

Tobias Benedikt Zürn

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EMPLOYMENT

2023-present	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Assistant Professor of Premodern Chinese Literature (two courses per academic year)
2021-2023	Reed College, Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion and Humanities (five courses per academic year)
2016-2021	Washington University in St. Louis, Postdoctoral Fellow in East Asian Religions (three courses per academic year)
Fall 2015	University of Wisconsin, Madison, Lecturer in Chinese Studies
Fall 2014	University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, Lecturer in Religious Studies
Spring 2013	Grinnell College, Lecturer in Religious Studies
2008-2015	University of Wisconsin, Madison, Teaching Assistant

EDUCATION

2010-2016	University of Wisconsin, Madison, PhD in Chinese Studies Dissertation: "Writing as Weaving: Intertextuality and the <i>Huainanzi</i> 's Self-Fashioning as an Embodiment of the Way," 387 pp, cited by 5. Advisors: Mark Meulenbeld (University of Hong Kong) and Mark Csikszentmihalyi (University of California, Berkeley) Committee: Anne Hansen, Rania Huntington, William Nienhauser Jr., and Michael Puett (Harvard University) Minors: Religious Studies and Art History
2008-2010	University of Wisconsin, Madison, MA in Chinese
2005-2008	University of Munich, <i>Magister Artium</i> (MA equivalent) in Chinese Philosophy Thesis: "The Metaphor of Disease in Ancient Chinese Philosophical Texts" (<i>Die Krankheitsmetapher in der antiken chinesischen Philosophie</i>), 99 pp, cited by 3. Minors: Scandinavian Literature and Social Sciences
2000-2005	Humboldt University, Berlin, <i>Zwischenprüfung</i> (BA equivalent) in Sinology

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOW

Spring 2016	Harvard University, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations
Fall 2013	National Central Library, Taipei, Center for Chinese Studies
Fall 2012	University of California, Berkeley, Center for Chinese Studies
2004/05	National University of Kaohsiung, exchange student

ARTICLES (REFEREED)

2025	" Reading Texts as Bodies: Object Agency in the Age of Human Empowerment ," <i>Method & Theory in the Study of Religion</i> 37.2 (2025): 162-79, included in special issue "On Whose Terms?," edited by Debra Ballentine, Michael Naparstek, and Jordan Rosenblum. H-Index: 31, cited by 0.
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- 2022 “[Reception History and Early Chinese Texts](#),” *Religions* 13.12 (2022): <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel13121224>; included in special issue “Global Laozegetics” on invitation by Misha Tadd. H-Index: 37, cited by 4
- 2020 “[The Han Imaginaire of Writing as Weaving: Intertextuality and the Huainanzi’s Self-Fashioning as an Embodiment of the Way](#),” *Journal of Asian Studies* 79.2 (2020): 367-402. H-Index: 56, cited by 22.
- 2018 “[Overgrown Courtyards and Tilled Fields: Image-Based Debates on Governance and Body Politics in the Mengzi, Zhuangzi, and Huainanzi](#),” *Early China* 41 (2018): 297-332. H-Index: 6, cited by 11.
- In progress “Receptions of the *Zhuangzi* in the Work of Du Fu, Great Confucian Poet of the Tang,” *Religions*, included in special issue “The Interaction of Daoist, Buddhist, and Confucian Thinkers in the Sui and Early Tang Dynasty” on invitation by Friederike Assandri, to be submitted in Spring 2025.

BOOK PROJECTS

- Under Review *Text/Bodies: The Huainanzi’s Self-Fashioning as a Powerful Scripture of the Way*, book project based on dissertation, book proposal accepted by State University of New York Press for the series Chinese Philosophy and Culture (submitted in December 2024)
- In progress Mark Csikszentmihalyi and Tobias Benedikt Zürn eds., *Global Reception of the Classic Zhuangzi II: Early Commentaries and Reworkings Through the Tang*, deadline for submission of contributions: April 30, 2025.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming “The Daoist Body,” to be included in *The Daoist World*, edited by Gil Raz and Mark Meulenbeld. London: Routledge, 2026.
- 2023 “The Practice of Erasing Traces in the *Huainanzi*,” in Albert Galvany ed., *The Craft of Oblivion: Aspects of Forgetting and Memory in Ancient China* (Albany: State University of New York Press), pp. 181-214.
- 2016 Annotated Translation with Translator’s Note: “[Seng Qixu 僧契虛 \(Monk Attached to Emptiness\)](#),” in *Tang Dynasty Tales: A Guided Reader Volume 2*. Edited by William H. Nienhauser Jr. Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Co., 2016, 365-424
- Review: Rebecca Doran, “[Tang Dynasty Tales: A Guided Reader, Vol. 2](#),” *Chinese Literature: Essays, Articles, Reviews* (2017): 175-78 (review of my contribution on p. 176)
- In progress “Introduction,” written together with Mark Csikszentmihalyi (University of California, Berkeley); accepted for inclusion in *Global Reception of the Classic Zhuangzi II: Early Commentaries and Reworkings Through the Tang*

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Solicited book review, “Poul Andersen’s *The Paradox of Being: Truth, Identity, and Images in Daoism*,” *History of Religions* 62.2 (2022): 224-26.
- 2017 Encyclopedia entry, “Yin-Yang,” *World Book Encyclopedia*. Chicago: World Book Inc.
- 2016 Solicited book review, “Wilt L. Idema’s *The Resurrected Skeleton: From Zhuangzi to Lu Xun*,” *Journal of Chinese Religions* 44.1 (2016): 84-86

- 2015 Solicited book review, “Sarah Queen and Michael Puett’s (eds.) *The Huainanzi and Textual Production in Early China*,” *Daoism: Religion, History, and Society* 7 (2015): 202-11

DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS

- 2012 Archivist (China) for “MRE World Pop Archive,” [Music-Race-Empire: A Research Circle](#), co-directed by Ronald Radano and Tejumola Olaniyan, University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2012 “[Samurai: Popular Representations of a Mystified Warrior](#),” 3rd Annual Digital Salon, University of Wisconsin, Madison

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND ACADEMIC AWARDS

- 2022 Grant, Stillman Drake Fund (\$1,000), Reed College
- 2022 Grant, Summer Scholarship Award (\$1,000), Reed College
- 2021 Grant, Stillman Drake Fund (\$1,500), Reed College
- 2021 Grant, China and Inner Asia Council (\$ 2,000), Association of Asian Studies, organization of workshop “[Global Reception of the Classic Zhuangzi: Song to Ming](#)”
- 2019-2021 HASS Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Digital Humanities (\$ 48,000 p.a. for two years), Nanyang Technological University (declined)
- 2019 Collaborative Reading-Workshop Grant, ACLS Program in China Studies and Henry Luce Foundation (\$ 15,000), co-organization of workshop “[Global Reception of the Classic Zhuangzi: Song to Ming](#)”
- 2018 Grant, Center for Chinese Studies (\$ 5,000), University of California, Berkeley, co-organization of workshop “[Global Reception of the Classic Zhuangzi: Han to Tang](#)”
- 2017 Departmental nomination for Washington University’s Faculty Teaching Award
- 2017 Unsung Hero Award for contributions to Washington University in St. Louis’ learning community
- 2016 Chancellor’s Fellowship (~ \$ 13,000), University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2016 AAR Annual Meeting Travel Grant (\$ 500)
- 2015 [Honored Instructor Award](#), University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2013 Research grant (~ \$ 9,000), visiting researcher, CCS, National Central Library, Taipei
- 2013 Mellon-Wisconsin Summer Fellowship (~ \$ 8,500), University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2011 Grant, Evjue Foundation (\$ 3,250), organization of workshop “[Intertextuality and Imaginary Spaces in East Asia](#),” University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2011 Grant, Anonymous Fund (\$ 3,000), organization of workshop “[Intertextuality and Imaginary Spaces in East Asia](#),” University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2011 Grant, Brittingham Trust (\$ 2,500), organization of workshop “[Intertextuality and Imaginary Spaces in East Asia](#),” University of Wisconsin, Madison

CO-SPONSORSHIPS RECEIVED FOR WORKSHOPS

- 2024 School of Humanities and Social Sciences (\$ ~ 15,500), HKUST, organization of workshop “Ritual in Early China”
- 2024 Global Engagement and Communications Office (\$ ~ 6,500), HKUST, organization of workshop “Ritual in Early China”
- 2024 Division of Humanities (\$ ~ 4,500), HKUST, organization of workshop “Ritual in Early China”
- 2021 Religion Department (\$ 2,500), Reed College, organization of workshop “[Global Reception of the Classic Zhuangzi: Song to Ming](#)”

- 2018 *Journal of Chinese Religions* (\$ 2,500), co-organization of workshop “[Global Reception of the Classic Zhuangzi: Han to Tang](#)”
- 2011 Center for Chinese Studies (\$ 1,000), University of Wisconsin, Madison, organization of workshop “[Intertextuality and Imaginary Spaces in East Asia](#)”

INVITED TALKS

- 2024 “Global Reception of the Classic *Zhuangzi*: An Introduction,” Renmin University, Beijing
- 2024 “Zhuangzi Comics” at “Teaching Workshop: Chinese Philosophy and World Philosophy,” Tsinghua University, Beijing
- 2024 “Text/Bodies: The *Huainanzi*’s Construction as a Powerful Scripture of the Way” at “The Waves that Follow: New Books in Chinese Philosophy,” Tsinghua University, Beijing.
- 2022 “The *Zhuangzi*’s Early Commentarial Tradition,” Saint Louis University
- 2022 “[Transformationen des Schmetterlingstraums: Zur Rezeptionsgeschichte des frühen chinesischen Klassikers Zhuangzi](#),” Confucius Institute, Leipzig University
- 2021 “The Poetics of Inversion (*fan*) in the *Zhuangzi*,” Coffee-time Talks on Chinese Philosophy, Saint Louis University
- 2021 “Embodying the Way: The *Huainanzi*’s Construction as a Powerful Scripture,” Reed College
- 2020 “Transformations of Zhuangzi’s Butterfly Dream: Reception History as a Critical Method,” Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- 2020 “Transformations of Zhuangzi’s Butterfly Dream: Reception History as a Critique of Institutionalized Reading Strategies,” University of Texas at Austin
- 2020 “Transformations of Zhuangzi’s Butterfly Dream: Reception History as a Critique of Institutionalized Reading Strategies,” Center for East Asian Studies, University of Chicago
- 2019 “Embodying the Cosmos: Physical and Textual Manifestations of the Way in the Han,” University of Pittsburgh
- 2019 “Reception History as a Critique of Institutionalized Reading Strategies: The Case of Zhuangzi’s Butterfly Dream,” University of Florida
- 2018 “The *Bhavadakṛa* (Wheel of Rebirth) as a Teaching Tool: The Four Noble Truths and Buddhist Responses to a World Full of Suffering,” Oberlin College
- 2018 “Thinking Differently,” University of Georgia
- 2017 “Weaving the World Together: The *Huainanzi*’s Construction as an *Wuwei*-Performing, Textual Embodiment of the Way,” University of Vermont
- 2015 “Efficacious, *Wuwei* Performing Texts in Han China? The “Yaolüe’s” Perspective on the *Huainanzi* as a Textual Manifestation of the Dao,” Indiana University
- 2014 “World Literature and the Problem of Theoretical Imperialism,” Mellon World Literature/s Research Workshop, University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2014 “Agricultural Imagery, Governmentality, and Self-Cultivation in the *Mengzi*, *Zhuangzi*, and *Huainanzi*,” Center for Chinese Studies (CCS), University of California, Berkeley
- 2013 ““Turn and Face the Strain, Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes:” Hanshan Deqing’s Reading of Zhuangzi’s Butterfly Dream as a *Dhāraṇī*,” University of Munich
- 2013 “[對於莊周夢蝶的理解變換：現代西方與傳統集註的談論評比](#)” (Transformations in the Reception of Zhuang Zhou’s Butterfly Dream: A Comparison between Contemporary Western Perspectives and Classical Commentaries), [CCS](#), National Central Library, Taipei

- 2013 “Intertextual References as Sources to Reconstruct Implicit Readings of Early Chinese Texts: A Case Study of the *Huainanzi*,” CCS, University of California, Berkeley

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 2025 “Dehumanization: The *Huainanzi*’s Eradication of Identity and Selfhood as Necessary Means to Becoming a Sage,” European Association of Chinese Philosophy, Reykjavík
- 2025 “Metallurgical Imagery and the Construction of the *Huainanzi*: On Literal Readings of Metaphors in Early China” at “Contemplating the Figures of Ideas: Imageries, Metaphors, and Rhetoric in Premodern China,” Lingnan University, Hong Kong
- 2025 “Carnal Reading and the Dissection of Bodies in Hanshan Deqing’s (1546–1623) Buddhist Commentary on the *Zhuangzi*,” Modern Language Association, New Orleans
- 2024 “The Butterfly Dream, Desires, and Regression Therapy: South Park’s ‘Insheption,’” *Zhuangzi Month* 2024
- 2024 “Dehumanizer: The *Huainanzi*’s Practical Regime to Generate Formless, Inactive, and Unwise Rulers,” World Congress of Philosophy, Rome
- 2024 “Re-Creating the *Zhuangzi* into a Political Tool: The *Huainanzi*’s Western Han Reading of the Proto-Daoist Classic,” European Association of Chinese Studies, Tallinn
- 2023 “Reconstructing the *Huainanzi*’s Western Han Reception of the Extant *Zhuangzi*,” *Zhuangzi Month* 2023
- 2023 “Hanshan Deqing’s Reading of Zhuangzi’s Evening Out Things as a *Dhāraṇī*,” workshop [Global Reception of the Classic *Zhuangzi*: Song to Ming](#), Reed College
- 2023 “The ‘Tiandi’ Chapter in the *Huainanzi*: Reconstructing an Early Han Reception,” [3rd *Zhuangzi* Reading Workshop](#), Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul
- 2023 “Theoretical Imperialism: A Methodological Orientation,” Modern Language Association, San Francisco
- 2022 Panelist, “On Whose Terms? Daoist Studies and the Study of Judaism, Collaborative Efforts to Redress Categories of Religion,” AAR, Denver
- 2022 “Mind-Body Truisms,” workshop On Whose Terms? The Study of Judaism and Daoism in Response to “Religion,” University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2022 “Text/Bodies,” workshop On Whose Terms? The Study of Judaism and Daoism in Response to “Religion,” University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2022 “Intertextuality as a Form of Reception: The *Huainanzi*’s Vision of the Extant *Zhuangzi*,” workshop [Intertextual Dialogue in Early Chinese Writings](#), Yale-NUS College, Singapore
- 2021 “The International Research Project ‘Global Reception of the Classic *Zhuangzi*’: An Invitation,” 庄子的世界和世界的庄子 (The World of the *Zhuangzi* and the *Zhuangzi* in the World), Forum, Beijing University
- 2021 “Writing as Weaving: Intertextuality and the *Huainanzi*’s Self-Fashioning as a Powerful Embodiment of the Way,” annual conference of the Association of Asian Studies (AAS), Seattle
- 2020 “The Han *Imaginaire* of Writing as Weaving,” conference Rebuild Classic Studies: Excavated Scripts and Classics in Early China, Beijing Normal University, Zhuhai
- 2020 “The Image of Sick Visits in Early China,” annual conference of the American Oriental Society (AOS), Boston
- 2020 “The Han *Imaginaire* of Writing as Weaving: Intertextuality and the *Huainanzi*’s Self-Fashioning as an Embodiment of the Way,” AAS, Boston (canceled due to Covid-19)
- 2019 “Movements of the Way: The *Zhuangzi* and the Aesthetics of Reversals (*fan*),” [3rd Biennial Conference of the European Association of Chinese Philosophy](#), Ghent

- 2019 “Resonating Geographies in Han China,” conference Religion in Space: Places, Borders, Bodies, Saint Louis University
- 2018 “The *Huainanzi* as a Ritualistic, *Wuwei*-Performing Embodiment of the Way,” annual conference of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), Denver
- 2017 “Ritual Embodiment of the Way and Resonating Correspondences in the *Huainanzi*,” [AAR](#), Boston
- 2017 “The Study of Early China and its Potential Contributions to Theoretical Discourse,” Young Scholars/New Questions Presidential Roundtable, MCAA (Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs), University of Notre Dame
- 2017 “Effecting the World: Resonating Correspondences and Textual Embodiment of the Way in the *Huainanzi*,” Daoist Conference, Paris
- 2016 “Hanshan Deqing’s Buddhist Reading of Zhuangzi’s Butterfly Dream as a *Dhāraṇī*,” [AAR](#), San Antonio
- 2016 “Reading Texts Through Artistic Practices or How Weaving May Illuminate our Understanding of Early Chinese Writings,” conference [The Artist’s Hand](#), Harvard University
- 2016 “Being in Image (*xiang* 象) and Embodying the Way (*tidao* 體道) in the *Huainanzi*,” workshop “Image/Ritual,” University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2016 “The *Imaginaire* of Writing as Weaving and Intertextual Practice in the *Huainanzi*,” AOS, Boston
- 2015 “Writing as Weaving: Physical and Textual Embodiment of the Way in the *Huainanzi* (2nd century BCE),” conference [Empire and the Media of Religion](#), University of California, Los Angeles
- 2014 “Traces of the Ancients (*gu zhi ji*) in the *Huainanzi*,” Daoist Conference, Boston
- 2013 “Hidden Receptions in the Han Dynasty: The *Huainanzi*’s Reading of Master Zhuang in the Chapters “Originating [in] the Way” and “Activating the Genuine,” [AAR](#), Baltimore
- 2013 “‘Harmony and Me, We’re Pretty Good Company:’ The Beijing Olympics’ Opening Ceremony and its Staging of Harmonized Mass (E-)motions,” AAS, San Diego
- 2011 “Polymorph Divine Beings? Pan Gu, Pan Hu, and the Drums in a Report of a Ritual from Hunan,” Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs (MCAA), Macalester College
- 2011 “Intertextuality and Contextuality: The *Zhuangzi* in the Face of the *Huainanzi*,” workshop “Intertextuality and Imaginary Spaces in East Asia,” University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2010 “Cosmology as a Unifying Principle in the *Zhuangzi*,” Regional AAR, St. Paul

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND INVITED CLASSES

- 2022-2023 “Laozi, the *Daodejing*, and its Reception during the Han,” in the Chinese Humanities course Qin-Han Unification, Reed College
- 2022-2023 “Xunzi, Han Feizi, and the Problem of the Human,” in the Chinese Humanities course Qin-Han Unification, Reed College
- 2021-2022 “Chan Buddhism,” in the Chinese Humanities course The Great Song Tradition, Reed College
- 2021-2022 “Tiantai Buddhism and the *Lotus Sutra*,” in the Chinese Humanities course The Great Song Tradition, Reed College
- 2022 “Monumental Landscapes,” in the Chinese Humanities course The Great Song Tradition, Reed College
- 2021 “Hanshan Deqing’s Commentary on the *Zhuangzi*’s Inner Chapters,” graduate seminar “Reading the *Zhuangzi*,” University of California, Berkeley

- 2021 Panelist, “How to Teach Daoism,” organized by the Daoist Studies Unit, AAR, San Antonio
- 2021 Panelist, “Organizing a Successful Panel Proposal for the AAR,” Global Daoist Studies Forum
- 2020 “Interview about the *Huainanzi*,” conducted by Mark Csikszentmihalyi, undergraduate seminar “Philosophy and Religion of the Han Dynasty,” University of California, Berkeley
- 2018-2021 “Chinese Medicine and Daoism,” in lecture course The Art of Medicine, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2019 Panelist, public roundtable “Sincere Dialogue: What is Your Belief?,” Schlafly Branch Library, St. Louis Public Library
- 2019 “Playing with the Butterfly: The Butterfly Dreams Reception Past and Present,” seminar Zhuangzi, Daoism, and Play, Saint Louis University
- 2019 “Images of Confucius in the *Zhuangzi*,” first-year seminar What Did Confucius Say? Ethics, Power, and the Great Books of China, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2019 Panelist, workshop “How to Write a Cover Letter,” East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC), Washington University in St. Louis
- 2018 “The *Zhuangzi* as Literature,” lecture course Survey of Early and Imperial Chinese Literature, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2018 “Daoist and Confucian Perspectives on the Body,” public roundtable [Defining Human: An Interdisciplinary Conversation About What It Means to Be Human](#), Washington University in St. Louis
- 2017 “Hans Blumenberg’s Project of a Metaphorology as a Historiographical Method,” graduate seminar of the History department, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2016 “Early Chinese Health Practices and the Arts of the Bedchamber,” public roundtable [Sexploration: The Legacy of Masters and Johnson in Sexuality Research and Clinical Practice](#), Washington University in St. Louis
- 2016 “Religious Studies Fall Film Series,” Washington University in St. Louis
- 2015 “Daoism,” Building Bridges Program, First Unitarian Society, Madison, WI
- 2013 “Dreams Are My Reality,” movie series, Grinnell College

TEACHING RECORD

Self-Designed and Conducted Undergraduate Courses:

- “Chinese Thought: What is a Good Life?” (Spring 2021)
- “Confucian Thought” (Fall 2017 and Spring 2019)
- “Daoist Traditions” (Fall 2018)
- “Buddhist Traditions: Taking Refuge in the Buddha” (Spring 2013, Fall 2016, and Fall 2020)
- “The *Zhuangzi*, a Daoist Classic” (Spring 2018 and Fall 2021)
- “Anime and Animi: A Popular Cultural Approach to Shinto” (Spring 2019 and Fall 2021)
- “Representations of the Body in World Religions” (Fall 2014)
- “Life, Death, and Afterlife in Premodern Chinese Literature” (Spring 2013 and Fall 2017)
- “Introduction to East Asian Religions: Ritual as a Transformative Device” (Spring 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Spring 2017, Spring 2022, and Spring 2023)
- “Early Imperial China: Qin-Han Unification” (Spring 2022)
- “The Great Song Transition” (Fall 2022)
- “The Body in Daoism” (Spring 2017, Fall 2019, Spring 2023)
- “Chinese Classics in Games, Movies, and Mangas” (Fall 2024 and Spring 2026)

Self-Designed and Conducted Graduate Courses:

- “Tools and Methods in the Study of East Asian Religions and Philosophy” (Spring 2021)
- “The Body in Daoism” (Spring 2017 and Fall 2019)
- “The Body in Buddhist and Daoist Literature” (Spring 2025)
- “The *Zhuangzi* and Its Multimedia Reception in China and Beyond” (Spring 2024)
- “Interactions of the Living and the Dead in Premodern Chinese Literature (Spring 2026)

Co-Taught Classes

- “Critical Thinking” (Fall 2023)
- “Global Science Fiction” (Spring 2026)

Courses in Planning

- “Therapeutic Texts in East Asia” (in planning)
- “Thinking about Religion Through RPGs” (in planning)
- “Benefits and Dangers of Literary Theory: A Post-Colonial Perspective” (in planning)

Co-Organizer of Graduate Level Course as a Grad Student:

- “Readings in East Asian Buddhism” (Spring 2011)

Teaching Assistant:

- “Genres of Asian Religious Writing” (Spring semesters 2009-2012 and 2015)
- “Introduction to Hinduism” (Fall 2011)
- “Religion in History and Culture: The East” (Fall 2009 and Fall 2010)
- “Introduction to Buddhism” (Fall 2008)

Self-Designed and Conducted Workshops at the High School Level:

- “The Metaphor of Disease in Greek and Chinese Philosophy” (Spring 2008)
- “The Stoa’s Concept of Nature and Mozi’s Idea of Heaven” (Spring 2007)

ADVISING

2023	BA thesis advisor, Charlie Zicheng Lyu, “The Buddhist Householders’ Claim in the 1920s Modern Chinese Religious Space: The Nation-Building Visions in Shanghai Merit Grove Hygienic Vegetarian Restaurant,” Religion, Reed College
2022-2023	BA thesis advisor, Yuan Fang, “Medicine and Religion in Early China: On the Discourse of Wind,” Religion, Reed College
2021-2022	BA thesis advisor, Kiel Papa, “Death, Passion, Revelation: Affective Contemplation on the Passion of Christ in Julian of Norwich’s <i>Showings</i> ,” Religion, Reed College
2021-2022	BA thesis advisor, Yoela Zimmeroff, “Birthing Religion: How the Homebirth Movement Imbued Spirit in the Birthing Body,” Religion, Reed College
2021-2022	BA thesis advisor, Yasmin Mayer, “Constructing Paradise Online: Divine Gardens and the Internet,” Religion, Reed College
2021	BA thesis co-advisor, Leopold Mehlhose, Digital Humanities, Leipzig University
2018-2020	MA co-advisor, Sunny Yan, East Asian Studies, Washington University in St. Louis Thesis: “Qing Mechanical Clocks on Display” Placed in the PhD-program of the University of California, Davis’ Department of History (PhD advisor: Howard Chiang)

- 2017-2018 MA advisor, Tali HersHKovitz, East Asian Studies, Washington University in St. Louis
Thesis: “The Gendered Image of Sun Bu’er in Yuan Hagiographies”
Placed in the PhD-program of Brown University’s Department of Religious Studies
(PhD advisor: Jason Protass)
- 2017-2018 MFA committee member, Brent Nakamoto, “[La Selva Beach](#),” Sam Fox School of
Design and Visual Arts, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2016-2019 BA co-advisor: Jordan Weinstock
Thesis: “A War of Words: The Circulation and Interpretation of Taiping Depositions”
- 2016-2019 BA co-advisor: Thomas Davlin

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2024-present Curriculum Committee Member, Division of Humanities, Hong Kong University of
Science and Technology
- 2023-2024 Assemblage of Five-Year Review Together with Jessey Choo (Rutgers University) and
Successful Submission, Daoist Studies Unit, American Academy of Religion
- 2023-present Reviewer, *Journal of East Asian Philosophy*
- 2023-present Reviewer, *Philosophy East & West*
- 2023-present Co-chair, Daoist Studies Unit, AAR (elected in 2022)
- 2022-present Reviewer, *Chinese Literature: Essays, Articles, Reviews (CLEAR)*
- 2021-present Reviewer, *Journal of the History of Ideas*
- 2021 Postdoctoral Peer Mentor, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2020-present Co-Founder and Steering Committee Member, [Global Daoist Studies Forum](#)
- 2020-present Reviewer, *Monumenta Serica*
- 2019-present Reviewer, *Early China*
- 2018-present Reviewer, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*
- 2018-present Reviewer, *Religions*
- 2017-2023 Steering committee member, Daoist Studies Unit, AAR (elected in 2017 and 2020)
- 2016-2021 Advisory board member, Religious Studies Program, Washington University in St.
Louis
- 2016-2021 Advisory board member, East Asian Studies Program, Washington University in St.
Louis
- 2019-2021 Faculty Associate, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2019-2021 Common Reading Program Facilitator, Washington University in St. Louis
- Spring 2021 Supervisor, Assistant in Instruction, Zhang Xuela (Comparative Literature and Creative
Writing), Washington University in St. Louis
- 2020 BA Honors Thesis Evaluator, University of Sydney
- 2018-2020 Co-convener, Chinese Philosophy Reading Group, Washington University in St. Louis
- Fall 2019 Supervisor, Assistants in Instruction, Judith Carlisle (Philosophy) and Pan Shuyang
(East Asian Languages and Cultures), Washington University in St. Louis
- Spring 2019 Supervisor, Assistants in Instruction, Nicky Drake (Philosophy) and Kathryn Lawhon
(East Asian Languages and Cultures), Washington University in St. Louis
- Fall 2016 Supervisor, Assistants in Instruction, Wei Li and Zhang Sijing (East Asian Languages
and Cultures), Washington University in St. Louis
- Fall 2015 Supervisor, Teaching Assistant, Aaron Reich (East Asian Languages and Literature),
University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2010-2012 Graduate Language Program Coordinator, Stockwerk Deutsch, University of
Wisconsin, Madison
- 2010-2011 President and Co-founder, Students of Chinese Studies (SCS), University of Wisconsin,
Madison

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2025 Co-Organizer, workshop, “Ritual in Early China,” HKUST and Lingnan University
- 2024 Organizer, online workshop, Zhuangzi Month 2024
- 2024 Organizer, panel, “The Politics of Creativity and Re-Creation in the *Huainanzi*,” European Association of Chinese Studies Annual Conference, Tallinn
- 2023 Organizer, online workshop, Zhuangzi Month 2023
- 2023 Organizer, panel, “Theoretical Imperialism,” Modern Language Association (MLA), San Francisco, sponsored by the Pre-14th Century Chinese Executive Forum
- 2022 Organizer, workshop “[Global Reception of the Classic *Zhuangzi*: Song to Ming](#),” Reed College
- 2022 Co-organizer, workshop “Global Reception of the Classic *Zhuangzi*: Han to Tang II,” University of California, Berkeley
- 2022 Co-organizer, workshop “Global Reception of the Classic *Zhuangzi*: Ming to Present,” Renmin University, Beijing
- 2021 Co-organizer, roundtable “Teaching Daoism Beyond Lao-Zhuang: A Hands-On Workshop,” AAR, San Antonio
- 2021 Presider, panel “Practice and the Cosmic Imagination in Daoism,” AAR, San Antonio
- 2021 Organizer, panel “Performative Texts: Early and Early Medieval Chinese Perspectives on Intertextual Writing Practices,” AAS, Seattle (revised panel of AAS 2020)
- 2021 Co-organizer, workshop, “[Making a Successful AAR Proposal](#),” Global Daoist Studies Forum
- 2020 Organizer, roundtable “[The Concept of *Zhen* 真 \(True, Real\) and Its Potential Contributions to Ritual Theory: A Roundtable on Poul Andersen’s *The Paradox of Being: Truth, Identity and Images in Daoism*](#),” AAR, Boston
- 2020 Presider, roundtable “[The Concept of *Zhen* 真 \(True, Real\) and Its Potential Contributions to Ritual Theory: A Roundtable on Poul Andersen’s *The Paradox of Being: Truth, Identity and Images in Daoism*](#),” AAR, Boston
- 2020 Organizer, panel “Performative Texts: Early and Early Medieval Chinese Perspectives on Intertextual Writing Practices,” AAS, Boston (canceled due to Covid-19)
- 2019 Presider, panel “Authenticity, Wellness, and the Daoist Curriculum,” AAR, San Diego
- 2019 Organizer, campus visit Jolyon Thomas, “[Faking Liberties: Religious Freedom in American Occupied Japan](#)” and “Animism and Animation” (class session in course Anime and Animi: A Popular Cultural Approach to Shinto), Washington University in St. Louis
- 2019 Co-organizer, workshop “[Global Reception of the Classic *Zhuangzi*: Han to Tang](#),” University of California, Berkeley
- 2019 Discussant, double-panel “Appropriating the Other, Negotiating the Norm,” AOS, Chicago
- 2018 Presider, panel “Excavated Manuscripts and Religious Thought in Ancient China,” AAR, Denver
- 2017 Organizer, panel “[From Another World: A Conversation between Daoism and Ritual Theory](#),” AAR, Boston
- 2017 Co-organizer, panel “Figuring on the Way: Resonance and Response in Text, Talisman, and Painting,” Daoist Conference, Paris
- 2017 Organizer, campus visit Carla Nappi, “[Prepositional Bodies: Sensation and Translation in *The Manchu Anatomy*](#),” Washington University in St. Louis
- 2016 Organizer, panel “[Submerged Readings of the *Zhuangzi* Rewind: Post-Yuan Receptions](#),” AAR, San Antonio

- 2016 Organizer, campus visit Dennis Schilling, “[The Organization of Life in Ancient and Early Medieval China: Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist Approaches](#),” Washington University in St. Louis
- 2013 Organizer, panel “[Submerged Readings of the *Zhuangzi*: An Exercise in Rescuing and Retrieving Voices Mostly Disregarded in the Contemporary Academic Discourse](#),” AAR, Baltimore
- 2012 Organizer, panel “Artistic Expression, National Sentiment, and Its Political Metamorphoses in Southeast and East Asia,” AAS, San Diego
- 2011 Organizer, workshop “[Intertextuality and Imaginary Spaces in East Asia](#),” University of Wisconsin, Madison

LANGUAGES (CEFR LEVELS)

Chinese (Mandarin and Classical, advanced)
Japanese (intermediate, 5 semesters of intense learning)
English (near native)
German (native)
French (reading skills)
Latin (reading skills, *Grosses Latinum*)
Danish (intermediate)
Icelandic (intermediate)
Old-Norse (reading skills)

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

College Art Association (CAA)
Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
American Academy of Religion (AAR)
American Oriental Society (AOS)
Modern Language Association (MLA)
Society for the Study of Chinese Religions (SSCR)
European Association of Chinese Philosophy (EACP)
Society for the Study of Early China (SSEC)
Early Medieval China Group (EMCG)