

SHAOLING MA

Assistant Professor of Humanities (Literature)
Yale-NUS College
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POSITIONS

July 2015- present

Assistant Professor, Humanities (Literature), Yale-NUS College, Singapore

August 2013 – June 2015

Assistant Professor, Comparative Literature and Asian Studies, Pennsylvania State University

August 2012-December 2013

Lecturer, Writing Program and Comparative Literature, University of Southern California

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, University of Southern California, August 2012

Dissertation: “The Social Life of Nations: A Comparative Study of American and Chinese Utopian Science Fiction, 1887-1906.”

M.A. in Comparative Literature, University of Southern California, 2008

M.A. in English (Literary Studies), National University of Singapore, 2006

Thesis: “The Paleonymy of the Human: The Logic of Exemplarity in Kant and Hegel.”

B.A. with Honors (2nd Upper) in European Studies and Political Science,
National University of Singapore, 2004

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming Book Manuscript (May 2021)

Duke University Press, part of the “Sign, Storage and Transmission” series.

The Stone and the Wireless: Mediating China, 1861-1906

The Stone and the Wireless is a study of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century Chinese media culture as well as a theoretical inquiry into mediation. In this book, mediation names the tensions between media forms, that is, the physical properties of communicative devices and their technical processes, and linguistic or visual forms of media—tone, metaphors, tropes, composition, visual imagery, lines, narrative voice, and so on.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Forthcoming. "Pauses, Cuts, and Static Interference: The Media Forms of Merger and Separation in Malaysia and Singapore." *positions: asia critique*, 28.4 (2020): 841-868. Print.

"Stone, Jade, Medium: A Neocybernetics New Story of the Stone (1905-1906)." *Configurations*, 26.1 (Winter 2018): 1-26. Print.

"To Compare Otherwise: Dialectics and The Work of Comparison in Structural Totality." *Mediations: Journal of the Marxist Literary Group*, 31. 1 (Fall 2017). Online. <http://www.mediationsjournal.org/articles/compare-otherwise>

"A Tale of New Mr. Braggadocio': The 'Social Brain' of Late Qing Chinese Science Fiction." *Science Fiction Studies*. Special issue on China. 40.2 (2013): 55-72. Print.

"Living and Dying by the Event." *Theory and Event* 12.1 (2009). 24 pages. Online. http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/theory_and_event/summary/v012/12.1.ma.html

"Echoing *The Politics of Friendship*." *Angelaki* 13. 3. (2008): 141-153. Print.

Peer-Reviewed Articles Under Review

"The Recursivity of Others: Remotely Sensing Identities in *The Stack* and the Digital Belt and Road." Under Review at Critical Inquiry. Submitted in July 2020.

"Can Reflexivity Stage Labor?: The Animated Medium in *One or Several Tigers*." Expected submission: Dec-2020 or January 2021 to *Diacritics*.

Book Reviews

Review for *Sinologism: An Alternative to Orientalism and Postcolonialism*. *Journal of Chinese Philosophy*. *Journal of Chinese Philosophy* 41.1 (Dec 2014): 770-774.

Review for *The Birth of Chinese Feminism: Essential Texts in Transnational Theory*. MCLC Resource Center Publication. September 2013. Online <http://mclc.osu.edu/rc/pubs/reviews/ma.htm>

"The Impossible Completion of Immanence: Review of *The Implications of Immanence* by Leonard Lawlor." *Discourse* 32.1 (2010): 141-144.

Review for "Undercover Surrealism: Picasso, Miro, Masson and the Vision of Georges Bataille 11 May 39 – July 2006, Hayward Gallery." (co-written with John William Phillips). *Theory, Culture and Society* 23. 5/6, (2006): 253-262.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Yale-NUS College, Tan Chin Tuan Chinese Research Program Grant, 01 June 2020 to 31 May 2022.

Yale-NUS College, Tan Chin Tuan China Fund, China Research Program Pocket Grant, May-July 2019

Yale-NUS College, Book Manuscript Workshop Grant, Oct 2017

Pennsylvania State University, Institute for the Arts and the Humanities Resident Scholar, Spring 2016 (rejected)

USC Graduate School Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2011-2012

USC U.S.-China Institute Graduate Student Summer Fieldwork Research to Beijing, China, 2011

Mellon Award for Dissertation Seminar in the Humanities, 2011

USC College Doctoral Fellowship, 2006-2011

National University of Singapore, Graduate Research Scholar, 2004-2006

VISITING POSITIONS

Australian National University (ANU)'s Australian Center on China in the World, Visiting Academic, May-June 2019

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Modern Language Association of America
American Comparative Literature Association
Association for Asian Studies
Society for Cinema and Media Studies
Australian National University's Australian Center on [China in the World Global Research Network](#)

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

"The Obsolescence of Labor and the Work of the Many: Futures of the Late Qing." Science Fiction Workshop, Duke-Kunshan University, Kunshan, PRC. September 29 2017.

"Literature without Worlds: Toward A Critical Utopian Discourse of the University." "The Essential Humanities": A Comparative Studies in Literature and Culture Annual Symposium: USC, March 1-2, 2012.

"Symposium in Honor of Peggy Kamuf." University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA. December 8 2017. Declined.

Conference Presentations

“Marxism and Digitality.” Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Seattle, USA. January 8-11, 2020.

“Primitive Accumulation Along the Belt and Road.” Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Seattle, USA. January 8-11, 2020.

“*One or Several Tigers: A Space Opera of Diasporic Proportions.*” Modern Language Association Annual Convention. Chicago, USA. January 4-7, 2019.

“Untamed Media: Remediations of Colonial Infrastructure in Singapore.” InterAsian Connections VI: Hanoi, Vietnam. Social Science Research Council and the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences. December 4-7, 2018.

“*Ji: The Politics of Recording Old/New Media.*” Association of Chinese and Comparative Literature Conference: Text, Media and Transcultural Negotiation. The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. 21-23 June 2017.

“Remediating the Public: No LKY, No Cry.” Special Session on Singapore and Malaysian Literature. Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Austin, Texas, USA, Jan 7-10 2016.

“Capital Comparisons; Does a Theory of Comparison Also Compare?” Association for Asian Studies, Chicago, Illinois, March 26-29 2015.

“Transmediation or Techno-Poetics in Huang Zunxian’s ‘Modern Parting’ (Jin bieli).” Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada, Jan 2015.

“The Invention of Intellectual Property in Turn-of-the-Century China.” American Comparative Literature Association, NYU, New York City, March 2014.

“Comparison: An Idea of the Decade” ACL(x) Conference, Penn State University, State College, September 2013.

“Between ‘Bossing’ and ‘Mending Heaven’: Nationalism and Imperialism in *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court* and *Xin Shitouji*.” Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Hawaii, Honolulu, April 2011.

“On the Final Coherence of Kant’s Categorical Imperative.” Derrida Seminars Translation Project, Caen, France, July 2010.

“Looking (Further) Backward: Race and Futurity in Late 19th-Century United States.” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, April 2010.

“Secret Economies: Marx and the Alchemy of Value.” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Long Beach, California, April 2009.

“Living and Dying by the Event.” Special Conference on Forty Years of *Structure, Sign and Play*. National University of Singapore, Singapore, April 2007.

“The Figure of the Swan in Plato, Hegel and *Swan Lake*.” USC English Graduate Conference, Los Angeles, March 2007.

“Echoing *The Politics of Friendship*.” Annual Derrida Colloquium on *Politics of Friendship*, University of Syracuse in London, May 2006.

“The Paleonymy of the Human in Kant.” Society and Forum for European Philosophy, Joint Conference. Reading University, UK, September 2005.

Talks

Campus talk for Literature Majors, “Stone, Jade, Medium,” Literature Works-In-Progress Series, 12 Oct 2016

Book Manuscript Workshop

The Stone and the Wireless, Media and Mediations in China, 1861-1909

21 April 2018, Yale University, New Haven, USA, with N. Katherine Hayles (Duke), Andrea Bachner (Cornell), and Jing Tsu (Yale).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Yale-NUS College

YHU 3289 Beyond China: Sinophone Literature and Culture, Semester 1, 2018

YHU 4236 New Media: Inquiries into Technics and Literature, Semester 1, 2018

YCC1111: Literature and Humanities II. Semester 2, 2016 and 2019.

YCC1111: Literature and Humanities I. Semester 1, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

YHU2232: Global Science Fiction: Their Worlds, Ourselves. Semester 1, 2015.

Assistant Professor, Penn State

CMLIT 505: “Machine, Value, Affect.” Spring 2015

CHNS 423: “The Warrior, Courtesan, and Ghost in Classical Chinese Fiction.” Fall 2014

CMLIT 400y: “Senior Seminar in Literary Theory and Criticism: Radical Mediums” Fall 2014

CMLIT 122: “Global Science Fiction: Their Worlds, Ourselves” Spring 2014

CHNS 120: “Ruptures and Continuities in Chinese Literature and Culture.” Spring 2014 and 2015

CMLIT 004: “Introduction to Asian Literatures.” Fall 2013

CHNS 421: “China Beyond China.” Fall 2013

Graduate Independent Study, Asian Studies/History. Spring 2014

Undergraduate Honors Supervision. Spring 2014

Lecturer, Department of Comparative Literature, USC

“Multilingual Encounters.” Fall 2012

Lecturer, Writing Program, USC

“Writing and Critical Reasoning.” Fall 2012

Teaching Assistant, Department of Comparative Literature, USC

“Masters of Power: Ten Ancient Lives.” Professor Vincent Farenga, Spring 2008,
2009, 2010

“Cultures of Latin America.” Professor Gabriel Giorgi, Fall 2007; Professor Roberto
Diaz, Fall 2009

“Zen and Taoism in Asian Literature.” Professor Dominic Cheung, Fall 2008

Lecture Assistant, Department of English, NUS

“Introduction to Popular Culture.” Professor John William Phillips, Spring 2006

Teaching Assistant, Department of English, NUS

“Introduction to American Film.” Professor Ryan Bishop, Fall 2005

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Service to the University

Elm College Residential Fellow, June 2016-June 2019

Member of the Committee on Diversity, Yale-NUS College, August-2018 – present

Member of the Diversity and Inclusion Working Group, Yale-NUS College, August--December
2017

Member of the Committee on Integrity and Discipline, Yale-NUS College, August 2016 –
present

Member of the Faculty Committee for the Selection of Schwarzman and Yenching Scholarships
(Center for International and Professional Experience), August 2016 – present

Member of Graduate Committee, Comparative Literature, Penn State U, August 2014 – 2016

Member of Search Committee, Comparative Literature/Asian Studies Assistant Professor Search,
Penn State U, November 2013 - February 2014.

Organizational Duties

Founding Member and Co-Investigator, Modernities and Identities Research Cluster, Yale-NUS College, Aug 2016-present

Co-organizer, "The Future of Nationalism," Annual Comparative Literature Symposium. USC, Los Angeles, February 2009.

Organizer, "The Politics of Figuration," Annual Comparative Literature Symposium, USC, Los Angeles, April 2008.

Co-organizer, "Fringe Poets Reading Series," USC, Los Angeles, Spring-Fall 2007.

Co-organizer, "Inside the Academic's Studio" Speaker Series: Disaster and Los Angeles," USC, Los Angeles, April 2008.

Co-organizer, "Inside the Academic's Studio" Speaker Series: Climate Change," USC, Los Angeles, October 2008.

External Service to Broader Field

Peer Reviewer for *Comparative Literature Studies*; *Mosaic: An Interdisciplinary Critical Journal*

Public Outreach

Invited Literary Critic for the Annual Literature Seminar for Secondary School Students by the Ministry of Education, 26 Aug 2017, NUS, Singapore

LANGUAGES

Modern Chinese (native); Classical Chinese (proficient)

English (near-native)

French (proficient)