

Virgil Kit-yiu, Ho

May, 2017

Associate Professor

Division of Humanities, Hong Kong University of Science & Technology

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honour)

University of Hong Kong, 1982

Master of Studies

Oxford University, 1985

Doctor of Philosophy

Oxford University, 1995

SCHOLARSHIP AND ACADEMIC AWARDS

The John Swire & Sons/Cathay Pacific Scholarship, St. Antony's College, Oxford University, 1984-87

The Overseas Research Awards Scheme, U.K., 1985-87

WORKING EXPERIENCE

Hong Kong Government, Executive Officer, 1983-84

The Institute for Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden; Research Fellow, 1989-94

REPRESENTATIVE RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

A) Scholarly Books and monographs:

Understanding Canton: Rethinking Popular Culture in the Republican Period. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Cantonese society in a time of change. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 2000. (Co-author with Göran Aijmer).

B) Papers published in refereed journals:

‘Why Don’t We Take Drama as Facts?’: Observations on Cantonese Opera in a Rural Setting, in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Branch*, Vol.53, 2013-4.

“Martyrs or Ghosts? A Short Cultural History of a Tomb in Revolutionary Canton, 1911-1970”. *East Asian History*, number 27, June 2004.

"'To Laugh at a Penniless Man Rather Than a Prostitute': The Unofficial Worlds of Prostitution in Late-Qing and Early-Republican South China", *European Journal for East Asian Studies*, Vol. 1, no. 1 (2001), pp. 103-37.

"Selling Smile in Canton: Prostitution in the Early Republican Canton". *East Asian History*, no. 5 (1993), pp. 101-32.

"The Limits of Hatred: Popular Cantonese Attitudes Towards the West in the 1920s and the Early 1930s". *East Asian History*, no. 2 (1991), pp. 87-104.

"Whose Bodies? Taming Contemporary Prostitutes' Bodies in Official Chinese Rhetoric", *China Information*, XIII (2/3) (1998), pp.14-35.

C) Papers published in refereed academic books:

“Images of Houses, Houses of Images: Some Preliminary Thought on a Socio-cultural History of Urban Dwellings in Pre-1940s Canton”. 42 pages with 16 illustrations. In *Visualizing China*. Leiden: J. Brill, 2013.

“What is Wrong with Capital Punishment? Official and Unofficial Attitudes Towards

Capital Punishment in Modern and Contemporary China”, *The Cultural Lives of Capital Punishment.*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2005. Edited by Austin Sarat and Christian Boulanger.

"Butchering Fish and Executing Criminals: The Socio-cultural Meanings of Violence in Modern China". Göran Aijmer and J. Abbink edited, *Meanings of Violence: Symbolisms and Structure in Violent Practice*, Oxford: Berg, 2000; pp. 141-60.

"Cantonese Opera in a Rural Setting: Observations on Village Drama". Göran Aijmer and Åsa Boholm edited, *Images and Enactments: Possible Worlds in Dramatic Performances*. Gothenburg: The Institute for Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology, 1994; pp. 113-34.

D) Book reviews published in refereed journals:

Review of Ng Wing-chun’s *The Rise of Cantonese Opera*. Urbana, Chicago and Springfield: University of Illinois Press, 2015. In *China Quarterly*, Volume 226, (June 2016), pp.591-2.

Review of Xu Xiaoqun’s *Cosmopolitanism , Nationalism, and Individualism in Modern China: The Chenbao Fukan and the New Culture Era, 1918-1928.*. Plymouth: Lexington Books, 2014. In *American Historical Reviews* (2015), 120 (4), pp.1462-4.

Review of Poon Shuk-wah’s *Negotiating Religion in Modern China: State and Common People in Guangdong, 1900-1937* (Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 2011), in *Pacific Affairs*, Vol. 85, No.3 (2012).

Review of Lu Hanchao’s *Street Criers: A Cultural History of Chinese Beggars* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2005), in *The China Quarterly*, Dec. 2006.

Review of Zwia Lipkin’s *Useless to the State: “Social Problems” and Social Engineering in Nationalist Nanjing, 1927-1937* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2006), in *American Historical Review*, June 2007.

Review of Gail Hershatter's *Dangerous Pleasures: Prostitution and Modernity in Twentieth-Century Shanghai*, in *China Information*, XIII, no.1 (Summer 1998), pp. 167-71.

Review of G. Hershatter et. al. eds. *Remapping China: Fissures in Historical Terrain*, in *Journal of Oriental Studies*, Vol. XXXIV, no. 2 (1996), pp. 351-8.

E) Professional manuscript review:

Review of book manuscript, entitled *Regulating Prostitution in China: Gender and Local Statebuilding 1900-1937*, for the Stanford University Press, 2012-3

Review of book manuscript, entitled “Medical Missionaries and the Modern Public Hygiene in Canton in Late-Qing and Early Republic China”, for *Journal of Urban History*, 2016.

Review of article entitled “The Death Penalty and Society in Contemporary China” for the refereed journal *Punishment & Society: The International Journal of Penology* (Berkeley: University of California), 2006.

Review of manuscript entitled “The Making of The Republican Citizen: Political Ceremonies and Symbols in China, 1911-1929”, for the Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1999

Review of article entitled “In search of smokers: a study of Canton opium smokers in the 1930s” for *East Asian History*, 2004

Review of article entitled “錢廣仁及新月留聲機唱片公司---兼談粵樂唱片的商品性 (1926-1936)” for *Journal of Oriental Studies*, 2002

Review of article entitled “Local Popular Culture and Revolution in the Chongqing region, 1900-1920s” for *European Journal of East Asian Studies*, 2002

REPRESENTATIVE REFEREED CONFERENCE PAPERS

"Popular Attitudes Towards the West in Canton in the Late 1920s and the Early 1930s", paper presented at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, New Orleans, April 1991.

"Basic Social Organization in Southeastern China". Paper presented at the

International Conference on Sociological Research in China, Beijing, July 1991. Co-author with Professor Göran Aijmer, the Institute for Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

"Cantonese Opera in a Rural Setting: Observations on Village Drama", refereed paper presented at the Gothenburg Anthropological Summer Festival of 1993 held in June at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

"The Spectacle of Violence: the Socio-cultural Meanings of Public Executions in Late-Imperial and Modern China", refereed paper presented at the Gothenburg Anthropological Summer Festival of 1995 held on 12th-14th June at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

"'To Laugh at a Penniless Man Rather Than a Prostitute': Some Popular Attitudes Towards Prostitution in the Canton Delta, 1910s to 1930s", paper presented at the 48th Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Honolulu, Hawaii, April 11-14, 1996.

"Revolutionary Martyrs or Ghosts: Imperfect Modernity and the Spiritual Realm in an 'Atheistic' State, 1910s-1930s", refereed paper presented at the conference entitled "Ghosts and Modernity in East Asia" organized by IIAS, Leiden University, Leiden, 8-10 July, 1999.

"Canton Under Stress, 1938-45: A Preliminary Study and Reinterpretation", refereed paper presented at the conference entitled "Reinterpreting the Chinese City in the Twentieth-Century" organized jointly by Departement d'histoire Université Lumière-Lyon 2, and Institut d'Asie Orientale, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Lyon, 12-14 December, 2002.

"Images of Houses, Houses of Images: Some Preliminary Thought on a Socio-cultural History of Urban Dwellings in Pre-1940s Canton", pp. 26. Paper presented at the international conference/workshop entitled "Visual, Representation, Materiality and Narratives", Santa Lucia di Tallà, Corsica, France, in October 7-9, 2009.

"'Perm hair and strange clothes are not allowed': Women in Canton during the early years of the War (1937-39)". Paper presented at AAS in Asia Conference, Kyoto, Japan, on 25th June, 2016.

“Life in Wartime China: A Kaleidoscope of People’s Experiences in Canton and Guangdong, from July 1937 to October 1938”. Paper presented at The International Academic Forum, the Asian Conference on Asian Studies 2017, Kobe, Japan, on 2nd June, 2017.

PUBLIC LECTURES

“Bitterness and Happiness of A Historian: My Personal Experiences of Conducting Research in Modern Chinese Social History”. Hong Kong Museum of History, 15th Sept., 2013.

“Things About Opium Smoking Which Are Not Taught in Your High School”.
Lecture Theatre G, HKUST, 28th Sept 2015

“Random Notes on Chinese Women in Late-Imperial and Republican Period”.
Department of Gender Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 8th April 2016

“Random Notes on Opium Smoking in Modern China”. Lecture Theatre G, HKUST,
24th Sept 2016

RESEARCH GRANTS

RGC GRF 640909. 2009-12, HK\$1,032,400. Project title: “War Clouds Over the Southern Sky: Society and Culture in Wartime Canton and the Pearl River Delta, 1937-1945”. Principal Investigator

Direct Allocation Grant/School Based-Initiative, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2008-9, HK\$80,000. Project title: “The socio-cultural meanings of dwellings and architecture in Late-Qing and Republican Canton”. Principal Investigator

Direct Allocation Grant, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2004-8, HK\$ 60,000. Project title: “Canton in the ‘Dark Ages’? Revisiting Canton under the Japanese occupation, 1938-45”. Principal Investigator

Direct Allocation Grant, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2001 to 2004, HK\$ 40,000. Project title: "Myth and Reality of a Calamity: Rethinking Gambling and its Meanings to Guangdong, 1850-1950". Principal investigator

Direct Allocation Grant, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 1997-2001, HK\$ 50,000. Project title: "Visualizing History: Revolutionary Monuments and their Socio-cultural Meanings". Principal investigator

Direct Allocation Grant, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 1994-96, HK\$ 70,000. Project title: "Spectacle of Violence: Socio-cultural Functions and Meanings of Public Execution in Twentieth-Century China". Principal investigator

GRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENTS SUPERVISED

Miss Chung Chuek-chi Cecilia. M. Phil. (2016-). Thesis Supervisor. Title (tentative): "Faith and Society: YMCA in Republican Guangzhou"

Mr Leung Ho-chiu. MPhil. (2015-). Thesis Supervisor. Title: "Labour Unions in Early Socialist China: Cases from Guangzhou, 1949-54"

Mr Yeung Po-ki. MPhil. (2015-). Thesis Supervisor. Title: "Experiencing Colonial Modernity: Mainland Travellers in Hong Kong, 1912-38"

Miss Liu Yue-yin. MPhil. (2014). Thesis Supervisor. Title: "Chinese Women in Wartime Guangdong, 1937-45"

Ms Liao Li-ying. MPhil. (2012). Thesis Supervisor. Title: "Exploitation and Development: Qingdao from 1898 to 1930"

Miss Jenny Tsim Yan-yee. M.Phil (2012). Thesis Supervisor. Thesis title: "Representations and Historical Reality of The Nanjing Massacre in Contemporary China"

Miss Viana Venus, PhD, (2012). Thesis supervisor. Tentative thesis title: “Socio-political realities of rural Guangdong: A case study of Zhongshan County, 1945-1952”

Miss Roanna Cheung, PhD, UCLA exchange-in, September to December, 2011.

Mr Ho Kin-hang. M.Phil. (2010). Thesis Supervisor. Thesis title: “The Chinese Communist Party’s Mobilization Tactics in Rural Nanhai from 1924 to 1927”

Mr. Cheung Chi-wai, MPhil., (2007). Thesis supervisor. Thesis title: “What is YMCA?: A Study of Shanghai YMCA (1900-1922)”

Ms Guo Xilin, PhD. 2010. Internal Examiner and Thesis Advising Committee Member. Thesis title: “Homeland Divided: Community Newspapers, Chinese Americans and China’s Politics, 1949-1955“

Mr So Yiu-cheong, PhD., 2002-7. Member, Thesis Examination Committee. Thesis title: “From Minzu wenxue to Xibu wenxue: An Enquiry into the Ethnic Politics in Contemporary Han-Chinese Literature”

Miss Cheung Yin-ki, PhD., 2005-present. Member, Thesis Examination Committee. Thesis title: “Peasants Paintings From Huxian in Maoist China: Dreams of A Socialist New China”.

Miss Chan Kung-fong, M.Phil. (2004). Thesis Supervisor. Thesis title: “To Reform Girls By Education: A Case Study of the First Guangdong Girls Normal School, 1907-38”.

Miss Lo Shuk-ying. MPhil. (1998). Thesis Supervisor. Thesis title: “Images of Japanese Imperialism in Eastern Miscellany, 1928-1937”.

Mr. Kwok Ka-ho. M.Phil. (1994-8). Thesis Supervisor. Withdrawn from the programme in 1998.

Miss Chiang Yau-laam. M.Phil. (2005). Member of Thesis Advisory Committee. Thesis title: “Women’s Images in Traditional Chinese Paintings in Shanghai: 1898-1930s”.

Mr. Ko Kwok-ho. M.Phil. (1995). Member of Thesis Examination Committee. Thesis title: “The Sea-Borne Transport of Tribute Grain in the Late Qing: A Study of

its Establishment, Organization and Function, 1826-1911”.

Miss Fang Huirong. Ph.D. (2002). Internal Examiner. Thesis title: “Land Pawning Practices in Republican China: Theory and Reality”.

Mr. Zhou Feizhou. Ph.D. (2001). Internal Examiner. Thesis title: “From Handicrafts to Putting-out: The Role of Institutional Change in the Rural Industrialization Process in Republican China”.

Mr Sun Xiulin. PhD (2007). Internal Examiner. Thesis title: “Village Governance in Contemporary China”

Mr So Yiu-cheong. PhD (2007). Thesis title: “From Minzu to Xibu wenxue: An enquiry into ethnic politics in contemporary China”

Mr Yu Kim-lung. MPhil. (2007). Thesis title: “Poets Community in South China and the Poetry Revolution in Late-Qing China”

Miss Li Hon-ye. M.Phil. (1999-2000). Member of Thesis Committee.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Member, Subject Committee, DSE History, Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority, 2014-present

Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination, A/AS History Papers 1 & 2 (E), Moderator 1 & 2, Hong Kong Examinations Authority, 2000-14. Meet weekly for 4 hours from September through December

Sixth Form History Subject Committee, Hong Kong Examinations Authority, committee member, 1998-2015

2007-present, Reviewer of RGC’s GRF Projects: 1) ‘Reconnecting Public Health and the Environment: A History of the origins of public health and town planning in Hong Kong’, 2) ‘Zhu Jiahua (1893-1963) and the Community of German-educated Chinese in the Republican Era’, 3) ‘Struggle Between Love of Country (aiguo) and Love of

Church (aijiao): An Investigation into the Conflict Between Wu Yaozong and Wang Mingdao in Revolutionary China (1949-1966)', 4) "The Construction of Ethnicity in Contemporary Chinese Popular Cultures: Hong Kong, Macau and Guangzhou", 5) "A History of the Anti-Schistosomiasis Campaign in Contemporary China (1950s to 1980s)-with special reference to Guangdong Province", 6) "The Medical Culture in the Canton-Hong Kong Region in the Long Nineteenth Century", 7) "The Image of Canton China in the National Romance of Early American Literature", 8) "A History of Diseases and Epidemics in Hong Kong, 1841-2003", 9) "Speculative Urbanism: Modernist Planning and Housing Practices in Colonial Hong Kong, 1912-1939", 10) "Cross-border production of vegetable for Hong Kong: The impact on land, environment and the communities", etc.

External Reviewer of Academic Appointments for Shanghai Jiaotong University, 2010-present

Associate Specialist for the Centre for Intangible Culture Protection and Research, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, Kunming, P.R. China; 1995-present.

Editorial Board Member, *The Hong Kong Journal of Modern Chinese History*

External Examiner for the History Department, Hong Kong University. Master of Philosophy thesis (2016) entitled "Wartime Chinese Study Abroad, 1937-45: 'The Grand Ideal of National Salvation'"

External Examiner for the History Department, Hong Kong University. Doctoral thesis (2000) entitled "The Trends of Decentralization and Regionalism in Guangdong, 1908-1911"

External Examiner for the History Department, Hong Kong University. Doctoral thesis (1998) entitled "Guangzhou, 1800-1925: The Urban Evolution of a Chinese Provincial Capital"

Associate Member, Institute for Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden; 1994-7.

Leader of heritage tour for the School Heritage Festival (18th-24th March, 1996). Co-organized by The Antiquities and Monuments Office, Recreation and Culture Branch, and the Education Department.

One of the founding members of the South China Research Centre, Division of Humanities, HKUST

Conference co-organizer and panel discussant of the conference "Managing Culture: Chinese Organizations in Action" held between October 20 to 22, 1995, at the Division of Humanities, HKUST

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Member, Undergraduate Committee, Division of Humanities, 2014-present

Member, Division of Humanities' Appointment and Substantiation Committee, 2014-5

Member, School UG Major Committee, SHSS, 2011-present; Career Building Coordinator for Global China Studies program, 2014-present

Interview Board Member. Administrative Officer Summer Internship Program Selection Exercise, Student Affairs Office, HKUST, 2015

Member, Instructor focus group on "Improvement of Common Core Program", 2013-5

School Representative, UG Core Education, HKUST, 2012-present

Member, School Appointment and Substantiation Committee, 2009-11

Member, Postgraduate Committee, Division of Humanities, 2012-14

Member, Merit Salary Review Committee, of Humanities, 2012-3

Associate Dean (UG). School of Humanities and Social Science, 2008-11

Member, the University Working Group for Four-Year Curriculum Development, and the University Admission Sub-committee, 2009-11

School Representative, UAC Task Force on Undergraduate Recruitment Strategy,

2010-11

Member, UAC Task Force on Undergraduate Recruitment and Admission, 2008-9

Member, Executive Committee, School of Humanities and Social Science, 2008-11

Member, SHSS UG Major Committee, School of Humanities and Social Science, 2008-09; as Chair, 2009-11

Member, the School Champion Group on 3-3-4 Programme, 2007-9

School Representative, University Senate's Committee of Undergraduate Studies, 2008-11

School Representative, University Teaching Innovation Project Funding Committee, 2010-11

School Representative, HKUST Korea High Schools Visit, 2011 March 23-9

School Representative, the University's Additional Teaching and Research Facilities and Consequential Works Advisory Group, 2008-9

School Representative to the University's Senate Committee of Postgraduate Studies, 2006-8

School Representative, University 4YWG, and Admissions Sub-Group, HKUST, 2008-11

School Representative, University 4YWG, and Regulations Sub-Group, HKUST, 2010-11

Member, University's Selection Panel on Most Influential Secondary School Teachers, 2006-8

Member, MA China Studies Committee, School of Humanities and Social Science, 2005-6

Chair, Curriculum Committee, Division of Humanities, 2007-9; Member, Curriculum Committee, Division of Humanities, 2002-7

Member, Search Committee, Division of Humanities, 2004-5, 2007-2011

Member, Executive Committee, Division of Humanities, 2007-9

Member, Student-Staff Liaison Committee, Division of Humanities, 2007-9

Member, Research Postgraduate Committee, Division of Humanities, 2006-7

Member, Task Force, Division of Humanities, 2004-05

Member, Undergraduate Committee, Division of Humanities, 2000-2, 2006-7

Member, Research Postgraduate Committee, Division of Humanities, 1999-2000

Chair, Postgraduate Studies Committee, Division of Humanities, 1997-8; Member, Postgraduate Studies Committee, Division of Humanities, 1995-7

Member, Laboratory and Equipment Committee, Division of Humanities, 1995-6

Member, OLS Rev. Committee, 1994-5

Judge, Youth Development Exchange Program, International Association of Students in Economic and Management (Hong Kong), 1997-8

Project Supervisor, Study Attachment Program for St. Paul's Co-educational School at HKUST, 2007, 2009-11

RESEARCH WORK IN PROGRESS

Preparing an article entitled "'Perm hair and strange clothes are not allowed': Women in Canton during the early years of the War (1937-39)"; and another article entitled "Life in Wartime China: A Kaleidoscope of People's Experiences in Canton and Guangdong, from July 1937 to October 1938".

Journeys Through Canton: A Socio-Cultural History of Late-Imperial and Republican Canton as Seen Through Houses, Homes, Foods, and Fashion (Tentative title). A

book project in preparation and will be published by J. Brill, Leiden, the Netherlands.

“Revisiting Guangdong Under the Japanese Rule: Some Reinterpretations”

Preparing a book manuscript tentatively entitled *An Alternative Social History of Modern China*

Preparing an article tentatively entitled “Houses in Imperial and Republican Canton: Urban Society and Culture in Modern China”