History, July 2003 to September 2009.

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. Department of History.
Assistant Professor of Chinese History, August 2001 to May 2003.

EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York, NY.
Ph.D., History, October 2001.
M.Phil., History, October 1996.
Dissertation: "Religion, Superstition and Governing Society in Nationalist China"
Major field: Modern China. Minor fields: Modern Japan, pre-modern China, history of political myth and ceremony.
M.A., October 1995.

Harvard College, Cambridge, MA.
B.A. cum laude, East Asian Studies, June 1989.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Prizes and fellowships

Research Fellowship in Global History, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universitaet Muenchen (April-May 2020, postponed)
Faculty Fellow, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, Brown University, Spring 2018
Fellowship, University of California Humanities Institute Residential Research Group, UC Irvine Fall 2015, "The History of Mortality" (declined.)
Fellow, Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University, 2014-15 ("In the Aftermath of Catastrophe")
Short list, Humanities, International Convention of Asia Scholars Book Prize 2011 (biannual) for *Superstitious Regimes*.
Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies, Center for Chinese Studies, National Library, Taiwan, September-December 2010.
An Wang Postdoctoral Fellowship, Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University, 2004-05.
Stanford Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in Chinese Studies, Center for East Asian Studies, 2004-05, declined.
V.K. Wellington Koo Dissertation Fellowship, East Asian Institute, Columbia University, 1999-2000.
Charlotte W. Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, 1998-99.
American Council of Learned Societies/Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Fellowship for Dissertation Research Abroad, July-October 1997.
Committee on Scholarly Communication with China Fellowship for Graduate Study in China, Sept. 1996-July 1997.
Fulbright-Hays Research Fellowship, 1996-7, declined.
Hofstadter/President's Fellow, Department of History, Columbia University, 1993-99.

Research and program funding

Asian Studies (and beyond) for the Pandemic Age (originally “Chinese Studies in the Age of Covid-19”) webinar series 2020-21: Cogut Institute Humanities Initiative Programming Fund, \$5,800; China Initiative Research Award: \$5,500.

Brown Data Science Grant, Workshop on Assessing and Planning the Uses of Digital Tools (\$3,000), 2019.

Brown University Research Seed Award, “The Field of the Chinese State: An ‘Archive to Article’ Project” (\$25,000) 2018. With Maura Dykstra, Caltech and Ian J. Miller, St. John’s University.

Grant from Ministry of Education, Republic of China (Taiwan) to support Taiwan Studies at Brown, 2015-18 (\$150,000 over three years). With Robert G. Lee, Evelyn Hu-DeHart, and Caroline Frank.

China Initiative Collaboration Grant, Watson Institute, Brown University, 2015-16 (\$13,875). With Maura Dykstra, UCLA.

Comparative Perspectives on Chinese Culture and Society Conference Grant, 2012 (\$25,000), and Planning Meeting Grant, 2011 (\$6,000), American Council of Learned Societies and Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation. Co-organizer Caroline Reeves, with Paul R. Katz and C. Julia Huang. Additional conference funding from Brown University.

Visiting Research Scholar, Urban History Group, Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, August 5-19, 2014

Institute of Liberal Arts Grant, Boston College, 2010-11, for “Global Asia Initiative” (Asian and Asian American Studies Programs). \$11,000.

Research Incentive Grant, Boston College, 2007-09.

Faculty Fellowship, Boston College, Fall 2007.

Research Expense Grants, Boston College, Summer-Fall 2005 and Winter-Spring 2003-04.

East Asian Collection, Stanford University Research Grant, Stanford East Asia National Resource Center, 2002.

Purdue Library Scholars’ Grant, Purdue University, 2002.

Teaching recognition and grants

Brown Undergraduate Research and Teaching Awards (for student-faculty collaboration): Summer 2021 (Belinda Hu (Course) and Hsiao Shan Peck (Research); Spring 2020 (Emma Tilley (Research); Summer 2016 (Wing Sze Ho and Michelle Ng (International)); Fall 2015 (Wing Sze Ho (Course))

Salomon Curricular Mini-Grant (for HIST 1120), Fall 2019

Haffenreffer Museum Fellow, Fall 2018

Framework Faculty Curriculum Development Grant, Public Health Initiative, Brown University, 2013 (\$4,000).

Teaching with New Media (TWIN) Award, *summa cum laude*, Boston College, 2006. Given in recognition of faculty members for outstanding uses of technology to enhance learning.

International Curriculum Enhancement Grant, US Department of Education, administered by International Programs in Agriculture, Purdue University, 2001-2002. With Sally Hastings.

Princeton-in-Asia Intern, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian, China, 1990-91.

LANGUAGES

Fluent in spoken Mandarin and written modern Chinese. Reading proficiency in classical Chinese. Reading competency in French and Japanese.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Monographs:

Superstitious Regimes: Religion and the Politics of Chinese Modernity (Harvard University Asia Center, 2009; e-book, 2020 (DOI: 10.1163/9781684174959)

Short list, Humanities, International Convention of Asia Scholars Book Prize 2011 (biannual.)

Journal articles:

“Burying, Repatriating and Leaving the Dead in Wartime and Postwar China and Taiwan, 1937-1955,” *Journal of Chinese History*, 1:1 (January 2017) pp. 111-139. <https://doi.org/10.1017/jch.2016.2>

“‘Begging the Sages of the Party-State’: Citizenship and Government in Transition in Nationalist China, 1927-1937,” with Liang Hong-ming, *International Review of Social History*, 2001 Supplement (also published as Lex Heerma van Voss, ed., *Petitions in Social History* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002),) 183-207.

Articles in edited volumes:

“Finding Nature in Religion, Hunting Religion from the Environment”, in *Religious Diversity & Ecological Sustainability in China*, edited by James Miller, Dan Smyer Yu and Peter van der Veer, Routledge, 2014.

“从宗教中发现自然，从环境里寻找宗教” [Finding Nature in Religion, Hunting Religion from the Environment], trans. by 范梦 Fan Meng, in 《中国宗教多元与生态可持续性发展研究》 [Religious Diversity and Ecological Sustainability in China], ed. by 苏发祥, 郁丹 Su Faxiang and Dan Smyer Yu, Academy Press, 2013.

“The Transformation of the Concept of Religion in Chinese Modernity,” in *Religious Diversity in Chinese Thought*, edited by Joachim Gentz and Perry Schmidt-Leukel, Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.

“City of Life and Death (“Nanjing! Nanjing!”) and the Silenced Nanjing Native”, in *Through a Lens Darkly: Films of Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing*, ed. by John J. Michalczyk and Raymond G. Helmick, Peter Lang, 2013.

“Ritual Competition and the Modernizing Nation-State,” in Mayfair Mei-hui Yang, ed. *Chinese Religiosities: Afflictions of Modernity and State Formation* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008), 87-112.

“Two Tombs: Thoughts on Zhu Yuanzhang, the Kuomintang, and the Meanings of National Heroes,” in Sarah K. Schneewind, ed. *Long Live the Emperor! The Uses of the Ming Founder Across Six Centuries of East Asian History* (Minneapolis: Ming Studies, 2008), 355-390.

“Civic Faith and Hybrid Ritual in Nationalist China,” in Dennis Washburn and A. Kevin Reinhart, ed., *Converting Cultures: Religion, Ideology, and Transformations of Modernity* (Leiden: Brill, 2007), 27-56.

Digital:

[Shanghai's Lens on the New\(s\) -- Dianshizhai Pictorial \(1884-1898\)](#), I, MIT Visualizing Cultures (with Jeffrey Wasserstrom and Peter Perdue.) 2015.

[Brown East Asia Resources](#) (BEAR) (with Kerry Smith): a site for students and scholars of East Asia within and outside the university community, featuring links to broader scholarly resources and primary-source learning modules.

Encyclopedia articles:

“Nanjing,” in David Pong, gen. ed., *Encyclopedia of Modern China* (Scribner's, 2009) v. 3, 1-4.

Book reviews:

Review of Xun Liu, *Daoist Modern*, in *Journal of Asian Studies* (November 2011).

Review of Madeleine Yue Dong and Joshua Goldstein, ed., *Everyday Modernity in China* in *Journal of Asian Studies*, 66: 4 (November 2007), 1114-5.

Review of Beatrice Leung and Shun-hing Chan, *Changing Church and State Relations in Hong Kong, 1950-2000*, in *China Information* 18:3 (November 2004), 512-514.

Review of Yihong Pan, *Tempered in the Revolutionary Furnace: China's Youth in the Rustication Movement*, in *History: Review of New Books* 32.1 (Fall 2003), 31-32.

Review of Charles Brewer Jones, *Buddhism in Taiwan: Religion and the State, 1660-1990*, *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture List*, October 6, 2000.

Other articles:

[“We the people: the Shanghai Fortuneteller's Manifesto”](#), *Boston College Magazine*, fall 2010

“Who's Afraid of Technology?”, *The Heights*, February 23, 2006.

Conference Report on ‘Casting Faiths: The Construction of Religion in East and Southeast Asia’, *Asian Studies Newsletter* 50:3 (Fall 2005), 22-23.

Film Review of *Through Chinese Women's Eyes*, *Out of Phoenix Bridge* and *Night Girl*, in *The Newsletter for Coordinating Council for Women in History* 34:3 (Fall 2004), 7 & 9.

Media:

“The West Wing Weekly” podcast 6.07 ([“A Change is Gonna Come”](#)), February 9, 2019

With Ian Johnson, interview for [“God and Government: China Edition”](#), Interfaith Radio, March 26, 2015.

Asia Society's ChinaFile [video interview](#) for *Superstitious Regimes*, April 15, 2010

Superstitious Regimes at [the Page 99 Test](#), February 21, 2010

Work in progress:

Living and Dying in the Long War: China and Taiwan's Displacements, 1937-1959. Research monograph.

“Murder after Death: Demobilization and Violence in Postwar Taiwan,” for Weiting Guo and Yun Xia, eds., *Subversive Taiwan: Violence, Community, and Social Order in Historical Context*.

[“Magpie”](#). Collaborative digital project with Maura Dykstra, Ian Matthew Miller, and Paul Vierthaler.

祭 ji, for *Critical Terms for Chinese Religious Studies*.

“The Competing Corpses of Nanjing: A Geography of Presence and Absence”. Research article.

Invited lectures, colloquia, and workshops:

Panelist, “Historians in Quarantine, Part I: On Digital History Research During and After COVID-19”, Department of History and Center for Digital Scholarship, Brown University, October 19, 2020

Panelist, “Eileen Chang at 100”, Asia Society, September 29, 2020 (<https://asiasociety.org/video/eileen-chang-100>)

Panelist, Faculty-Student Forum on Hong Kong, China Initiative/Watson Institute, Brown University, November 7, 2019

“Living and Dying in the Long War,” Seminar on “Life and Death,” Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, November 5, 2019

祭 *ji*, “Critical Terms for Chinese Religious Studies”, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, June 20-23, 2019

“Scale the data or scale the question?” for “Scale and Scope: Framing Historical Research Methodologies in a Digital Age” 规模与范围：大数据时代的历史研究方法论中美学者工作坊, Sichuan University, May 13-15, 2019

“The History of Modern Chinese Societies as Histories of Displacement”, Brown China Summit, April 6, 2019

Panelist, “The Rise of China: Past, Present, and Future”, Building on Distinction series, Brown University, March 18, 2019.

“Practice/Praxis”, Political Concepts at Brown – The Science Edition, December 7-8, 2018, Cogut Institute for the Humanities

“Shanhou 善後: Reburial and Reorder in Jiangsu, 1945-49”, Cogut Fellows Seminar, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, March 6, 2018

“Beyond the Spectral Metaphor: the Displaced Dead”, Theory From the South Reading Group, Brown University, November 1, 2016

“Profiting from Wartime Displacement in Twentieth Century China and Taiwan”, Council on East Asian Studies Colloquium Series, Yale University, October 27, 2016

“Emplacement”, for “Concepts of Displacement”, Sawyer Seminar on Displacement and the Making of the Modern World and Political Concepts Series, Brown University, September 30, 2016

“Envisioning a Twentieth-Century Long War: Mutually Implicated and Disjoined Displacements across the Strait

設想一個 20 世紀的長期戰爭：兩岸連結與獨特的流離失所”, Department of History, National Taiwan University, June 8, 2016

“Fail”, for In Song and Story: A Symposium in Honor of Robert P. Hymes, Columbia University, June 3, 2016

“Home & Land: Profiting from the Displaced during Wartime”, for ‘Forced Migration in/of Asia: Connections, Convergences and Comparisons’, SSRC InterAsian Connections V (IAV), Seoul, April 27-30, 2016.

“Governing Concepts: The Spread of New Religious Terminology in the Political Everyday”

- Beyond the Sinosphere. Modalities of Interwar Globalisation: Internationalism and Indigenization among East Asian Marxists, Christians, and Buddhists, 1919-1945, Hannover, Germany, July 13-15, 2016
- Translating Religion and Theology in Europe and Asia: West to East, UC Berkeley, March 16-18, 2016

“In the Realm of Dysfunctional Constitutions: Learning about Rights and Power from Chinese Administrative Appeals”, Brown Legal History Workshop, February 26, 2016

“Shanhou 善後: Reburial and Reorder in Jiangsu, 1945-49”, Workshop on New Perspectives on the Civil War in China, Yale University, May 13-14, 2016.

“Shanhou 善後: Death, the aftermath of disaster, and the socio-political order in modern China”, CCKF and KNAW International Conference ‘Framing the Study of Religion in Modern China and Taiwan: Concepts, Methods and New Research Paths’, December 9-12, 2015.

“State Ghosts,” Workshop on Digging up the Chinese Dead: Finding and Theorizing Displacement in Death, Chinese Religions Seminar, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University, December 7, 2015.

“The Sovereignty of the Dead and the Disorder of War in Twentieth Century China and Taiwan”, Sponsored by the Sigur Center for Asian Studies, the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation Inter-University Center for Sinology and the Department of Religion, George Washington University, December 3, 2015

Between “Religion” and the “Public Good”: The Existential Labor of Voluntary Associations during the Republican Era (在“宗教”与“功德”之间：民国时期志愿社团的努力) (in Chinese), East China Normal University, Shanghai, July 27, 2015

“Placing the Displaced Living and Dead”, presentation for International Workshop on “War and Society in Modern China” “战争、社会与人”国际研讨会, co-sponsored by University of Washington and Institute of Modern History at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, July 10-13, 2015.

- Speaker, Closing Roundtable, "Taiwan as a Mobile Horizon: Looking Inside Out," 21st North American Taiwan Studies Association Conference, Harvard University, June 11-13, 2015
- "Where the Bodies are Buried: Seeing the Dead as Social Actors in Modern China," UC San Diego, May 18, 2015
- "The Unstill Dead and the Price of Monumentalism in Modern China," UC Irvine, May 20, 2015
- "The Sovereignty of the Dead and the Disorder of War in Twentieth Century China", UCLA Center for Chinese Studies, May 14, 2015
- "Graves through Time and Space: Place, Peace and Sovereignty in the Aftermath, Late 1940s Jiangsu," for Producing the Political: Religion and Local Governance, Harvard Chinese Religion Seminar and BU Center for the Study of Asia, April 22, 2015
- "Experiencing Long War in Mid-Twentieth Century China and Taiwan," Lieberthal Rogel Center for Chinese Studies Noon Lecture Series, University of Michigan, February 24, 2015
- "Wartime Dead in Time and Place in Late 1940s Jiangsu", Columbia University Modern China Seminar, November 13, 2014
- "Living and Dying in the Long War: Tales of Displacement in China and Taiwan, 1937-1959", Davis Seminar, Princeton University, October 17, 2014
- "Displacement, Place, and the Experience of the Long War in China and Taiwan, 1937-1959," Duke History Colloquium, September 8, 2014.
- "The Unheroic Corpse: Everyday life, Monumental Tombs and the Public Secrets of Nanjing's Zijinshan"
南京紫金山的公開秘密 [in Chinese], Center for Chinese Studies, National Central Library, Taipei, Taiwan, August 14, 2014.
- "Body Identification: Death, (Re)burial, and Community between Chongqing and Wuxi, 1945-1949"
屍骨未寒: 從重慶大後方到無錫地區之死者回葬與社區意識, 1945-1949 [in Chinese and English], Urban History Group, Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, August 7, 2014.
- "Religion in service of the nation-state: Redefining *doxa* and its uses for China's modern age", conference on "Religious Heterodoxy and Modern States", Yale University, March 28-29, 2014.
- "Corpse Morality in China's Long War", Department of History Seminar Series, Queen's University, Ontario, February 13, 2014.
- "Pacification or Mobilization? The Problems and Uses of Wartime Refugee Settlements", The Sino-Japanese War in the Context of WWII, Sino-Japanese War, The Fifth International Joint Research Conference, Chongqing, China, September 14-17, 2013.
- "The Competing Corpses of Nanjing: A Geography of Presence and Absence". "The Social Lives of Dead Bodies in Modern China", Brown University, June 12-14, 2013.
- "Murder after death: demobilization and violence in the transition from wartime to postwar in Taiwan"
- Brown East Asia Colloquium, November 18, 2013
 - Critical China Studies Workshop, University of Toronto, April 5, 2013
 - International Conference on War, Violence, and Their Aftermath: Historical Memory, Literary Imagination, and Cultural Regeneration, Washington University in St. Louis, April 6-7, 2012
- "Government Policy towards Religion in the Long Chinese Modern: Deceptive Continuities and Distracting Disruptions," for the conference "Modern Chinese Religion: Value Systems in Transformation, 1850-Present", Chinese University of Hong Kong, December 12-15, 2012.
- "Finding Nature in Religion, Hunting Religion from the Environment." Conference on Religious Diversity & Ecological Sustainability in China, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity/School of Ethnology & Sociology, Minzu University of China, Beijing, March 6-8, 2012.
- "The Meaning of Religion in Modern Chinese History" and "Wartime and Postwar Burial Practice in China and Taiwan: Floating between Displacement and Community." Lecture and colloquium, University of South Alabama, January 26, 2012.
- "Settling the Displaced and Militarizing Society during Wartime." "Past and Present in China: The Influence of History from Empire to Republic", December 2-3, 2011, New York University.
- "Seeing and Surveying Religion in Republican China: the Birth of an Epistemology." Lecture at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität, Erlangen-Nürnberg, October 31, 2011.
- "The Transformation of the Concept of Religion in Chinese Modernity." "Religious Diversity in Chinese Thought", University of Muenster, October 27-31, 2011.
- "Wartime Burial Practice: between Displacement, Community and Reconstruction." Workshop on Relief and Reconstruction in Wartime and Postwar China, 1937-1949, University of Oxford, June 10-11, 2011.

- "Displaced Persons, Displaced Bodies and the Problem of Community in Wartime and Postwar China and Taiwan, 1937-1960 (流離失所之人和鬼：从抗战时期到战后, 1937-1960)", Department of History, Beijing University, May 28, 2011 (in English and Chinese).
- "Settling the Living and Transiting the Dead in Wartime and Postwar China and Taiwan, 1937-1960: Between Family, Locality and Nation." Columbia University Seminar on Modern China, April 14, 2011.
- "有拜有保庇：近代中國的宗教、迷信與政治 [Embodying Superstition: A Transactional Modernity in China]", Institute of History, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan, December 22, 2010 (in Chinese and English).
- "Defining Displacement: A Few Problems in Analyzing Wartime Refugees in China and Taiwan, 1937-1960 [流離失所的定義：對 1937-1960 中國與台灣之戰爭難民來分析的一些基本問題]", Center for Chinese Studies, Taipei, Taiwan, December 17, 2010 (in Chinese).
- "流離失所的定義：1937-1960 中國與台灣的戰爭難民問題 [Defining Displacement: The Problem of Wartime Refugees in China and Taiwan, 1937-1960]", National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, October 31, 2010 (in Chinese).
- "Buddhism and the Boundaries of 'Religion' as a Category of Modern Chinese Governance." Columbia University Buddhist Studies Seminar, March 2, 2010.
- "Religion and the Politics of Being Public in Nationalist China." "A Century of Change: China and Modernization 1900–the Present," conference sponsored by Asian Division, Library of Congress, Washington D.C., Confucius Institute at the University of Maryland, and Institute for Religion and Society, Oxford, UK; September 16-18, 2009.
- "The Public and the Hidden in Religion during Times of War and Crisis." Conference on Engaged Religion and the Public Good in Chinese Societies, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan, June 1-2, 2008.
- "The Gender of 'Superstition': Mediums, Medicine, and Chinese State Modernity, 1927-1937." Gender Studies Lecture Series, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan, December 27, 2007.
- "Ritual Competition and the Modernizing Nation State: the Case of China, 1927-1937."
- University of California, San Diego, November 15, 2007.
 - Princeton University East Asian Studies Lecture Series, November 7, 2007.
- "The Anti-superstition Campaign as Emotional Imperative and Emotional Process."
- Seminar talk, Harvard-Yenching Institute, May 9, 2006.
 - International Conference on Religion, Modernity, and the State in China and Taiwan, University of California, Santa Barbara, October 28-30, 2005.
- "Material Motives in the Nationalist 'Anti-Superstition' Campaigns in China: Ways of Reading Religious Suppression and Resistance." Workshop on Casting Faiths: The Construction of Religion in East and Southeast Asia, National University of Singapore, June 6-8, 2005.
- "Surveying and Seeing Religious Practice in Republican China." Workshop on "Religion" in China: Rethinking Indigenous and Imported Categories of Thought, Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University, May 28-29, 2005.
- "Sentimental Regimes: Ritual, Emotion and the Mirage of Secular Nationalism." "Affect, Emotion and Public Life in Modern East Asia," a joint workshop of the Fairbank Center for East Asian Research and the Reischauer Institute, Harvard University, May 6-7, 2005.
- "Material Motives in the Nationalist Campaigns against Superstition, 1927-1937." Director's Seminar, Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University, March 24, 2005.
- "The Uses of Superstition: Religion and the Nationalist Campaign to Reform Chinese Society." Lecture, Southern Methodist University, October 25, 2004.
- "Planning the Ritual Economy: The Chinese Nationalist Party Meets Popular Religious Practice, 1927-1937."
- Director's Seminar, Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University, May 14, 2004.
 - Presentation for "New Directions in Modern Chinese History," 2003 Fall Colloquium Series, Stanford University, October 30, 2003.
- "The Gender of Superstition: Medicine, Magic and the Chinese Nationalist State."
- Conference on Civility and Governmentality in Republican China (1912-1949), Bard College, April 26, 2003.
 - Women's Studies Noon Lecture, Purdue University, November 6, 2002.

"The Supply and Demand of Fortunes: Banning 'Superstitious Persons' in Kuomintang China." Workshop on Deviance and Social Control in Early Twentieth Century China, Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University, April 12-13, 2003.

"Civic Faith and Hybrid Ritual in Nationalist China." East Asian Colloquium Series, East Asian Studies Center, Indiana University, Bloomington, December 6, 2002.

Conference papers and roundtables:

Speaker, Panel for First Book Award, on Dominic Meng-hsuan Yang's *The Great Exodus from China: Trauma, Memory, and Identity in Modern Taiwan*, Memory Studies Association annual meeting, [July 9, 2021](#)

"Scale the data or scale the question?", for "Scale and Scope: Framing Historical Research Methodologies in a Digital Age" 规模与范围：大数据时代的历史研究方法论中美学者工作坊, Sichuan University, May 13-15, 2019

"Making Scholarship Work in the Digital No-Man's Land: Strategies for Research in the Partially Digital Age", Roundtable for Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Denver, March 21-24, 2019

"Space, Time, Place: Envisioning and Enacting Order amid War's End and Elongation", for On the Politics of Loss: Making Geographies of History and Memory in India and China", Asian Borderlands Research Network, *Borderland Spaces: Ruins, Revival(s) and Resources*, Bishkek, August 13-15, 2018.

"Governing Concepts: The Spread of New Religious Terminology in the Political Everyday", for Superstition, Secularism, and Religion: Testing a Trinary, Roundtable at Secularism and Secularity Group, American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, November 19, 2016

"Crisis Living and the Space of Postwar Taiwan", AAS-in-Asia, Kyoto, Japan, June 24-27, 2016

"The Field of the State in Chinese History" roundtable, Association for Asian Studies, Seattle, March 31-April 3, 2016

"Home, Land, and Profiting from the Displaced", Land and Water Conference, Brown University, September 3-4, 2015

"Home and Land: Profiting from the Displaced during Wartime", for "Recruiting Bodies and Minds: Nationalist Party Politics and China's Wartime Ideology, 1937-1949", AAS-in-Asia 2015, Taipei, Taiwan, June 23-25, 2015

"Bodies Borne Home: The Kinship of the Dead in a World of Nation States", Presentation at roundtable "Networks of the Dead: Politics, Ethics, Technologies, Method", Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, January 5, 2015, New York, NY

"Elusive Demobilization: Patterns of Place and Displacements in the Long War, 1930s-1950s"

- Beyond Modernity? Understanding Change in China, Columbia University, September 19-20, 2014
- International Conference on "Modern China in Global Contexts, 1600-Present", Historical Society for Twentieth Century China and Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, August 11-13 2014.

"[Refugee]: Citizen, military, loyalist, and other persons of the Nationalist retreat to Taiwan", for "Refugees: Imagery, Mediation, and Politicization in mid-20th-Century China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong", Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Philadelphia, PA, March 27-30, 2014.

"Burying, Repatriating and Leaving the Dead: Connecting Displacements of the Long War in China and Taiwan, 1937-1955", Cold War in Asia Conference, University of Chicago, April 25-27, 2013.

"Murder after Death: Demobilization and Violence in the Transition from Wartime to Postwar in Taiwan", "Military Men, Veterans and Legacies of War in 19th and 20th Century China", Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, San Diego, CA, March 21-24, 2013.

"Wartime and Postwar Burial Practice in China and Taiwan: Floating between Displacement and Community," for "Dispossessed persons: preserving culture in an age of migration", session of the Genealogy and Local History Section, World Library and Information Congress: 77th IFLA General Conference and Assembly, 13-18 August 2011, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

"Sun Yat-sen and the Ghosts of Nanjing: A Geography," for "The Social Life of Dead Bodies: Cases from late Qing through Cold War China and Taiwan", Joint Conference of the Association for Asian Studies and the International Convention of Asia Scholars, Honolulu, HI, March 31-April 3, 2011.

"Seeing and Surveying Religion in Republican China: the Birth of an Epistemology."

- "Religion, Ethnicity, and Politics in Modern China", Social Science History Association 2010 Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 18-21, 2010.
- Seventh Annual Symposium on the Social Scientific Study of Religion in China, Renmin University, Beijing, July 26-27, 2010.
- Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Boston, MA, March 22-25, 2007.

- "Shanghai in the *Dianshizhai Huabao* Illustrated Journal" (with Jeffrey Wasserstrom.) Presentation at "Visualizing Global Asia at the Turn of the 20th Century," MIT Visualizing Cultures/Council on East Asian Studies, Yale University, April 29-May 1, 2010.
- "Contesting Ritual in the Age of Mass Politics in China." Confucian Traditions Group, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November 17-20, 2007.
- "'Superstition' and the Politics of Chinese Modernity in Rural Jiangsu, 1927-1937." Paper presented at "Rethinking the Rural: Land and the Nation in the 1920s and 1930s" international conference, Royal Holloway, University of London, January 4-6, 2007.
- "Two Tombs: Thoughts on Zhu Yuanzhang, the Kuomintang, and the Meanings of National Heroes." Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, San Francisco, CA, April 6-9, 2006.
- "The Material Motive in Campaigns against Religion: National Arguments and Local Repercussions in 1930s China." Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Philadelphia, January 5-8, 2006.
- "Reading Resistance to the Chinese Nationalist Campaigns against Superstition, 1927-1937." Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Washington, DC, March 4-7, 2004.
- "The Gender of Superstition: Medicine, Magic and the Chinese Nationalist State."
- Association for Asian Studies 2003 New England Regional Meeting, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 24-25, 2003
 - Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, January 2-5, 2003.
- "Civic Faith and Hybrid Ritual in Nationalist China." Paper presented at "Converting Cultures: Religion, Ideology and Transformations of Modernity", Humanities Institute, Dartmouth College, December 1-3, 2002.
- "Religion, Superstition and the Art of Governing Society in Nationalist China." Paper presented at Siting Secularism Conference, Oberlin College, April 19-21, 2002.
- "The Uses of Superstition: Religion and the Nationalist Campaign to Reform Chinese Society." Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Washington, DC, April 4-7, 2002.
- "Science, Superstition and the Art of Governing Society." "Ideology and Science: A Special Autumn Symposium in Chinese Studies," University of California, Berkeley, October 19, 2001.
- "The Uses of Superstition: Lessons in Religion and Politics from Nationalist China." "China's Long Twentieth Century: Words, Images, Voices," Second Annual Graduate Symposium, University of Chicago, April 13-14, 2001.
- "Religion, Superstition and Governing Society in Nationalist China." 7th Annual Graduate Student Conference on East Asia, Columbia University, February 7, 1998.
- "'The State is real, the individual is wicked': New Life Movement Discipline and Didacticism." 4th Annual Graduate Student Conference on East Asia, Columbia University, February 10-12, 1995.

Commentator and organizer:

- Chair and moderator, Early Career Workshop II: Postdocs and the Pandemic webinar, Graduate Association for Asian Studies, Brown University, April 27, 2021
- Organizer, Asian Studies (and beyond) for the Pandemic Age webinar series, Brown University, 2020-21
- Organizer and co-moderator, [Facing Precarity: Envisioning Careers Beyond 2020](#)
 - Organizer and co-moderator, [Research Problem Solving: Reframing Methodologies in an Age of Distance](#), November 13, 2020
- Discussant, "War as Politics, Politics as War in Modern Asia," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, January 4, 2020
- Chair and discussant, Symposium on "Believing in Revolution," Brown University, November 7, 2019
- Co-organizer, Workshop on Assessing and Planning the Uses of Digital Tools, Brown University, September 21-22, 2019
- Discussant, "Knowledge in Motion: Global Circuits, Evolving Mediascapes and New Pedagogy in Twentieth Century China", International Convention of Asia Scholars 11, Leiden, the Netherlands, July 15-19, 2019
- Chair and discussant, "Official Business: Sixty Years of State Appropriation of Knowledge in Modern China," AAS-in-Asia, Bangkok, Thailand, July 1-4, 2019
- Co-organizer, "Scale and Scope: Framing Historical Research Methodologies in a Digital Age" 规模与范围：大数据时代的历史研究方法论中美学者工作坊, Sichuan University, Chengdu, Sichuan, May 13-15, 2019
- Chair and discussant, "Imprints of Violence - Objects, Sites, and Memories," Association for Asian Studies, Washington, DC, March 22, 2018

- Discussant, "Emergency, Law, and the State in Asia," Social Science History Association, Montreal, Canada, November 5, 2017
- Discussant, "Knowledge in Motion: Global Flows of Information, Domestic Strategies, and Ways of Knowing in Early Twentieth Century China," AAS-in-Asia, Seoul, South Korea, June 24-27, 2017
- Organizer, Mellon Sawyer Displacement Workshop: The Displaced Living and the Displaced Dead, March 21, 2017
- Organizer, Workshop on Digging up the Chinese Dead: Finding and Theorizing Displacement in Death, Chinese Religions Seminar, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University, December 7, 2015.
- Discussant, "Taiwan in the Global Cold War" (papers by Chi-ting Peng, Meredith Oyen, and Justina Hwang), 21st North American Taiwan Studies Association Conference, Harvard University, June 11-13, 2015
- Discussant: 唐小兵, "记忆的战争与战争的记忆——有关 20 世纪中期中国的回忆与书写"; Dominic Meng-Hsuan Yang, "From the Ashes of History: War, State Narrative, and the Displacement of Dachen Islanders in Coastal Zhejiang, 1950-1955"; and Diana Lary, "The Timing of Memory: Retrieving memories of China's Civil War"; for *The Turmoil of History: Memories, Narratives, Representation, and Mid-Twentieth Century China 历史的躁动: 回忆, 论述, 与二十世纪中期的中国*, Institute of Taiwan History, Academia Sinica, Taiwan and The School of History, Philosophy, and Religion (SHPR), Oregon State University; Academia Sinica, Taiwan, May 28-30, 2015
- Organizer, "Networks of the Dead: Politics, Ethics, Technologies, Method," Roundtable for Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, January 5, 2015, New York, NY
- Co-organizer (with Fabio Lanza and Margherita Zanasi), Conference on ["Beyond Modernity? Understanding Change in China"](#), Columbia University, September 19-20, 2014.
- Discussant, "Framing II: the Fine Print" (papers by Li Chen, Arunabh Ghosh, and Margherita Zanasi)
- Co-organizer (with Eng-Beng Lim and Naoko Shibusawa), Symposium on Race in the Global Asias, Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, Brown University, May 3, 2014
- Co-organizer (with Caroline Reeves), "The Social Lives of Dead Bodies in Modern China". International conference and publication project, Brown University, June 12-14, 2013
- Participant, Roundtable on Tong Lam's *A Passion for Facts*, Asian Institute, University of Toronto, April 5, 2013
- Panel Commentator, The 4th International Sheng Yen Education Foundation Conference, Taipei, Taiwan, June 3-4, 2012.
- Discussant, Conference on Buddhists and Buddhism in the History of Twentieth Century China, Chinese University of Hong Kong, May 30-31, 2012.
- Discussant, "Religion and the State in Modern China", Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Toronto, March 15-18, 2012
- Discussant, "Publishing Religion, Negotiating the Party-State: New Perspectives on Religion in Modern China," Chinese Religions Group, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Francisco, November 19-22, 2011
- Discussant, "Dissemination of Western Knowledge and Ideology in Late Imperial and Modern China," Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, San Diego, January 7-10, 2010.
- Discussant, session on "Church and State in East Asia," Religion, Identity and Power: Consortium of African and Asian Studies Inaugural International Conference, Leiden University, August 26-28, 2009.
- Panel co-organizer, "The Power of 'Religion' in China," Confucian Traditions Group, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November 17-20, 2007
- Discussant, Katherine Carlitz, "The 'Virtuous Woman' in Republican-era China: Defense against Modernity? Nationalist Tool?", China Gender Studies Workshop, Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University, November 3, 2006.
- Discussant, Workshop on "Public Culture in Contemporary East Asia: Global Flows, Cultural Intimacy, and the Nation-State," Asia Center and Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University, April 22, 2006.
- Co-organizer, "Affect, Emotion and Public Life in Modern East Asia," a joint workshop of the Fairbank Center for East Asian Research and the Reischauer Institute, Harvard University, May 6-7, 2005.
- Discussant, Eugenia Lean, "Politics of Passion: The Case of Shi Jianqiao and the Rise of Public Sympathy in 1930s China." Director's Seminar, Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard University, April 28, 2005.
- Panel chair and discussant, "Imagining Nanjing: Socio-Cultural Transformations of a Chinese City, 1500-1937," Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, New York, March 27-30, 2003.
- Panel co-organizer, "Gender, Medicine and the State," Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, January 2-5, 2003.
- Panel organizer, "Re-evaluating Reform: Rhetoric, Politics and the Personal in Shaping Republican China," Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Washington, DC, April 4-7, 2002.

Panel chair and discussant, "Capitalism in Contemporary China." Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Lincoln, NE, September 28-30, 2001.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Brown University:

Undergraduate courses:

HIST 510A: First Year Seminar: Shanghai in Myth and History
 HIST 218: The Making of Modern East Asia
 HIST 1120: At China's Edges
 HIST 1121: The Modern Chinese Nation: An Idea and its Limits
 HIST 1122: China Pop: The Social History of Chinese Popular Culture
 HIST 1123: China's Socialist Dreams
 HIST 1956B: Rites of Power in Modern China
 HIST 1977N: State, Religion, and the Public Good in Modern China
 HIST 1978I: The Social Lives of Dead Bodies in China and Beyond

Graduate courses:

HIST 2960: Dissertation Prospectus Development Seminar
 HIST 2970M: Readings in East Asian History
 HIST 2971Q: The Sinosphere: Society and Culture in the Long Twentieth Century
 HIST 2981K: Ritual Studies for Everyday Life
 HMAN 2400F: Scales of Historiography (co-taught with Tamara Chin)

MA advisees: 3; PhD field examinees: 5

Past PhD students:

Shiuon Chu, "The Fifth Great Chinese Invention: Examination and State Power in Twentieth Century China and Taiwan" (2017)
 Yu-chi Chang, "Imagining the Loss: Maps and State-Building in Modern China, 1910s-1940s" (2021)

PhD advisees: Yu-cheng Shih

PhD committees: Emily Pierson (early US); Keegan Cothorn (modern Japan); Lillian Tsay (Japanese empire)

Boston College:

Undergraduate courses:

HS 006 Asia in the World II (university core curriculum)
 HS 152 China Pop: Chinese Society through Popular Culture
 HS 300.86 Study and Writing of History: Rites of Power in China
 HS 300.97 Study and Writing of History: Shanghai in Myth and History
 HS 303 Late Imperial China, 1600-1912
 HS 304 Greater China in the Modern Age, 1895-Present
 HS 316 Chinese Politics as Cultural Experience

Directed independent study and research in modern Chinese history; US-China relations; the Japanese empire in China; contemporary Chinese society; the comparative history of the Olympics; sexuality in Chinese societies; and the history of the Chinese diaspora

Graduate/upper division:

HS 628 Religion in Chinese Society (upper level undergraduate/graduate seminar)
 HS 802 Graduate Colloquium: Introduction to Doctoral Studies
 HS 805 Graduate Colloquium: Nation, Religion and the Meaning of the Modern
 HS 817 Graduate Colloquium: Ritual and Space

Directed graduate fields in the history and historiography of religion and conversion; nationalism, the state and modernity; religion and modernity and modern Chinese and Japanese history.

MA advisees: 3; graduate field examinees: 6 MA; 7 PhD

Purdue University:

Undergraduate: East Asia and Its Historic Tradition; East Asia in the Modern World; Traditional China; Modern China

Graduate/upper division: Defining China: Culture, Nation and Identity in the Modern Era; independent study in modern Chinese women's history.

Graduate supervision: 1 PhD field examination, 1 PhD doctoral defense committee

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

Member: American Historical Association; Association for Asian Studies; Historical Society for Twentieth-Century China; Society for the Study of Chinese Religions

Associate: Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University; Center for East Asian Studies, Yale University.

Service to the profession:

Officer: Association for Asian Studies China and Inner Asia Council (2015-18); Society for the Study of Chinese Religions: Vice President (2014-17); Board Member (2011-14); North America Taiwan Studies Association, Board of Advisors (2015-16); Committee on the James Harvey Robinson Prize, American Historical Association (2016-19); *Middle Ground Journal*: Assistant Editor (current); Contributing Editor (2011-2012); member, Board of Directors, Historical Society for Twentieth Century China (2014-18); Coordinating Council for Women in History: Outreach Coordinator, 2002-2006; Website Coordinator, 2004-2008.

Reviewer: American Council of Learned Societies; Columbia University Press; Harvard University Press; *Agricultural History*; *Frontiers of History in China*; *Journal of Asian Studies*; *Late Imperial China*; *Middle Ground Journal*; *Modern China*; *Twentieth Century China*.

Co-organizer: Modern Chinese History Seminar, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University, 2006-10.

University service:

Brown University: Faculty Director, [Choices Program](#) (2021-24); Co-organizer, Brown Legal History Seminar (2016-). Governing Board, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, (2018-21); Steering Committee, East Asian studies at Brown (2018-20); Steering committee, Nexus Taiwan; co-editor, [Brown East Asia Resources](#) website. Member, Academic Technology Steering Committee (2017-20); Steering committee, Sawyer Seminar, "Displacement and the Making of the Modern World: Histories, Ecologies, and Subjectivities" (organizer: Beshara Doumani, 2016-17); Graduate School Self-Study Group for Reaccreditation (2017); Strategic Planning Committee on Financial Aid, 2012-13. International Relations Capstone advisor, 2012-14; First Year Advisor, 2013-14. Faculty advisor, Strait Talk.

Boston College: Director, Asian Studies Program, July 2009-July 2012. McCarthy Prize Committee, 2006 and 2007; David L. Boren National Security Education Program Campus Review Committee, 2007; Selection Committee, Teaching with New Media Awards, 2007; Advanced Study Grant Committee (Humanities); 2010; Asia Advisory Committee, Office of International Programs, 2007-present.

Associated faculty: Asian Studies minor, Boston College and Purdue University; Women's Studies Program, Purdue University, 2002-03.

Departmental service:

Brown University: Member, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Department of East Asian Studies, 2021-; Director of Graduate Studies, History 2016-2019; History Priorities and Planning Committee, 2015-2019; Organizer, History Lecture Series, 2013-14; History Department Graduate Committee, 2012-2014. Member, Search Committee, Chair of East Asian Studies Department, 2019-20.

Boston College: History Department Graduate Committee (2006-07, 08-10), Library Liaison Committee, 2005-07), Core Committee, 2003-04, search committee for replacement hire, East Asia (2008); chair's advisory committee on Islamic World position (2005)

Purdue University: Graduate Committee, Elections Committee.

Faculty co-advisor: Phi Alpha Theta, Boston College, 2003-04 and 2005-07.

Outreach and Professional Development

Member, Workshop on the Second Book, Association for Asian Studies, March 21, 2019, Denver, CO

BHEPP (Brown History Education Prison Program), History Department/Sweaver Center for Public Service/Rhode Island Adult Correctional Institute, 2012-present.

- "Migration", spring 2020
- "The Cold War", spring 2018
- "Regarding the Pain of Others: Picturing War, Empire, and the Aftermath in Asia", spring 2016
- "Humane Rights: Power and Obligation in China", winter 2014
- "Divine Power and Earthly Justice in China", fall 2012

Session chair and moderator

- "Reframing Hong Kong", Brown University, March 14-15, 2014
- Strait Talk, Brown University, October 28, 2013

Presenter, "Big and Little Politics across the Strait," Strait Talk Symposium, Brown University, October 27, 2012.

"The Uses and Abuses of Modern Chinese History in Pop Culture", Wheeler School, October 21, 2013

National Consortium for the Teaching of Asia Seminars for K-12 teachers, St. George's School, Middletown RI, April 2 & April 30, 2013.

"Asia's Orphan?: Taiwan's Shifting Place in Empire, Nation, Region, and World," Choices Program, March 14, 2013.

"The Meaning of Religion in Modern China," Chinese Art & History Study Group, Renaissance Academy, Florida Gulf Coast University, February 19, 2013.

Panelist, Symposium on Religion and the Future of China, Council on Foreign Relations, New York, June 11, 2008.

Presenter, "Which is More Cosmopolitan, Chinese Secularism or Chinese Religion?", Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations 2008 Harvard Conference, April 3-6, 2008.

Invited participant, Workshop on Chinese Protestantism and Contemporary Church-State Relations, Long Term Strategy Group, Cambridge, MA, March 9, 2007.

Faculty presenter/panelist, Boston College:

- "Asian Journeys" exhibit, McMullen Museum: Exhibit opening, February 25, 2010; Traveling Seminar, March 23, 2010
- Teaching with Visuals, Faculty Summer Workshop, Instructional Design and eTeaching Services, June 12, 2007
- Admitted Eagle Weekend for prospective undergraduates and families, April 15, 2007.
- "Why Go to Graduate School?", McNair Scholars and Learning to Learn Programs, October 16, 2006.

Participant: Faculty Seminar on Urbanism, Boston College, 2011-12; Faculty Workshop on Integrating Sustainability into the BC Curriculum, January 2010; Teachers for a New Era Faculty Mentoring Program, School of Arts and Sciences and Lynch School of Education, Boston College, 2005-06 and 2008; Faculty Summer Workshop pilot program, Academic Technology Services, Boston College, June 21-30, 2004.

Participant, Workshop on Writing as Inquiry, School of Liberal Arts Program on Writing Intensive Instruction, Purdue University, May 6-10, 2002.

Guest speaker, Teaching about Asia, Freeman Seminar for K-12 teachers, Purdue University, March 20, 2002

ADVANCED STUDY AND RESEARCH AFFILIATION:

Institute of Modern History, **Academia Sinica**, Taipei, Taiwan (1997)

Department of History, **Nanjing University** (1996-7)

Taipei Language Institute, Taipei and Taichung, Taiwan (1991-93)

Dalian University of Technology, Dalian, China (1990-91)