

# THE EAS-PRESS

Annual Newsletter of East Asian Studies  
2021-Spring 2022

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**UC DAVIS**  
**EAST ASIAN STUDIES**

## A word from our director, Xiaoling Shu

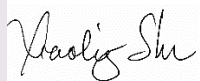
At this time of wrapping up my five-year service as the Director of the EAS program, I remain grateful. I thank my colleagues on the EAS program committee, faculty, staff, advisors, students, visiting scholars, and students for your support and enthusiasm. Your passion and encouragement have made all the hard work worthwhile. I am very proud of the amazing achievements of our program, faculty, and students; we cannot achieve these successes without our administrative staff and advisors.

Together, we went through tremendous challenges in these years. Five years ago, we started with an EAS program on probation with a more than 10% budget deficit and without a program coordinator. We experienced a program review, growing xenophobia, expanding racial hatred & violence, strained international scholarly exchange, and the deadly & long pandemic. We refused to be paralyzed by these threats. The EAS program remains resilient and vibrant. We have survived these agonies and are thriving, having achieved the following:

- More than doubled the size of the EAS major,
- Offered 2 EAS seminars, EAS 198, with EAS creative funding,
- Generated 3 donation gifts for program activities,
- Recruited 6 EAS faculty affiliates,
- Offered 7 First-Year Seminar/Aggie Connections,
- Supported 10 undergraduate research fellowships, 5 graduate research grants, and 6 faculty research and travel grants,
- Hosted 16 visiting scholars and students,
- Taught 36 students in EAS 198,
- Organized approximately 80 events: Colloquia, Faculty Lunch Series, artist demonstration and workshop, showcases of student research, and Movie Nights & Film Screenings.
- Taught 95 Students in First-Year Seminars,
- Increased publicity efforts: an online blog of the EAS major ([link](#)), news, announcements, talks, lectures, art demonstrations on [EAS Facebook](#), the EAS Newsletters, and the [program website](#),
- Engaged in community and international collaboration and outreach to train students: engaging a Fulbright scholar, showcasing the research of international scholars and students, and facilitating Asian regional group activities.

It is my pleasure to conclude my service of five years as the EAS Director. We are starting a new era under the next Director, Eddy U. I am handing over a vibrant EAS program with a substantial undergraduate major and a healthy budget surplus. I trust Eddy will lead the EAS community to bigger and better achievements.

With my warmest wishes,



Xiaoling Shu  
EAS Director 2017-2022  
Professor of Sociology

# Why study East Asian Studies?

East Asian studies explores a vibrant region that contains the second and third largest world economies, some of the longest lasting civilizations, and more than a quarter of the world's population.

Understanding East Asia today requires knowledge and appreciation of the cultural orientations, traditional practices and social forces that have shaped its diverse cultures and societies. The East Asian Studies Program delves into the depth, breadth, and diversity of human achievements to gain this understanding.

Our faculty research and teach across the disciplines including anthropology, art history, communication, economics, history, languages, literature, psychology, political science and sociology. Students will discover a flexible educational path, and because the major is interdisciplinary, they can tailor their degree to their interests and needs.

## Students have a variety of courses to explore

Beyond the core of basic courses, students choose from a wide range of more advanced and specialized courses in allied departments, such as:

- Chinese and Hong Kong cinema (in comparative literature and in cinema and digital media)
- Markets, culture, and inequality in China (in sociology)
- Science, sexuality, and society in modern China (in history)
- Japanese popular culture (in Japanese)
- Economy of East Asia (in economics)
- The Chinese Communist Revolution (in history)
- Introduction to Japanese folklore (in Japanese)
- Asian art survey (in art history)

Study abroad is strongly supported and encouraged to help ensure students understand a language and culture other than their own. Also, UC Davis offers opportunities for Summer Abroad internships in East Asia.

Several students decide to double major, combining East Asian studies with another area of study. Students majoring in other fields such as literature (such as Chinese and Japanese), economics, history, communication, international relations, sociology, and even various agricultural sciences (such as international agricultural development) often find East Asian studies relevant to their career goals or academic interests. We are especially interested in introducing appreciation of East Asia to future economists, lawyers, artists, business executives, and doctors.



## Development of skills will broaden career horizons

Students develop skills that are vital for their careers and postgraduate education, such as effective communication, social interaction, and presentation. More importantly, however, the diverse social and cultural structure and history of the East Asian region opens students' horizons, sheds light on new perspectives, cultivates critical thinking skills and nurtures critical reasoning.

Our alumni fondly remember their experiences in the East Asian Studies Program. One alumnus remarked:

*"East Asian studies gave me a chance to make lasting friendships and connections with people around the world who are interested in and pursuing careers in this field."*

Another alumna recalls:

*"Experiences in East Asian studies benefited me by further developing my research skills and intellectual curiosity. Personally, I learned that I really did not know my own Japanese culture and history when I thought/assumed I did. You can learn so much about yourself and about your own country when you are able to see them objectively. East Asian studies helped me realize this."*

## Preparation for international work and study

UC Davis graduates in our major are well prepared for careers that involve working with East Asian affairs as well as for graduate studies in any aspect of the East Asian economy, culture, and society. Common career choices include journalism, international business, government service, teaching, and social services.





# Faculty News

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Faculty publications and accomplishments from 2021-22

## David M. McCourt (Associate Professor of Sociology)

"The Changing U.S. China Watching Community and the Demise of Engagement with the People's Republic of China." *The Journal of American-East Asian Relations* 29 (2022) 47-81.

## Gabriella Montinola (Associate Professor of Political Science)

Published paper in *Political Research Quarterly*. Kohno, M., Montinola, G. R., Winters, M. S., & Kato, G. (2021). Donor competition and public support for foreign aid sanctions. *Political Research Quarterly*, 74(1), 212-227.

## Howard Chiang (Associate Professor of History)

Received a Member Fellowship from the School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advance Study for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Dr. Chiang's book, *Transtopia in the Sinophone Pacific* (Columbia University Press, 2021), has been selected as a Lammy Award in LGBTQ Studies Finalist by the Lambda Literary Foundation.

## Jingwen Zhang (Assistant Professor of Communication)

AWARDS:

Top paper award, "Ritualistic dynamics of task and social-emotional interactions predict interpersonal influence outcomes in compliance-gaining and advice-giving conversations," International Communication Association 2022 Conference, Paris, France. Award date: 05/29/2022

The Ayman El-Monhandes Young Professional Public Health Innovation Award from American Public Health Association. Award date: 10/26/2021

GRANTS:

Co-investigator: Increasing Awareness of Heart Disease in Women with an AI-Driven Conversational Agent. Computational Innovator Faculty Research Grant Award from University of California, San Francisco. Award: \$100,000. Award date: 11/01/2021

Co-Principal Investigator, "A Media Literacy Intervention to Debunk Out-of-Context Visual Posts." Facebook Foundational Integrity & Impact Research. Award: \$50,000. Award date: 09/14/2021

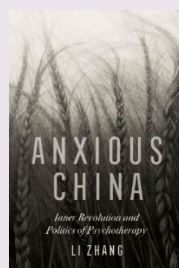
Co-Investigator, "Connecting the Dots between Social Media, Disease Modeling & Extension to Improve Preparation & Response

to vND in Southern California." United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Award: \$1,000,000. Award date: 02/01/2022

### Li Zhang (Professor of Anthropology)

Interview about her book, *Anxious China: Inner Revolution and Politics of Psychotherapy* (UC Press, 2020). Find the full interview here:

[https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/oKvUmkiUMZ8YPF3IHN\\_RbQ](https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/oKvUmkiUMZ8YPF3IHN_RbQ)



### Michael Dylan Foster (Professor of Japanese)

In 2021, Michael Dylan Foster co-edited a book entitled *Matsuri and Religion: Complexity, Continuity, and Creativity in Japanese Festivals*. He gave the keynote speech (by video) at the Opening Ceremony for the [Frontier Center for Tourism Science](#), Kanazawa University, Japan; he was elected to the [Fellows of the American Folklore Society](#); and in February 2022, his work on Japanese festivals was featured in an article in the [Akita Sakigake Shinpō](#) (newspaper).

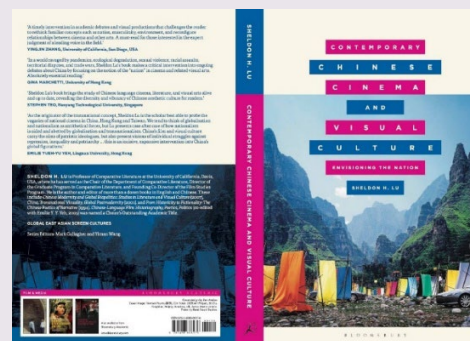
### Sheldon Lu (Professor of Comparative Literature)

A student at Claremont McKenna College in southern California conducted an interview with me about this book. See the interview here: <http://asiaexpertsforum.org/sheldon-lu-book-contemporary-chinese-cinema-visual-culture-envisioning-nation/>

Editor of a collection of essays in Chinese. Collected Works of Lingnan Scholar Lin Manhua 嶺南學人林縵華文集. Hong Kong: Joint Publishing Co.三聯書店, forthcoming 2022.

Co-editor with Jaimey Fisher. *The Modern City in World Cinema. A special issue of the journal Telos: Critical Theory of the Contemporary* no. 197 (Winter 2021). Here is the link. <https://www.telospress.com/telos-197-winter-2021-the-modern-city-in-world-cinema/>

Author of a new monograph. *Contemporary Chinese Cinema and Visual Culture: Envisioning the Nation*. London and New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2021. <https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/contemporary-chinese-cinema-and-visual-culture-9781350234185/>



## Xiaoling Shu (Professor of Sociology)

### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Yiwan Ye\* and Xiaoling Shu. 2022. "Lonely in a Crowd: Cohort Size and Well-being in the United Kingdom." *Journal of Happiness Studies*: 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-021-00495-x>

- ◇ Featured in NewScientist, MSN, Daily Mail

### BOOK CHAPTERS

Shu, Xiaoling and Yiwan Ye\*. Forthcoming. "Cohort Size, Historical Times and Life Chances: The Misfortune of Children of China's Cultural Revolution." *Handbook of Sociology of China* (Yaojun Li and Yanjie Bian eds.). Imperial College Press.

Shu, Xiaoling and Yiwan Ye\*. Forthcoming. "China, Quality of Life and Well-Being" *Encyclopedia of Quality of Life and Well-Being Research* (Filomena Maggino ed.). Springer.

### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Shu, Xiaoling. 2021. "[Transcending the Stalled Gender Revolution in the United States: American Gender Attitude in 1977-2016.](#)" Marriage and Family Section, Chinese Sociological Association. August 2021 Edition. In Chinese.

### INVITED TALKS

**2022.** "Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining in the Social Sciences."

Education & Inequality Cluster, University of Pennsylvania, February (online).

Center for Digital Humanities, Vanderbilt University, April (online).

**2022.** "Gender Ideology and Neofamilism in China: Transitions in Gender, Marriage, and Family Values."

Center for East Asian Studies, University of Pennsylvania, February (online).

**2021.** "Gender Ideology and Neofamilism in China: Transitions in Gender, Marriage, and Family Values"

- ◇ Center for Chinese Studies and Asia Pacific Center, UCLA, April (online).

- ◇ School of Sociology and Social Work, Southcentral University of Economics and Law, June (online).

- ◇ Plenary Session. 2nd International Conference on Rural-Urban Development, Central China Agricultural University December (online).

## Xiaomei Chen (Distinguished Professor of Chinese-Emerita)

*My co-edited book (with Tarryn Chun and Siyuan Liu), titled Rethinking Chinese Socialist Theaters of Reform: Performance Practice and Debate in the Mao Era, has been selected to receive the 2022 Excellence in Editing Award from the Association for Theatre in Higher Education.*

# Graduate Student News

Graduate student news from 2021-2022

## Xuesong Shao (PhD Candidate, Comparative Literature)

Published an essay on contemporary Chinese cinema in the journal "Telos" (Winter 2021) and was interviewed by "Telos" editor. [Link to Podcast](#)

## Yiwan Ye (PhD Candidate, Sociology)

PUBLICATIONS:

Yiwan Ye and Xiaoling Shu. 2022. "Lonely in a Crowd: Cohort Size and Well-being in the United Kingdom." *Journal of Happiness Studies*: 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-021-00495-x>.

♦Featured in NewScientist, MSN, Daily Mail

Shu, Xiaoling and Yiwan Ye. Forthcoming. "Cohort Size, Historical Times and Life Chances: The Misfortune of Children of China's Cultural Revolution." *Handbook of Sociology of China*, edited by Yaojun Li and Yanjie Bian. Imperial College Press.

Shu, Xiaoling and Yiwan Ye. 2021. "China, Quality of Life and Well-Being" in *Encyclopedia of Quality of Life and Well-Being Research*, Edited by Filomena Maggino. Springer.

Conference presentation:

Yiwan, Emily Searl, and Elyssa Fogleman. "Does the Affordable Care Act Reduce Disparities in Access to Healthcare for the Children of Single Mothers of Color?" Poster Presented at the Population Association of America, Austin, TX.



# East Asian Studies Awards 2022

## Faculty Winners

Michelle Yeh  
Jingwen Zhang  
Michiko Suzuki  
Li Zhang  
David McCourt  
Xiaoling Shu

## Graduate Student Winners

Chendong Pi  
Ben Fong  
Thiago De Oliveira Braga  
Zhenyu Xu  
Xuesong Shao

# Congratulations!

# 2022 Events

**UCDAVIS**  
EAST ASIAN STUDIES

East Asian Studies Speaker Series  
2021-22

## NEEDLE DIPLOMACY: ACUPUNCTURE AND THE US- CHINA RAPPROCHEMENT, 1970S- 1980S

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2022  
4PM

ZOOM LINK: [HTTPS://UCDAVIS.ZOOM.US/J/91611699207](https://ucdavis.zoom.us/j/91611699207)

**Dr. Emily Baum**

Biography: Emily Baum is an associate professor of modern Chinese history at the University of California, Irvine. She is the author of *The Invention of Madness: State, Society, and the Insane in Modern China*, which was published by University of Chicago Press in 2018. She is currently working on a history of acupuncture in China and the United States in the late twentieth century.



East Asian Studies Speaker Series 2021-22

## “Ukraine, Hong Kong and Global China: Reflections on Power and Resistance of Our Times”

Thursday April 7th, 2022  
2-3:30pm

L.J. Andrews Conference Room (SSH 2203)

**DR. CHING  
KWAN LEE**  
UCLA



Ching Kwan Lee is a professor of sociology at UCLA. She is the author of three award-winning monographs on contemporary China's turn to capitalism: *Gender and the South China Miracle: Two Worlds of Factory Women* (1998), *Against the Law: Labor Protests in China's Rustbelt and Sunbelt* (2007), and *The Specter of Global China: Politics, Labor and Foreign Investment in Africa* (2017). Her forthcoming book, titled *Hong Kong: Global China's Restive Frontier* will be released later this year by Cambridge.

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[www.eastasian.ucdavis.edu](http://www.eastasian.ucdavis.edu)

[facebook.com/ucdavisemas](https://facebook.com/ucdavisemas)

**UCDAVIS**  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

This event is co-sponsored by  
the UC Davis Department of  
Sociology

East Asian Studies Speaker Series  
2021-22

## "GENDER, MULTI-CONTEXT CHILDHOOD POVERTY, AND LONG-TERM EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN CHINA'S RURAL NORTHWEST".



**DR. EMILY HANNUM**

University of  
Pennsylvania

Emily Hannum is Stanley I. Sheerr Term Professor in the Social Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. Her research interests are poverty and child welfare, gender and ethnic stratification, and sociology of education. Current projects focus on childhood poverty in China, the impact of large-scale school consolidations on educational attainment in China, and environment and children's welfare in China and in comparative perspective. Recent publications include "Education in East Asian Societies: Postwar Expansion and the Evolution of Inequality" (2019, Annual Review of Sociology, with Hiroshi Ishida, Hyunjoon Park, and Tony Tam) and "Estimating the Effects of Educational System Consolidation: The Case of China's Rural School Closure Initiative" (2021, Economic Development and Cultural Change, with Xiaoying Liu and Fan Wang).

Thursday  
**APRIL 28TH, 2022**  
2:00-3:30pm  
L.J. Andrews  
Conference Room  
SSH 2203

**UCDAVIS**  
EAST ASIAN STUDIES

East Asian Studies Speaker  
Series 2021-22



## "(Un)making occupational gender segregation: Parents' occupational characteristics and adolescents' gendered occupational aspirations in China"



Our Guest Speaker

**Dr. Yang Hu**

Dr. Yang Hu is a Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in Sociology at Lancaster University, UK. He is also a co-lead of the 'Resilient Cities' cluster at the Future Cities Research Institute and the deputy lead of 'Data in Society' at Lancaster's Data Science Institute. Yang's research focuses on changing work-family, intimate, and gender relations in a global context. He is an editorial board member of the Journal of Marriage and Family, Sociology, and Sociology Compass. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, he has conducted research on the implications of the pandemic for social inequalities and people's well-being in a cross-national context. For more information, please visit his website: [www.yanghu.co.uk](http://www.yanghu.co.uk).

**MAY 5TH, 2022**

2:00PM PDT/10:00PM BST

ZOOM LINK:

[HTTPS://UCDAVIS.ZOOM.US/J/  
93530695457](https://ucdavis.zoom.us/j/93530695457)

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EAST ASIAN STUDIES



East Asian Studies Speaker Series 2021-22

## "THE LUXURY OF FAMILY: DIVERGING EDUCATIONAL GAPS IN FAMILY BEHAVIOR IN SOUTH KOREA"

Thursday May 19th, 2022  
2-3:30pm  
SSH 273

### Dr. Hyunjoon Park University of Pennsylvania

Hyunjoon Park is Korea Foundation Professor of Sociology and Director of the Kim Program in Korean Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2005. Park is interested in educational stratification and family in cross-national comparative perspective, focusing on South Korea and other East Asian societies. In recent years, he has studied changes in marriage, divorce, and living arrangements as well as consequences of demographic and economic trends for education, well-being, and socioeconomic outcomes of children, adolescents, and young adults in Korea. Park has published more than 70 peer-reviewed papers in leading journals including *Demography*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Social Forces*, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Annual Review of Sociology*, and *Demographic Research*, among others. He is the author of the book, *Re-Evaluating Education in Japan and Korea: De-mystifying Stereotypes* (2013 Routledge) and coauthor as a new book, *Diversity and the Transition to Adulthood in America*.



**UCDAVIS**  
EAST ASIAN STUDIES

## *Celebrate!* EAS END-OF- YEAR RECEPTION 2022

Wednesday June 1st, 2022

3-5pm

International Center Patio  
463 California Ave, Davis, CA 95616

Join us to celebrate the end of the academic year and enjoy food and drinks! We hope to see you there!

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