

XIAOLU MA 馬筱璐

Assistant Professor

Division of Humanities, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong

hmxlma@ust.hk

852-2358-8921

EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND

2018-present Assistant Professor of Division of Humanities
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

2017-2018 Assistant Professor of Chinese and East Asian Studies
Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI, USA

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA

Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (05.2017)

Dissertation: *Pathways of Transculturation: Chinese Cultural Encounters with Russia and Japan (1880-1930)*

Peking University, Beijing, China

M. A. with distinction in Comparative Literature and World Literature (07.2009)

Thesis: "Spatial Narrative in Russian Émigré Autobiography"

B. A. with distinction in Russian Language and Literature (07.2006)

Thesis: "The Prototype of 'The Great Mother' in Slavic Mythology"

B. A. in Economics (07.2006)

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Transculturation and world literature, translation theory, popular culture and cinema, literature and medicine, affect theory, space narrative, and life writing

BOOKS

Monographs

2024. *Transpatial Modernity: Chinese Cultural Encounters with Russia via Japan (1880–1930)*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Asia Center.

(Its Chinese translation will be published by the Commercial Press. Its Russian translation will be published by the Academic Study Press. Its Japanese translation will be published by Bungaku Tsushin.)

The Trans/spatial Narrative of Russian Émigré Life Writing. Beijing: Peking University Press. (Forthcoming)

Edited volumes

2025. *Lu Xun and World Literature*, edited by Xiaolu Ma and Carlos Rojas. Hong Kong:

Hong Kong University Press.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES (ENGLISH)

2025. "Chinese Variant: The Reconfiguration of Revolutionary Romanticism by Mo Yan and Yan Lianke." *Modern Language Quarterly: A Journal of Literary History*. (Forthcoming)
2025. "Supplementing Socialist Realism: The Ups and Downs of Revolutionary Romanticism in Twentieth-Century China." *Literature and Modern China*. (Forthcoming)
2024. "Cultural Brokerage: Japan as an Intermediary in the Journey of Russian Literature to China." *PMLA*. 139 (2): 267–282.
2024. "An Object In Between: The Past and Present of Lu Xun's 'Diary of a Madman.'" *The Journal of Asian Studies*. 83 (1): 41–61.
2024. "Relayed Revolutionary Sentiment: Chinese Appropriation of Russian Nihilism in Popular Literature." *Comparative Literature Studies*. 61 (3): 441–467.
2023. "Minor Literature as Vital to World Literature in China: Lu Xun's Translation of Bulgarian Literature via German Sources." *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture* 35 (1): 28–57.
2022. "The Transfiguration of Russian Revolutionary Spirit: Chinese Translations of Kemuyama Sentarō's *Modern Anarchism* in the Early Twentieth Century." *International Comparative Literature* 5 (3): 77-99.
2020. "'The Orient' versus *Dongfang*: The Reconceptualization of the East in Modern China." *Prism: Theory and Modern Chinese Literature* 17 (2):430-456.
2019. "An Interstitial Space: Cross-Cultural Negotiation and Concession in Early Fiction Translations in *New Youth*." *Twentieth-Century China* 44 (2):223-236.
2015. "Transculturation of Madness: The Double Origin of Lu Xun's "Diary of a Madman"." *Literature and Medicine* 33 (2):348-367.
2014. "The Missing Link: Japan as an Intermediary in the Transculturation of the Diary of A Madman." *Frontiers of Literary Studies in China* 8 (2):331-346.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES (CHINESE)

2025. "Inheritance or Betrayal: Yan Lianke's Mythorealism and Russian Realism." *Jinri shijie wenxue* (Forthcoming)
2025. "Love Beyond Languages: The Translations of Pushkin's *The Captain's Daughter* in East Asia" *Dangdai wenxue piping* (Forthcoming)
2025. "Cultural Hybridization and Transmutation: Japanese and German Influences in the Language of Lu Xun's Translation." *Xiaoshuo pinglun*. (Forthcoming)
2025. "A Love that Begins with Mistrust and Ends with Abandonment: The Translation of Lermontov's *A Hero of Our Time* in East Asia." *Xiaoshuo yanjiu*. (Forthcoming)
2024. "The Minor in World Literature: Lu Xun's Translation of Bulgarian Literature via German Sources." *Nanfang wentan* 220 (3): 144-153.
2017. "Russia, Japan and China: A Cross-cultural Journey of Revolutionary Literature." *Huawen wenxue* (05):51-56.
2012. "Oriental Literature Study in Russia." *Waiguo wenxue yanjiu* 34 (2):85-92.

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS (ENGLISH)

2027. "From Spiritual Realism to Mythorealism: Yan Lianke's Appropriation of Dostoevsky's Aesthetics in Contemporary Chinese Literature," In *Routledge Companion to Dostoevsky: Rethinking Paradigms*, edited by Sarah Hudspith and Sarah Young. Routledge. (Forthcoming)
2025. "Introduction: Lu Xun, China, and the World," In *Lu Xun and World Literature*, edited by Xiaolu Ma and Carlos Rojas, 1-16. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.
2025. "Penitence, Mercy, and Conversion: Lu Xun as a Topos of World Literature." In *Lu Xun and World Literature*, edited by Xiaolu Ma and Carlos Rojas, 131-145. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.
2022. "Linguistic Transformation and Cultural Reconstruction: Translations of Gorky's 'Kain and Artem' in Japan and China," In *Ecologies of Translation in East and South East Asia, 1600-1900*, edited by Li Guo, Patricia Sieber, and Peter Kornicki, 293-316. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
2022. "A Poet-Knight-Errant Traveling North: Three Russian Poets' Translations of Li Bai." In *Encountering, Imagining, and Reinventing Chinese Literature & Culture*, edited by Zong-qi Cai and Stephen Roddy, 87-113. Leiden: Brill.
2022. "Building Chinese Reality with Language and Metaphor: From Socialist Realism to Mythorealism." In *Routledge Companion to Yan Lianke*, edited by Riccardo Moratto and Howard Yuen Fung Choy, 16-27. Abingdon, Oxon. Routledge.
2019. "Translation as Weapons in the War of Ideas: English, Russian and Chinese Translation of 'Li Sao' in the 1950s." In *Translating Chinese Art and Modern Literature*, edited by Yifeng Sun and Chris Song, 115-132. London: Routledge.

BOOK CHAPTERS (CHINESE)

2020. "Transcultural Negotiation and Innovation: The Concept of 'Revolutionary Literature' in Russia, Japan and China." In *War, Tradition and Modernity: Contention of Different Transcultural Schools*, edited by Hsiang-Yin Sasha Chen, 131-167. Taipei: Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy. Academia Sinica.
2020. "The Concept of 'Revolutionary Literature' in the Transcultural Context." In *A Sincere Literature Scholar – A Festschrift to commemorate the 80th birthday of Liu Zaifu*, edited by Jianmei Liu and Jin Ji, 434-439. Hong Kong: Sanlian shudian (Xianggang) youxian gongsi.
2019. "Relayed Russian Literature." In *May Fourth@100: Culture, Thought, History* edited by Der-wei David Wang and Mingwei Song, 201-204. Taipei: Linking Publishing. (The book is also published by Shanghai wenyi chubanshe in Mainland China.)

BOOK REVIEWS

2025. "Mangalagiri, Adhira, *States of Disconnect: The China-India Literary Relation in the Twentieth Century*." (2023). *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature*. (Forthcoming)
2024. "Cui, Wenjin, *Lu Xun's Affirmative Biopolitics Nothingness and the Power of Self-Transcendence*." (2022). *Chinese Literature: Essays, Articles, Reviews (CLEAR)* 46: 285-288.

2022. “Clark, Katerina. *Eurasia without Borders: The Dream of a Leftist Literary Commons, 1919-1943.*” (2021). MCLC Resource Center Publication. <https://u.osu.edu/mclc/book-reviews/xiaolu-ma/>.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

2016. “The Translation of Lermontov’s *A Hero of Our Time* in East Asia: Japan as an Intermediary in the Translation of Russian Literature in China.” Proceedings of Writing Chinese Translation History: The Sixth Young Researchers’ Conference on Chinese Translation Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.
- 29 May 2008. “The Nobel Prize is not a Pension – Interview with Orhan Pamuk,” with Wang Yin. *Nanfang zhoumo*, D 25, D 26.
2007. “The Memory of Evil, The Temptation of Good.” *Zhongguo bijiao wenxue tongxun* (2):111-112.
2007. “When Spaniards Encounter Chinese Culture.” *Liuxuesheng* 9:52-54.
2007. “Who am I?: Self-Recognition in Nabokov’s *Speak, Memory* “.” *Zhuanji wenxue tongxun* 6:113-122.

TRANSLATIONS

- A. P. Chekhov, “Chekhov’s letters on June 27 and 29, 1890.” *Dongbei duben*. (Forthcoming, Translation from Russian to Chinese)
- Natali Kurtog, *Skazki o zaitse*. Moskva: Mezhdunarodnyi Fond Slavianskoi pis’mennosti i kul’tury (Forthcoming, Translation from Russian to Chinese)
2008. John Maxwell Coetzee, “The Autobiography of Doris Lessing.” *Shijie wenxue* (2): 120-137. (Translation from English to Chinese)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & GUEST LECTURES (RECENT)

- 07.2025. “From Spiritual Realism to Mythorealism: Yan Lianke’s Appropriation of Dostoevsky’s Aesthetics in Contemporary Chinese Literature,” ICCEES XI World Congress, University College London
- 05-06.2025. “Supplementing Socialist Realism: The Ups and Downs of Revolutionary Romanticism in Twentieth-Century China,” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) 2025 Annual Meeting, Online
- 04.2024. “An Object In Between: The Past and Present of Lu Xun’s ‘Diary of a Madman,’” Beijing Normal University-Hong Kong Baptist University United International College (UIC)
- 03.2024. “An Object In Between: The Past and Present of Lu Xun’s ‘Diary of a Madman,’” Hong Kong Polytechnic University.
- 02.2024. “Reincarnation or Transfiguration: The Hong Kong Adaptations of Tolstoy’s Resurrection,” “Wiring China: Information, Affect, and Media Technologies” Conference Hong Kong Polytechnic University.
- 01.2025. “World Republics of Letters: Nineteenth-Century Literary Capitals Beyond The Anglosphere” Roundtable, 2025 Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Convention, New Orleans
- 12.2024. “A Brokered Transcultural Negotiation: Lu Xun’s Translation of Russian Literature

- via Japanese and German Sources” “The Affordances of Sinophone Literary Translation in the Age of AI” symposium, Lingnan University
- 10.2024. Book Talk: *Transpatial Modernity: Chinese Cultural Encounters with Russia via Japan (1880–1930)*, Renmin University
- 10.2024. “Sino-Russian Cultural Exchange via Japan: The Multiple Chinese Translations of Chekhov’s ‘The Black Monk’” “Translation and Twentieth-Century China” International Conference, Renmin University
- 09.2024. Book Talk: *Transpatial Modernity: Chinese Cultural Encounters with Russia via Japan (1880–1930)*, Hong Kong University
- 06.2024. “Transpatial Modernity: Chinese Cultural Encounters with Russia through the Prism of Japan,” Association of Chinese and Comparative Literature (ACCL) Biennial Conference: “Behold the Human,” Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- 06.2024. “Building Chinese Reality with Language and Metaphor: From Socialist Realism to Mythorealism,” “Contemporary Chinese Literature in the World” Conference, Harvard University and Soochow University
- 05-06.2024. “Cultural Brokerage: Japan as an Intermediary in the Journey of Russian Literature to China,” The Third International Conference of the Modernist Studies in Asia Network (MSIA): “Modernism between Past and Future,” Hong Kong University
- 04.2024. Book Talk: *Transpatial Modernity: Chinese Cultural Encounters with Russia via Japan (1880–1930)*, Harvard University
- 04.2024. Book Talk: *Transpatial Modernity: Chinese Cultural Encounters with Russia via Japan (1880–1930)*, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Shanghai Normal University
- 04.2024. Book Talk: *Transpatial Modernity: Chinese Cultural Encounters with Russia via Japan (1880–1930)*, Zhejiang University
- 03.2024. “In the Name of the People: “People’s Theater” in China and its Transcultural Inspirations,” Association for Asian Studies (AAS) 2024 Annual Conference, Seattle
- 01.2024. Book Talk: *Transpatial Modernity: Chinese Cultural Encounters with Russia via Japan (1880–1930)*, National University of Singapore

GRANTS (RECENT)

2024. VPRDO Equipment Fund, HKUST
2023. Publication Capacity Fund, HKUST
2023. The Schofield Fund, the Harvard Department of Comparative Literature’s subsidy program for comparative literature publication
2023. VPRDO Equipment Fund, HKUST
- 2020-2023. Early Career Scheme from the Hong Kong University Grants Committee
2020. UGC - Research Infrastructure Grant, HKUST
2019. Publication Capacity Fund, HKUST
2018. Initiation Grant from HUMA, HKUST

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Courses:

HUMA-6001Z *Selected Topics in Russian Literature and Literary Theory*

09.2023-12.2023

02.2020-05.2020

HUMA-5360 *History and Theory of Comparative Literature*

09.2024-12.2024

02.2022-05.2022

09.2020-12.2020

HMMA-5001 *Fundamentals of Chinese Culture*

09.2024-12.2024

09.2023-12.2023

09.2022-12.2022

09.2020-12.2020

HUMA-4250 *Masterpieces of Modern Literature*

09.2024-12.2024

09.2023-12.2023

09.2018-12.2018

HUMA-2400 *Approaches to Humanities in China Studies*

02.2025-05.2025

02.2024-05.2024

02.2023-05.2023

02.2022-05.2022

HUMA-1301 *World Literature and Film*

02.2025-05.2025

02.2020-05.2020

HUMA-1300 HUMA *Introduction to Western Literature*

09.2018-12.2018

HUMA-1231 *Popular Culture of East Asia*

09.2020-12.2020

Kalamazoo College

Courses:

04.2018-06.2018 *20th-Century Urban China*

01.2018-03.2018 *Modern Chinese Literature in Translation*

09.2017-06.2018 *Elementary Chinese*

Harvard University

Teaching Fellow:

01.2015-06.2015 *Chinese in Humanities (Masterworks of Chinese Cinema)*

09.2012-12.2012 *Literature and Medicine*

01.2012-06.2012 *Writing Across Cultures: Literatures of the World (from 1750 to the present)*

Language Drill Instructor:

09.2011–06.2012 *Intermediate Modern Chinese*

Senior Tutor:

09.2014–06.2015 Advised an undergraduate student on her senior thesis

Peking University

Teaching Assistant:

02.2008–06.2008 *Auto/biography Studies*