

Huiqiao Yao 姚惠橋

No. 15 Xueyuan Road
Haidian, Beijing, China 100083

Emails: huiqiaoyao@arizona.edu · huiqiaoyao@blcu.edu.cn
Website: www.huiqiaoyao.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2025– Assistant Professor, Department of Sinology and Chinese Studies, Beijing Language and Culture University
2023–2025 ASIANetwork-Luce Foundation Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in East Asian Religions, Department of Religion · East Asian Studies, Trinity University

EDUCATION

University of Arizona, Department of East Asian Studies, Ph.D., 2023

Dissertation: “Popularizing the Sage: Wang Yangming and Vernacular Confucian Hagiographies in Late Imperial China”

Columbia University, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, M.A., 2016

Renmin University of China, Department of Chinese, B.A., graduated with distinction, 2014
Fu Jen Catholic University, exchange student in Chinese language and literature, Spring 2012

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Religion and literature in early modern China
Confucianism and intellectual history

Chinese literature and print culture
Chinese and Asian religions

PUBLICATIONS

Academic Monograph

The Sage and His Hagiographies: Writing Wang Yangming as Late Ming Culture, under external review at a university press.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“Confucius, Monks, and Deities: Mediating the Three Teachings in *Sanjiao yuanliu soushen daquan* 三教源流搜神大全.” *Journal of Chinese Religions* 54.2 (2026): forthcoming.

“Lin Zhao'en without His Teachings: Instructing the ‘Three Teachings’ Morality in *Romance of the Three Teachings*.” *Chinese Literature: Essays, Articles, Reviews (CLEAR)* 47 (2025): 167–91.

“Staging Wang Yangming’s Sagehood in Ming China.” *CHINOPERL: Journal of Chinese Oral and Performing Literature* 43.2 (2024): 100–42.

“Picturing the Confucian Sage: *The Illustrated Record of Master Wang Yangming* and Late Ming Print Culture.” *East Asian Publishing and Society* 13.2 (2023): 95–132.

Book Reviews

Mengxiao Wang, *Performing Enlightenment: Buddhism and Theater in Early Modern China* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Asia Center, 2026), *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, forthcoming.

Katherine Alexander, *Teaching and Transformation in Popular Confucian Literature of the Late Qing* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2025), *Journal of Asian Studies*, forthcoming.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Guding Zuming,” “Zhaoan Zongjing,” et al. (9 entries) in *An Encyclopedia of Hangzhou Buddhist Culture* (De Gruyter Brill), forthcoming, contributor.

Article Manuscripts

"From Marketplace to Canon: Hagiography, Aphorism, and Religious Authority in *Xianfo qizong* 仙佛奇蹤," under review.

"Heard Fame: Oral Circulation and Competing Forms of Authority in *The Water Margin*," submitted.

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

External

2025–2027	The Andrew W. Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography (SoFCB) at Rare Book School (Cohort 11), with the Nancy Norton Tomasko Fellowship
2024	Rare Book School Full Scholarship by the James P. Geiss and Margaret Y. Hsu Foundation, "The Book in Ming China: History & Analysis," Princeton University
2023–2025	ASIANetwork-Luce Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship
2022–2023	Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Fellowship for Dissertation Writing
2022	Society for Ming Studies Travel Grant, James P. Geiss and Margaret Y. Hsu Foundation
2020	Predissertation Travel Grant from the Henry Luce Foundation/ACLS Program in China Studies (Suspended due to the pandemic)
2019	International Travel Grant, École Pratique des Hautes Études
2019	Graduate Student Award, American Oriental Society
2018	Ten Thousand Rooms Grant, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Yale University

Internal

2020, 2023	Humanities Graduate College Fellowship, University of Arizona
2017–2023	Travel and Research Grant, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Arizona
2020	College of Humanities Graduate Student Research Grant, University of Arizona
2019	Hangzhou Buddhist Culture Research Grant, University of Arizona
2018	National Center for Interpretation Graduate Fellowship, University of Arizona

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Contesting Confucians: *Ganying* Rhetoric and Religious Authority in the Gazetteer of the Upper Tianzhu Monastery," A Buddhist Heaven on Earth: Hangzhou Buddhism and Its Historical Significance, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, April 2026, online.

"Modeling Confucius: Crafting the 'Hereditary House' of Wang Yangming," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting 2025, Boston, MA, November 2025.

"Lives of Books, Lives through Books: Hagiographies and their Afterlives in Ming China," Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography (SoFCB) Annual Meeting of Rare Book School, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, May 2025.

"Asian Religions in a Global Context: Tradition, Media, and Diaspora," ASIANetwork 2025 Annual Conference, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX, March 2025.

Panel Co-organizer, "Assembling Wang Yangming the Sage: The Intertextuality of the Confucian Genealogy in Late Ming China," in the panel "Seeking New Legitimacy: Producing Confucianisms in Early Modern and Contemporary China," Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference, Columbus, OH, March 2025.

"Instructing 'The Three Teachings' Morality: *Romance of the Three Teachings* and the Boundary of Vernacular Fiction," American Oriental Society Western Branch (AOS-WB) Annual Meeting, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ, October 2024.

"Vernacularizing the Chronicle: Proselytizing the Confucian Sage in the Vernacular Story of Wang Yangming (1472–1529)," ASIANetwork 2024 Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, April 2024.

"Popularizing the Sage: Wang Yangming and Secular Hagiographies in Late Ming China," in the panel "Emerging Voices in the Study of Chinese Religions" sponsored by the Society for the Study of Chinese Religions (SSCR) at AAR Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 2023.

"Mapping Wang Yangming's *Nianpu* Chronicle: The Textual and Social Enterprise of Publishing," AOS-WB Annual Meeting, Portland State University, Portland, OR, October 2023.

"Sagehood and Biography: Narrating Wang Yangming's Life in Late Imperial China," in the invited panel "New Research in the Field," International Society for Educational Biography 39th Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, October 2023, online.

"Popularizing the Sage: Wang Yangming and Vernacular Confucian Hagiographies in Late Imperial China," Society for Ming Studies at the 2022 AAS Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, March 2022.

SELECTED GUEST LECTURES AND INVITED TALKS

"Asian Religions: Then and Now," Guest Lecture for the First Year Experience course "Being Young in Asia," Drs. Stephen Field and Elaine Wong, Trinity University, November 21, 2024.

"Chinese Religions and 'The Three Teachings'," Guest Lecture for the religion major course "What is Religion?" Dr. Sarah Pinnock, Trinity University, September 12, 2024.

Translation Across Time and Space, Online Panelist for UT Translation Symposium, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Knoxville, TN, April 19–20, 2024, online.

"*Plum in the Golden Vase*," Guest Lecture for upper-division history seminar "Masculinity and Femininity in China, 1500-Present," Dr. Gina Tam, Trinity University, January 31, 2024.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Beijing Language and Culture University, Beijing, China

Global Scholarship on Ming-Qing China, Fall 2026 (New Graduate Course).

Classical Chinese Novels, Fall 2026 (New Course).

Western Sinology and Ming-Qing Fiction, Spring 2026 (New Graduate Course).

Introduction to Confucian Classics, Spring 2026 (New Course).

Trinity University, San Antonio, TX

Deity Tales: East Asian Religions in Vernacular Novels to Digital Age, Spring 2025 (New Course).

Chinese Religions: Unity and Diversity, Spring 2024.

Asian Religions, Falls 2024, 2023 and Springs 2025, 2024.

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Buddhists, Bandits, and Beauties: Masterworks of Chinese Fiction from the 1500s to the Digital Age, Spring 2023.

Chinese Civilization, Fall 2022, Summers 2023, 2021, 2020, 2019.

Chinese Language Instructor for Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT), Critical Language Program, Summer 2022.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Mind-Altering Substances in the Ancient World, Spring 2023.

Yoga, Spring 2022.

Pyramids and Mummies, Spring 2022.

Worlds of Buddhism, Spring 2021.

Buddhists, Bandits, and Beauties: Masterworks of Chinese Fiction, Springs 2021, 2020, 2019.

Chinese Civilization, Falls 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017; Spring 2019.

Love in World Religions, Fall 2021.

Asian Religions, Spring 2018.

Skill Trainer and Tutor

Indiana University Bloomington, Bloomington, IN

Language Workshop, Chinese Program, The Hamilton Lugar School, Summer 2023.

Certificates in Pedagogical Training

Completed pedagogical training at Trinity University and the University of Arizona in course design, inclusive teaching, online pedagogy, student engagement, and reflective teaching practice (2018–2025).

Mentorship

Oversaw undergraduate preceptor for the course “Buddhists, Bandits, and Beauties: Masterworks of Chinese Fiction from the 1500s to the Digital Age,” Spring 2023.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCHOLARLY TRAINING

Field School Participant, Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography Field School, Rare Book School (RBS), New York City, NY, September 30–October 1, 2026, forthcoming.

Course Participant, “The History of the Book in China,” RBS, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, July 19–24, 2026.

Course Participant, “Printed Books to 1800: Description & Analysis,” RBS, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, June 8–13, 2025.

Course Participant, “The Book in Ming China: History & Analysis,” RBS, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, July 21–26, 2024.

Workshop Participant, “Dream Lab: East Asian Studies & Digital Humanities,” University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, June 5–8, 2023, online.

Workshop Participant, “The Early Modern Vernacular Novel in China and Japan,” The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, July 25–August 19, 2022.

Conference Participant, “Wang Yangming and Ming Thought,” Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, March 18–20, 2022.

Workshop Participant, FROGBEAR-Chinese Religious Text Authority (CRTA) Workshop on Reading Late Imperial Religious Texts, Université Paris Sciences et Lettres and University of British Columbia, Aussois, France, December 15–19, 2019.

Conference and Workshop Participant, Intensive Program on the History of Buddhist Ideology and Social Life 2019, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, July 1–7, 2019.

Conference and Workshop Participant, Hangzhou Buddhist Culture Project 2019, University of Arizona, Hangzhou, China, May 16–June 1, 2019.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2026 Discussant, “How Did Non-official Han Literati Imagine Alien Geographies? *Yesou puyan* 野叟曝言 and Confucian Anxieties over Heterodoxy,” Statecraft and Religion in East Asia, Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion, University of California, Berkeley, online

2026 Panel Discussant, “Transnational Chan Networks from Hangzhou,” A Buddhist Heaven on Earth: Hangzhou Buddhism and Its Historical Significance, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, online

2025 Panel Moderator, “What’s next? Careers Involving Asia,” ASIANetwork 2025 Annual Conference, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX

2025 Manuscript Reviewer, *The Journal of Chinese Literature* 中國文學學報, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

2019–2023 GPSC Travel & Research Grant Reviewer, Graduate & Professional Student Council, University of Arizona

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Mandarin Chinese: native

Classical Chinese: advanced reading

Japanese: fluent reading, writing, and speaking (JLPT N2 certificate)