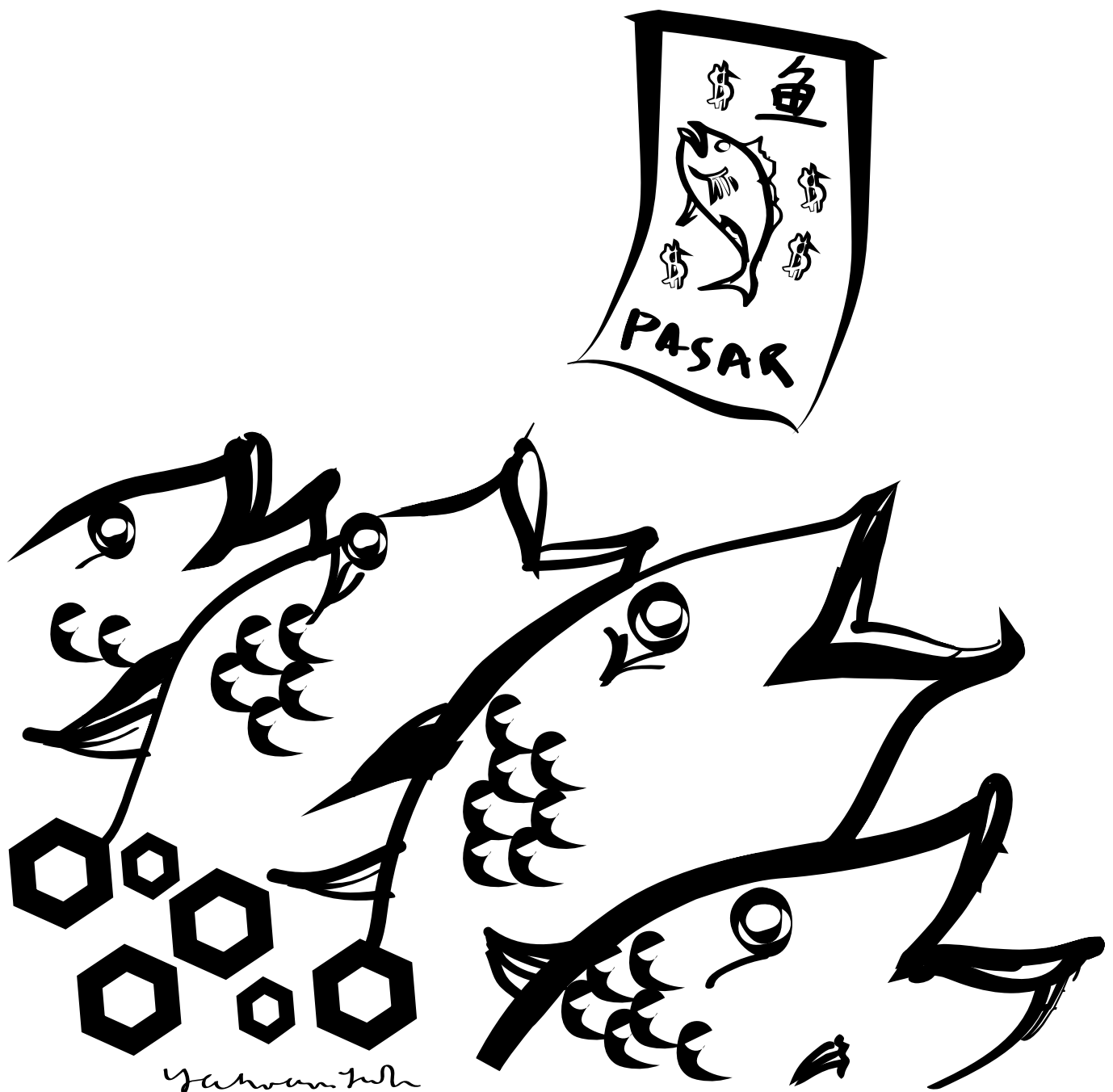


Asian humanities today: Tradition, transformation and future

Australian Society for Asian Humanities Conference

3 - 4 July 2026

The University of Sydney



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Cover artwork by Yeehwan Yeoh
<https://www.yeehwanyeoh.art/bio>

Welcome

Thank you very much for joining the Inaugural ASAH conference. It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the University of Sydney, the oldest university in Australia. This university is built on the ancestral land of the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation, who have lived in and cherished this place for learning and enquiry for many centuries, and we are very honoured to hold our first international conference in this land. Founded in 1956 under the previous name, the Australian Society for Asian Humanities has been committed to promoting the education and research of all fields of Asian humanities in Australia for the last seven decades. The challenging situation around Asian Humanities continues to confront us all in Australian and New Zealand universities. Against this wind, we hope to celebrate this historic seventieth anniversary with participants from across the world and to mark this year as a new beginning of the study of Asian humanities in Australasia. Finally, please consider publishing your work in the *Journal of the Society for Asian Humanities*, ASAH's flagship journal.

The Convenors

Josh Stenberg (University of Sydney), **Shin Takahashi** (Monash University), and **Ying Xin Show** (Australian National University)

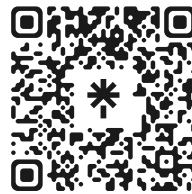
With Thanks

The conference convenors extend their heartfelt thanks to Conference Manager **Yanping Zhang** and Conference Coordinator **Minh Le**, who have played an important role in making this conference possible.

We sincerely thank our partners, the University of Sydney's **China Studies Centre** and **Sydney Southeast Asia Centre**, for their very generous support. To find out more about each Centre, follow the links below.



[China Studies Centre](#)

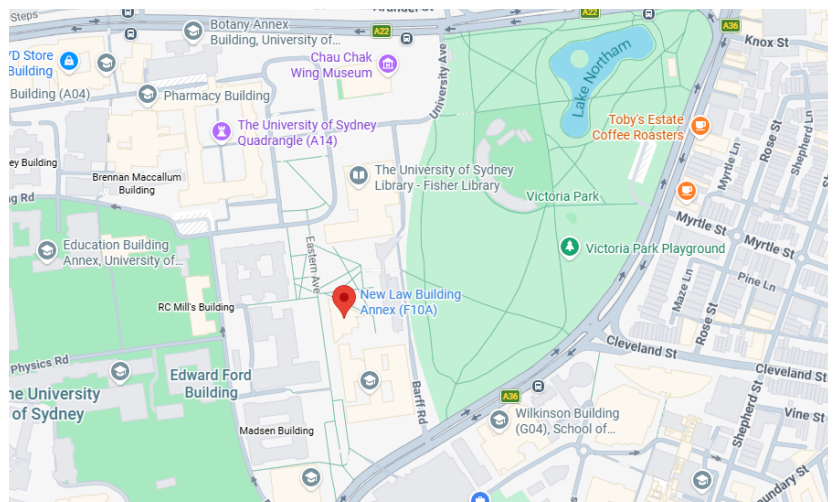


[Sydney Southeast Asia Centre](#)

Location

The ASAH Conference will take place at the **Law Building Annex (F10A)** on Eastern Avenue. For an interactive campus map showing all buildings and amenities, please visit:

<https://maps.sydney.edu.au/>



Program Overview

Friday, 3 July 2026

Time	Activity	Location
08.00 – 08.40	Registration & Coffee	Level 2, Law Building Annex Foyer
08.40 – 09.00	Opening Remarks – Mark Byron (Associate Dean Research, FASS) – David Goodman (Director, China Studies Centre) – Greg Fox (Director, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre) – Jon von Kowallis (President, ASAH)	Level 1, Lecture Theatre 101
09.00 – 10.00	Keynote 1 – Kate McGregor	Level 1, Lecture Theatre 101
10.00 – 10.20	Morning Tea	Level 1, Law Building Annex
10.20 – 11.50	Parallel A	Level 0, Level 1, Level 4
11.50 – 12.50	Lunch	Level 1, Law Building Annex
12.50 – 14.20	Parallel B	Level 0, Level 1, Level 4
14.20 – 14.40	Afternoon Tea	Level 1, Law Building Annex
14.40 – 16.10	Parallel C	Level 0, Level 1, Level 4
16.20 – 17.30	Plenary 1 – Why Study Premodern Asia Today?	Level 1, Lecture Theatre 101
18.30	Dinner	

Saturday, 4 July 2026

Time	Activity	Location
08.00 – 09.00	Registration & Coffee	Level 2, Law Building Annex Foyer
09.00 – 10.00	Keynote 2 – Sayaka Chatani	Level 1, Lecture Theatre 101
10.00 – 10.20	Morning Tea	Level 1, Law Building Annex
10.20 – 11.50	Parallel D	Level 0, Level 1, Level 4
11.50 – 12.50	Lunch	Level 1, Law Building Annex
12.50 – 14.20	Parallel E	Level 0, Level 1, Level 4
14.20 – 14.40	Afternoon Tea	Level 1, Law Building Annex
14.40 – 16.10	Parallel F	Level 0, Level 1, Level 4
16.20 – 17.20	Plenary 2 – Asian Humanities in Crisis?	Level 1, Lecture Theatre 101
17.20 – 17.30	Closing	Level 1, Lecture Theatre 101

Keynote

Katharine McGregor

University of Melbourne

Katharine McGregor is Professor of Southeast Asian History in the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies at the University of Melbourne. Kate has researched many topics related to Indonesian history and struggles with memory and violence from the colonial period through to the present. Her most recent books include the co-edited collection *Rethinking Histories of Indonesia: Experiencing, Resisting and Renegotiating Coloniality* (2025) and the sole authored book *Systemic Silencing: Activism, Memory, and Sexual Violence in Indonesia* (Critical Human Rights Series, University of Wisconsin Press, 2023) and outcome of her ARC Future Fellowship, which won the 2024 NSW Premier's General History Prize. Kate is currently working with Ana Éclair on the ARC DP funded research project Submerged Histories: Collaborative Memory Activism in Indonesia and the Netherlands. She is also a research co-lead for the University of Melbourne's History, Memory and Decolonial Futures Research Collective. Kate is a fellow of the Australian Academy of Social Sciences and Associate Dean International in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Melbourne.



Submerged Histories: Reflections on New Ways of Remembering Colonial Histories in Indonesia Today

Friday, 3 July 2026, 09.00 – 10.00, Lecture Theatre 101

Moderator: Lynda Ng (University of Melbourne)

Across settler colonies and countries representing former colonial powers there has been a renewed push since the Rhodes Must Fall and Black Lives Matter protests to re-examine colonial history and to more critically engage with colonial continuities. This has led to intensified efforts to decolonise museums, repatriate colonial heritage and projects to embrace long marginalised historical voices. But how or to what extent have such movements touched formerly colonised countries and how important is a re-examination of colonial histories in these contexts? Taking Indonesia as a case study this paper surveys how and why a range of different Indonesians have over the last decade in particular begun to engage with colonial history and colonial continuities. The paper also interrogates the extent to which colonial history or more recent histories are at the forefront of historical trauma in Indonesia and how and why a range of different Indonesian memory activists including artists, writers, journalists, photographers and community history activists engage in new ways with submerged histories. It asks what drives these efforts and how they are connected to broader a project of re-imagining a more plural and inclusive Indonesia.

Keynote

Sayaka Chatani

National University of Singapore

Sayaka Chatani (Ph.D. in International and Global History from Columbia University, 2014) is Associate Professor in the Department of History at the National University of Singapore. She is a multilingual social historian of the Japanese Empire and its aftermath, focusing on ideological mobilization, emotions, and community dynamics. Her first book, *Nation-Empire: Ideology and Rural Youth Mobilization in Japan and Its Colonies* (Cornell University Press, 2018; recipient of the *Choice Outstanding Academic Title Award* 2019), compares the experiences and mindsets of young men under imperial mobilization in the countryside of northern Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Okinawa. Her second book, *A Nation Within: North Korean Zainichi in Postimperial Japan* (Stanford University Press), delves into the internal dynamics of the pro-North Korean *zainichi* community and proposes a new perspective to conceptualize postwar Japan as “postimperial” Japan.



Project Korea: Zainichi's Politics of Decolonization in Postwar Japan

Saturday, 4 July 2026, 09.00 – 10.00, Lecture Theatre 101

Moderator: Shin Takahashi (Monash University)

How did Korean minorities pursue decolonization while remaining on their former colonizer's soil after August 1945? Drawing on hundreds of oral histories and extensive archival research, this talk examines the worldview and political strategies of leftist Koreans in postwar Japan. In occupation-era Japan, three forces converged: the grassroots energy of Korean residents, the systematic hostility of American and Japanese authorities, and the ideological magnetism of North Korea. Together, these forces propelled a majority of *zainichi* Koreans to construct a state-like organization and form a nation-like community within Japan's borders. This leftist Korean movement became the central force shaping *zainichi* society's internal dynamics while simultaneously (and paradoxically) reinforcing Japanese conservative hegemony. The decolonization project undertaken by these Koreans generated profound implications across multiple domains: their formation of diaspora-ness, the politicization of everyday life, the transformation of family and gender relations, their distinctive mental geographies, and the course of Japanese leftist activism and one-party dominance. By centering these Korean experiences, we unlock critical new frameworks to examine postwar Japan, East Asia, and beyond.

Plenary

Why Study Premodern Asia Today?

Friday, 3 July 2026, 16.20 – 17.30, Lecture Theatre 101

This plenary examines the current state of premodern and classical Asian studies. Bringing together leading scholars in philology, literature, history, philosophy and archaeology, the panel rethinks why and how Asia's deeper pasts matter today. Emerging from, yet critically reshaping, the legacy of 'Oriental Studies', scholars of premodern Asia have transformed the field while continuing to face persistent questions about its contemporary relevance. Why study ancient Asian texts and societies in the present? How can premodern Asian pasts inform our understanding of human values, identity formation, global history and social change? The plenary also addresses key challenges facing the field, including digital transformations, the demands of linguistic and empirical training, and the development of new approaches to studying Asia's pasts.

Moderator:

Josh Stenberg (University of Sydney)

Panelists:

Alison Betts (University of Sydney)

Ruth Gamble (La Trobe University)

Esther Klein (Australian National University)

Chara Scroope (University of Queensland)

Jarrah Sastrawan (Australian National University)

Matthew Stravros (University of Sydney)

Plenary

Asian Humanities in Crisis?

Saturday, 4 July 2026, 16.20 – 17.20, Lecture Theatre 101

This closing plenary brings together leading scholars of Asian humanities in Australia for an open and critical dialogue on the state, significance and future of the field. More than a decade after the Gillard government issued the 'Australia in the Asian Century' White Paper, Asia's centrality to global humanities scholarship is undeniable. Yet this same period has also witnessed growing pressures on support, resources and interest in Asian humanities research and education. Is the Asian humanities field indeed in crisis, and if so, what does this crisis reveal about broader transformations in the humanities and in Asian studies today? How can the critical study of Asia be renewed and strengthened as a vital source of knowledge, practice and insight? How might we rethink the role of Asian humanities in addressing urgent contemporary challenges such as environmental crises, geopolitical tensions, cultural conflict and rapid developments in AI?

Moderator:

Minerva Inwald (University of Melbourne)

Panelists:

Jumana Bayeh (Macquarie University)

Andy Jackson (Monash University)

Kate McGregor (University of Melbourne)

Taylor Sherman (UNSW Sydney)

Adrian Vickers (University of Sydney)

Parallel A

Friday, 3 July 2026, 10:20 – 11:50

A.01: Subordinate Stages?: Chinese Performance in Colonial and Postcolonial Peripheries – Room 446

Chair: Tove Bjoerk

Regional Accents and New Sounds: An Analysis of Chinese Opera Programming on Singapore's Rediffusion Radio

Chia Yi Lin

Sacred to Secular: Rethinking Potehi in Modern Indonesia

Olivia

Chinese performance in Colonial South Australia

Josh Stenberg

Tracing Overseas Taiwanese Opera in the Japanese Colonial Period via "Ryoken"

Hsin-hsin Tsai

A.02: New Frontiers of Literary Studies in Taiwan: Gender, Sinophone, and New Media – Room 444

Chair: Shih-Lung Lo

"Wandering in the Garden, Waking from a Dream": A Sinophone Investigation into a Pai Hsien-yung Archive

Chih-wei Chung

Reading Prostitute Bodies: Taiwanese Women's Writing, Gender Studies, and the Prostitution Debate

Shr-tzung Shie

Characterhood as Literary Mediation: VTubers and the Future of Trans-Asian Literary Studies

Wei-Chih Wang

A.03: Contemporary Sinophone Literature and Theatre – Room 105

Chair: Ivan Alekseev

Making of the Current: Literary Practices of Xiron Poetry Club in the Light of New Media

Ivan Alekseev

Beyond the Script: What the World Sinophone Drama Competition Does in Reflecting and Reshaping Sinophone Cultural-Political Landscapes

Katherine Hui-ling Chou

Queer Migration in Yiyun Li's and Li Kotomi's Works

Akinori Inoue

The Genre Transformation of Chinese Science Fiction in the 21st Century

Xiao Liu

A.04: Governance and Ritual in Imperial China – Room 100

Chair: David Goodman

Crowns Without Sovereignty: The Bestowal of Prestige Titles in Ming-Mongol Relations

Honggeerzhuolan

The Inner Mind and Outer Form: Early Confucian Views on Ritual from the Perspective of the Book of Songs

Shi Liang

Paintings Can Complain: Identity Dilemmas and Artworks

Shao Yihang

A.05: Christianity in East Asia – Room 442

Chair: Daniel Canaris

Translation Heuristics for Premodern Philosophical Texts: The Case of Translating Trichiliocosm

Samuel Khoo

Sweet potatoes, yūkō trees and rocks: Environmental Hidden Christian heritages in the Gotō Islands

Gwyn McClelland

The Anglo-Portuguese Contest over Extraterritorial Rights in Macao via the James Summers Incident

Lok Paul Poon

A.06: Women in Contemporary China – Seminar Room 107

Chair: Matthew Tyne

From Jiaoqi to Zhishi LV: Moral Language and Feminist Belonging in Contemporary China

Zhenqi Xu

Translating Bite Back with Intersectional Feminist Ethics in a Highly Censored Mainland Chinese Context

Yi Zhang

A.08: Digital Technology – Room 102

Chair: Brangwen Stone

From Technology to Style: The Trace Machine and the Technomorphic Foundations of Anime

Davide Benvenuti, Kania Arini Sukotjo

Playing Alternative Histories: A Critical Analysis of the Three Kingdoms Games

Chia-rong Wu

Translators as Gatekeepers: A Case Study of AI-Assisted Chinese Opera Script Translation

Shuang Xiao

A.09: Food and Ethnicity – Room 020

Chair: Vivien Nara

The Root-Seeking of Taste and the Rural Imaginary: Food Writing in Chinese Root-Seeking Literature of the 1980s

Ming Cao

Princess, Expatriate Wife, Migrant Writer: Thai Cookbooks as Culinary Contact Zones of the Cold War Era

Janit Feangfu

Fermenting Heritage: Sour Soup, Microbes, and the Making of Ethnic Tradition in Southwest China

Jieling Yang

A.10: Women in Contemporary China and Vietnam – Room 022

Chair: Guo Jia

From Secret Sisterhood to Cultural Soft Power: The Political Journey of Nüshu in Contemporary China

Anqi Peng, Kai Yang

Tradition and Transformation in Vietnamese Women's Academic Leadership: An IPA Photo-Elicitation Study

Jane Phuong

"I'm not a feminist, but..." Hegemonic Femininities and Women's Autonomy Revisited in Urban China

Xuyi Zhao

A.11: Legends and Festivals – Room 028

Chair: **Indeewari Galagama**

Reconfiguring Da Yu: Heritage Practices, Disrupted Traditions, and the Making of Chinese Modernity

Zhengbing He

The Vibrant Colours of Myanmar Pagoda Festivals

Pan Htwa Myo Sein

From Pure Land to Bamboo Grove: The Indigenization of the Crane Image in Chinese Buddhism

Huize Wang

On the Evolution and Causes of Nanping's 'Two Swords Becoming a Dragon' Folk Legend

Xiangkang Xie

A.12: Australasian Diasporas I – Room 024

Chair: **Yu Tao**

Sound/Waves: Listening to Chauka and Chauka, Please Tell Us the Time

Scarlette Nhi Do

A focused Ethnography and Narrative Inquiry of Chinese Christian Immigrant Mothers in New Zealand

Qian Liu

Playing the Game: Migrant Platform Riders, Class Displacement, and Masculinities in Urban Australia

Tingting Liu

New Roots of Asian & Pasifika Masculinities

Maryam Raza

Parallel B

Friday, 3 July 2026, 12:50 – 14:20

B.01: Circulating Text, Performance, and Knowledge in and out of China – Room 446

Chair: **Josh Stenberg**

Late Qing and Republican Encounters with European Exploration Texts on the Yunnan-Burma Region

Jie Guo

Translating Shakespeare through Theatre: RSC Shakespeare Folio Translation Project in China

Wei-Yu Lin

1829: The Pinnacle and Period of John Francis Davis's Translations

Shih-Pe Wang

B.02: Beside and Beneath: Minor Networks in Asian Art History – Room 444

Chair: **Adrian Vickers**

Friendship and Reciprocity: Minor Networks in Asian International Exhibitions, 1980s–Present

Yvonne Low

Art from Life, Art for Responsibility: Tsering Dolma and the Unseen Tibetan Female Body

Ruihan Ma

The Feminist Practice of Border-crossing and Demilitarisation in Jane Jin Kaisen's Apertures/ Specters/ Rifts (2016)

Shim Soo-Min

Multicosmological Vanguardism in 1920s–30s Penang

Simon Soon

B.06: Forming Disciplines – Room 107

Chair: Emily Wilcox

The Overlooked Lands-Between: Creative Writing Discipline in China's "New Humanities Construction"

Zhiyuan Chen

Arthur L. Sadler (1882–1970): Reframing a Singular Voice in the Formation of a Discipline

Anna Gubinskaya

Classicists and Revolutionaries: Historical Contexts for the Asian Humanities in Australia

Lewis Mayo

B.07: Third World Humanities: History of academic institutionalisation in Asia (1) – Room 440

Chair: Ying Xin Show

This double-session roundtable seeks to reflect on the history of academic institutionalisation across various humanities fields in Asia, some of which might be framed as 'area studies' in Western contexts. We are particularly interested in an inter-referencing approach that examines how academic fields in Asia have been shaped by colonial and imperial histories, movements of decolonisation, the Cold War, and Third World discourse. Each presenter will examine a field of study, an academic department, or an intellectual collective that has become institutionalised and embedded within contemporary academic practice. We are interested in the founding of these fields or institutions within their social, political, and cultural contexts; their development over the past century; and the ways in which they define humanities studies in the Third World, including the possibilities and challenges they reveal. This roundtable aims to rethink how people and intellectuals in Asia imagine and practice 'humanities studies' as the basis for the academic study of their own societies.

Chiyo Wakabayashi (Okinawa University), Jiwoon Baik (Seoul National University), Wondam Paik (Sungkonghoe University), Xiaoming Luo (Shanghai University), Yi-hung Liu (Independent), Ngoi Guat Peng (Sultan Idris Education University, Malaysia), Ying Xin Show (Australian National University)

B.08: Digital Transformations of Asian Tradition – Room 102

Chair: Daniel Canaris

Ruist Embodiment in Digital Transition

Jordan Martin

Translation-Brief-Informed Prompting for Reader-Oriented ChatGPT Health Translation

Xing You

Integrating Confucianism into the 'Digital Court' Reform in China: Some Initial Observations

Fang Yuan, Bin Li

B.09: Queer Lives – Room 020

Chair: Tingting Liu

Skilled Negotiation and Flexible Acceptance in the 'Coming Out' Process: Case Studies of Disabled Tongzhi

Shanshan Ouyang

Chinese Queer Expression: In Danger Yet Inexorable

Xi Tian

From "Butterfly" to "Terrorist": Queer Outbidding and Moral Backlash in Sri Lankan Political and Religious Discourse

Visakesa Chandrasekaram

B.10: Transnational Gender Politics – Room 022

Chair: Vivien Nara

Korean Popular Culture and the Chinese Young Men's Body Aesthetics

Haiqing Li

Embodying Feminism Out Of The Place: Australian University Classrooms as Transnational Feminist Space

Meihua Lu

Male Influencers and the Politics of Empowerment on Chinese Short Video platform Douyin

Keting Zhang

B.11: Who Made Order at Sea? Local Agency, Practices, and Relationships in Asian Waters – Room 028

Chair: Jarrah Sastrawan

Negotiating the Sea from the Land: Mughal Maritime Governance in Muchalka of 1696

CAO Kexin

Local Agency and the Limits of Tokugawa Resource Control: The Rise of the Kelp Trade (Late 17th – Mid 19th Centuries)

LI Haolong

Mercenaries, Pirates, and Merchants: The Malay "Maritime Zomia" in Southern Vietnam (1700–1840)

Boyu Xia

The Political Ecology and Family Networks on the East Coast of the Malay Peninsula in the 17th Century

Zhou Yancheng

B.12: Contemporary Asian literature and Thought – Lecture Theatre 024

Chair: Jiva Lamsal

Finding Mahabharatan character compeers in contemporary Indian literature through the lens of dharma

Ariana Haghighi

Byung-Chul Han's Construction of East Asian Aesthetics and His Creative Misreading

Pei Shu

Representations of Rural Migrant Women and Gendered Social Inequality in Sheng Keyi's Fiction

Ruttapond Swanpitak

Parallel C

Friday, 3 July 2026, 14:40 – 16:10

C.01: Pedagogy and Positionality – Room 446

Chair: Jane Phuong

Teaching, Technology, and Ethos: Humanities-Based Approaches to Education Governance in Indonesia

Billy Fariman, Amelinda Kusumaningtyas

Teaching Whiteness to White Students in Australian Universities: An Autoethnography

Jia Guo

The Tripartite Nation: Chinese International Tertiary Students' (Re)imagination of Hip-Hop Music in Australia

Guangbin Shi

C.02: Exploring the Possibilities of Anthropological Archival Studies with Minamata – Room 444

Chair: Ananya Roy

Noriaki Tsuchimoto and Photo-elicitation: On Photographing Memorial Portraits of Minamata Disease Victims

Chikara Iijima

(Re)Vitalizing Minamata Photography: Archiving, Workshops, and New Channels of Utterance

Yumi KAMURO

Sharing Experiences Through Audiovisual Materials

Kentaro Shimoda

C.03: Australasian Diasporas II – Room 105

Chair: Mark Byron

Vietnam War Diasporas between Asia and Australia: A Humanities Perspective

Hayeon Lee

Translation, Translanguaging, and Social Cohesion: Multilingual Group Translation and the Poetry of Badr Shākir al-Sayyāb

Samuel Reichman

Chronotopes of return: Envisioning về quê ('going home') among Vietnamese boat refugees in the diaspora

Angela Wong

How would you tell our story? The Robe Landing Narrative and the Making of Modern Chinese Australian Identity

Yangbeiyao Yu

C.04: Chinese Philosophy – Room 100

Chair: Luke Fischer

Truth at the Boundaries: Wang Chong on Han Beliefs

Esther Sunkyung Klein

Confucian and Legalist Justifications for Punishment

Tiantong Meng

Reframing Non-Deductive Reasoning in Confucian Political Philosophy

Junbo Tao

The Mutual Constitution of Body (身 shen) and Heart-Mind (心 xin) in the Zhouyi

Baolin Wu

C.05: Late Imperial China and the World – Room 442

Chair: Jie Guo

The Ming Dragon's Controlled Dance: Yuegang and the Asian Tradition of "Limited Globalization"

Junhao Shen

Strategic Curiosity: Late Qing China Intelligence Gathering and Diplomatic Engagement with New Zealand

Guosheng Xie

Gunpowder, Faith, and Confucianism: Ming–Portuguese Military Collaboration in Seventeenth-Century China

Jingzhen Xie

Living Bridges, Enduring Houses: The Transnational Careers and Family Inheritance of Xu Zongshun and Lee Chu

Peng Zhang

C.06: Postwar PRC Governance and Culture – Room 107

Chair: Jon von Kowallis

Constructing the Socialist "New Woman": CCP Propaganda and Gendered Citizenship in Early PRC

Siyue Liu

"Xiang" versus "Cun": The Dispute over Land Distribution Units and the Shaping of Class Subjectivity in the Central Soviet Area

Zifan Wang

C.07: Third World Humanities: History of academic institutionalisation in Asia (2) – Room 440

Chair: Ying Xin Show

This double-session roundtable seeks to reflect on the history of academic institutionalisation across various humanities fields in Asia, some of which might be framed as 'area studies' in Western contexts. We are particularly interested in an inter-referencing approach that examines how academic fields in Asia have been shaped by colonial and imperial histories, movements of decolonisation, the Cold War, and Third World discourse. Each presenter will examine a field of study, an academic department, or an intellectual collective that has become institutionalised and embedded within contemporary academic practice. We are interested in the founding of these fields or institutions within their social, political, and cultural contexts; their development over the past century; and the ways in which they define humanities studies in the Third World, including the possibilities and challenges they reveal. This roundtable aims to rethink how people and intellectuals in Asia imagine and practice 'humanities studies' as the basis for the academic study of their own societies.

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C.08: East Asian Platforms – Room 102

Chair: Shin Takahashi

The relationship between Korean media consumption and cultural identity among Korean diaspora in Australia

Chloe Kim

Japanese Jinbun (humanities) influencers in the Platform Age: Centred on Miyake Kaho's YouTube Channel

Rumi Sakamoto

Looking North from the Global South: Engaging with North Korea on RedNote

Xiaofei Yang, Shiyang Zhu

C.09: Sinophone Cold War – Room 020

Chair: Jen-Hao Walter Hsu

From Shanghai to Nanyang: The Transregional Rural in Liu Yichang's novels

Jiayi Lu

Revisiting Hong Kong's 1966 Riots: A Focus on Elsie Elliott-Tu

Alexia Rutkowski

Rescaling Modernism in Sinophone Cold War Asia: The Case of Chao Foon

Nicholas Y. H. Wong

C.10: Ecology and Humanism in Chinese Literature – Room 022

Chair: Brangwen Stone

Ding Ling's Miss Sophia as Chinese Superfluous Woman

Keru Cai

Understanding Ecological Entropy in Shen Congwen's River Narratives

Chun Cheng

Evolution of the Classic: An Intertextual Analysis of The Legend of the White Snake

Shuhan Li

C.11: Trans-Asian Visualities: Empire, Cold War Mobility, and Transmedia World-Making – Room 028

Chair: Timothy Laurie

The Failed Imperial Gaze: Natural Imagery and Southern Imagination of Taiwan Japanese Colonial Period

Chi-Hsin Chen

Transmedia Homemaking in Asia: Woman and Atypical Family in Taiwan New Cinema

Hsin-Chin Hsieh

Sci-Fi Cold War Cinema in Motion: Trans-Asia Planetary Mobility in Taiwanese-language Manga Film

Wan-Jui Wang

C.12: New Directions in Asian/Australian Studies – Room 024

Chair: Tandee Wang

Asian Australian studies emerged in the late 1990s Hanson era as both anti-racist critique and an exploration of the cultures, history and politics of Australians of Asian descent. Rooted in poststructural and postcolonial thought, the field also troubled the ontological stability of "Asian" and "Australian" as categories, and the mutual exteriority often implied by their conjunction. Asian Australian studies is neither a pan-ethnic amalgamation of studies of "Asian" peoples in Australia, nor simply studies of Australia's entanglements with the "Asian region." At its most capacious, it theorises the figuration of Asia/ns in Australia in its historical specificity, connecting this to broader processes of racialisation, immigration, colonialism, and capitalism. Yet difficulties of institutionalisation have stymied its critical potential. This roundtable asks: what does or could Asian Australian studies offer your work? How might its dialogue with kindred formations—Inter-Asia Cultural Studies, Global Asias, Sinophone Studies, Transpacific Asian American Studies—enable new theorisations? How would centring the slippage of Asian/Australian provide a new way of thinking "Asian humanities" in Australia?

Tisha Dejmamee (University of Technology Sydney), Alanna Kamp (Western Sydney University), Vivien Nara (The University of Sydney), Lynda Ng (The University of Melbourne), Sarah Yeung (The University of Western Australia)

Parallel D

Saturday, 4 July 2026, 10:20 – 11:50

D.01: Taiwan (and) Theatre – Room 446

Chair: Shih-Lung Lo

Tracing Practices and Interpreting Traditions: Modern Transformations of Liyuanxi in Taiwan

Wan-Yi Liu

Tradition in Transformation: Rewriting Classics, Translating Cultures in GuoGuang's Princess and Her Magic Fan

Shih-Lung Lo

Taiwan Soft-Power on the Mainland: the Activities of Playwright, Director, and Dramaturge Lai Shengchuan in Mainland China

Jon von Kowallis

D.02: Culture and Governance in China – Room 444

Chair: Jen-Hao Walter Hsu

Chinese Landscape and National Image: The 1935–36 Royal Academy Exhibition

Kaiyue Yu

Governing By Numbers: Educational Statistics and the Mass Education Movement in China (1923 – 1937)

Xian Zhang

Culture as Propaganda: State-Sponsored Performances at the Canton Fair under China's Planned Economy, 1957–1991

Jingxuan Guo

D.03: Modern Taiwanese Poetry Across Asia: Transcultural Circulations and Reimaginings – Room 105

Chair: Josh Stenberg

Visuality, Surrealism, and Subject Formation: An Intertextual Interpretation of Pi-Kuo's Poetry and Illustrations

Shu-Ling Horng

Crossing the Channel and Local Transformation: From Sunshine Collection to Philippine Sinophone Literary Forum

Chien-Chou Hou

The Embodiment of Voice: Musical Translation and the Female Auditory Subject

Chien-Chih Liu

Visuality, Mediality, and Translation: Rethinking the Poetics of Yu Kwang-chung

Shu-wei Tu

D.04: Daoist and Confucian Texts in Transmission – Room 100

Chair: Yu Sang

Recovering the Female Emperor: How Later Male Courts Reshaped and Obscured Her Histories

Zhonghui Han

The Construction and Development of the Ideal Personality in Pre-Qin Daoism: A Study Based on Laozi and Zhuangzi

Xintong Jiang

Research on the Textual Generation and Transmission of Zhu Xu's Deeds Recorded in the Zizhi Tongjian

Mingrui Li

How to Promote the Modern Transformation of Confucian Classic Interpretation: A Discussion Centered on Ma Yifu

Wenbo Yu

D.05: Missionary Translations of the Confucian Classics and their European Reception – Room 442

Chair: Benjamin Penny

Mencius and Ethical Humanism

Daniel Canaris

The Translation and Reception of The Great Learning

Yixu Lu

The First Three Translations of the Zhongyong published in Europe

Thierry Meynard

Early Modern Reception and Polemical Uses of the Chinese Morality Book Precious Mirror for Enlightening the Mind in Europe

Junyang Ng

Plants of Providence: Jesuit Natural Theology and the Translation of Chinese Flora

Sophie Ling-chia Wei

D.06: Doing Modern Chinese and Overseas Chinese Histories Beyond the Archives – Room 107

Chair: Yu Tao

This roundtable explores how students of modern Chinese and overseas Chinese histories may move beyond a narrow reliance on formal state archives, and what such a shift implies for our paradigms, methods, and ethics. While historical records generated by official collecting institutions remain important, they are produced within a state-centred logic, often silent on the everyday lives, emotions, and agency of individuals and communities. Bringing together scholars working on diverse episodes and aspects of modern Chinese and overseas Chinese histories, this session reflects on a wider repertoire of sources, including, for example, community-based knowledge and collections, family stories, and materials from the art and collectibles markets. Panellists will discuss, through their ongoing research projects, how sources beyond the official archives can reshape research questions and narrative forms and how collaboration with communities, descendants, and practitioners can both enrich and complicate historical interpretation. This roundtable is explicitly reflexive, inviting panellists to share concrete research experiences—successes, challenges, and unresolved dilemmas—as a way of thinking through broader methodological and theoretical questions. It should be of interest to scholars working with marginalised histories, community partners, and unconventional archives in Asian Studies and related fields.

Emily Wilcox (William & Mary), Minerva Inwald (The University of Melbourne), Yu Tao (University of Western Australia)

D.07: Religion and Geopolitics – Room 440

Chair: Shin Takahashi

A Humanistic Perspective on “Look East” Policy in Sino-Arab Interaction within the Context of the New Silk Road

Riham Dishesh

Archipelago of Solidarity: Muslim Internationalism from Southeast Asia during the Sixties

Ariff Hafizi bin Mohd Radzi

Pakistan’s Governance of Religious Tourism: Building Pathways for Religious Inclusivity and Interfaith Conviviality

Muhammad Sohail

Catholic Missionary Constructions of the Ancient–Modern Confucian Divide through the Qin Book Burning

Kang Li

I am Worshipping Common Sense: Scientisation and Modernist Discourse in Won Buddhism

Sergei Sevriugin

D.08: Students and Youth in Asia – Room 102

Chair: Yeo Min Hui

Stratified Struggles: Capital Disparities and the Uneven Terrain of Indonesian Student Activism

Ben Laksana

The Exclusionary Edge: Social Capital, Adat, and the Costs of Non-Participation for Youth Success in Rural Java

Rara Sekar Larasati

Turning Coarse into Cool: Linguistic Innovation in Thai Youth Activism

Chavalin Svetanant

D.09: Contemporary Sri Lanka – Room 020

Chair: Simon Soon

Material Memory and Post-Memory: How Sri Lankan Families Resist Historical Erasure Through Objects and Images

Indeewari Galagama

A Collective Journey Through Uncertain Waters in the Dry Zone Agrarian Communities of Sri Lanka

Malathi Rambodagedara

“Aren’t You Ashamed of Yourself?”: Queer Sri Lankans and Lajja Baya Across Stage, Screen, and Street

Matthew Tyne

D.10: Climate and Governance – Room 022

Chair: Adrian Vickers

Rethinking Climate Displacement through South Asian Humanities: A Multi-Perspective Framework

Aruna Karki

Historical Grievances and Community Resilience during the Post-Productivist Transition

XiaoLin Li

Reconstructing Knowledge Pathways of Climate Adaptation in Asian Rural Communities

Bingnan Li

D.11: East Asian Cinema – Room 028

Chair: Timothy Laurie

The Everyday as Alternative History: Autobiographical Resistance in Lou Ye’s *An Unfinished Film*

Kaihui Bi

Rectifying the Narrative Logic: Violence and Social Pressure in *Parasite* versus *No Other Choice*

Minyu Tian

Musical Modernity in Cold War Asia: Mandopop, Media Technologies, and Urban Experience in Taiwan Cinema

Nien-ying Wang

Female Agency in Contemporary East Asian Screen

Yu-Ting Hung

D.12: Contemporary Art – Room 024

Chair: Minerva Inwald

Designing Participatory Infrastructure: Art Finance Innovation (AFI) and a Decolonial Turn in Asian Humanities

Chloe Yan Li

A story of Bian, a Tibetan cross-border trader

Bow Wu

Reimagining the Wall: Mural Art and Projection Mapping in Australia and Japan

Zilia Zara-Papp

Parallel E

Saturday, 4 July 2026, 12:50 – 14:20

Building an Academic Career in Asian Studies: Australia and Beyond – Room 101

Chair: Leo Barry

This roundtable brings together academics at different career stages to discuss what it means to build a life in Asian Studies today. Speakers will reflect on their own trajectories in Australia and abroad, offering honest perspectives on navigating the academic job market, securing funding, and sustaining research in an era of institutional uncertainty. The session also addresses emerging challenges including AI and cuts to higher education funding. With time for Q&A and informal networking, the roundtable is designed as a practical and candid space for postgraduate students to engage directly with those who have walked the path before them.

Sayaka Chatani (National University of Singapore), Wayan Jarrah Sastrawan (Australian National University), Tove Bjoerk (Saitama University), Andy Jackson (Monash University)

E.01: Ethnicity and Language – Room 446

Chair: Maryam Raza

Family Multilingualism and Language Policy among Ethnic Minorities in Hong Kong

Jette Hansen Edwards

How Geographic Isolation Amplifies Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) Risk for Chinese Migrants Living in Regional Australia

Kangshu (Kylie) Hu

From Civic Engagement to Political Participation: A Case Study of Sri Lankan Migrants in Aotearoa, New Zealand

Sandesh Perera, Timothy Fadgen

Archipelagic Counter-Archives: Austronesian Ocean-Kinships from Taiwan to Aotearoa in the Chthulucene

Ananya Roy

E.02: World Literature and China? – Room 444

Chair: Mark Byron

Seeing as the Cultural Other: Illustrations in Chiang Yee's Travel Books in the Twentieth Century

Xiaodan Duan

Reconsidering Global Crime Fiction: Chinese Gong'an and Its Early East Asian Circulation

Sabrina Yuan Hao

East as Modernist Method: W. Somerset Maugham's Chinese and Indian Philosophies

Ray Zhou

E.03: Performance in Southeast Asia – Room 105

Chair: Josh Stenberg

Women's Intercultural Networks in Inter-Asian People's Theatre

Chaomei Chen

The ambiguity of the category "alus" and its opposing concepts in Balinese traditional theatre

Kaori Fushiki

From Chinese-Indonesian Soundscape to Betawi Symbol: The Cultural Politics of Gambang Kromong

Ziyunfei Li

The Global Community of Tamil Film Dance: The Case of Singapore and Malaysia

Kristen Rudisill

E.04: Hagiographies in Song Daoism – Room 100

Chair: Esther Klein

Where did the rest of Gaodao zhuan go and can we retrieve it? An attempt at methodological innovation

Benjamin Penny

What is left of Gaodao zhuan and why does it matter?

Benjamin Penny, Nathan Woolley

How did the tradition of Daoist biography adapt to changing religious realities?

Nathan Woolley

E.05: Social and national belonging in mid 20th century Korea, Australia and Japan – Room 442

Chair: Rumi Sakamoto

Til death us do part: inclusion and belonging through Sydney Nikkei marriages 1891–1951

Sophie Constable

Nationness, Disability and Total War: Evacuation, Exclusion and Belonging at Fujikura Gakuen in Japan

Yasuko Hassall Kobayashi

Parallax Visions: Re-reading Arasaki Moriteru's Okinawa as a Catalyst for Peace in East Asia

Shinnosuke Takahashi

E.06: East Asian Thought and the Modern – Room 107

Chair: Ngoi Guat Peng

From Self-Truth to Pragmatism: The Search for Authenticity in the American 1960s and Contemporary China

Ziyi Fan

"Men of Lofty Ideals Sacrificing for Noble Causes at All Time" and Chen Yinke's Discourse on Confucian Liberalism

Wang Gang

Mathematical World Construed in the Nine Chapters on the Mathematical Art

Yingyu Wang

Humanistic Buddhism in Modern China: Overlooked Voices

Yu Sang

E.07: Cold War Affects, Everyday Governance, and Queer Intimacies in Inter-Asian Contexts – Room 440

Chair: Yi-hung Liu

Cold War Domesticity and the Political Economy of Housewifization in Postwar Taiwan

Kris CHI

An Analysis of the 1980 Paris Conference on "Chinese Literature during the War of Resistance against Japan"

Yu-Wen Sung

Post-/Cold War Geo-affective Reading: Sex/Gender Trauma and Reparative Ethics in Ghost Town

Meng-Che Tsai

E.08: Southeast Asian Literature and Film – Room 102

Chair: Guo-Quan Seng

'Superintendent Hnin Maung' stories by Min Thein Kha – A multicultural detective story born in the socialist era of Myanmar

Yuri Takahashi

Merdeka's "new-style" Malay films: Rethinking the transitional period in Malay film history

Yeo Min Hui

Pride and Prejudice: King Vajiravudh's Literary Appropriations as Siam's First World War Propaganda

Faris Yothasamuth

E.10: Heritage and Identity in China – Room 022

Chair: Jon von Kowallis

An Exploration of the Museum Cultural Products from the Perspective of Visitor Aesthetic Experience

Tianyi Chen

Villagers' Religious Life as Revealed by Ming-Qing Temple Inscriptions in Jiangsu-Zhejiang Villages

Kai Wang

Temple, Smoke, and Shifting Signs: A Generational Geosemiotic Study of Identity-Making in the Chaoshan Mazu Temple

Mingxun Xu

E.11: Food and Games – Room 028

Chair: Guo Jia

World of Mahjong: from a Chinese pastime to a global phenomenon

Matthew Huan, Ron van't Veer

Culinary Architectures: Food, Space, and Care in Ramen Teh and Little Forest

Tito Ramos Quiling, Jnr.

Chinese-New Zealand Mothers and Daughters Making Dumplings Together

Yurong Tong

E.12: Health and Ecology – Room 024

Chair: Rey Tiquia

Kae as an Indigenous System of Ecological Conservation and Food Resilience in Boti, West Timor, Indonesia

Kevin Abimanyu Jatmiko

Traditional Chinese Medicine, the Existential Cancer Threat, and a New Way of Being in the World

Rey Tiquia

Empathy and Cultural Adaptation in Translating Postpartum Depression

Boren Zhang

Parallel F

Saturday, 4 July 2026, 14:40 – 16:10

F.01: Cultural Diplomacy and Chinese-Australian Exchange – Room 446

Chair: Emily Wilcox

Performing Arts Troupes from the People's Republic of China Touring Australia, 1979–1983

Jonathan Bollen

The Conversion of Celebrity Capital: Mei Lanfang's Contingent Diplomacy During His American Tour

Wei Feng

Form and Boundaries: Reconstructing the Identity of Chinese and Australian Abstraction

WANG Shuo

F.02: Chinese Theatre – Room 444

Chair: Kim Hunter Gordon

Gesture, Role-Type, and the 20th Century Transformation of Sifan: Abstract:

Qianhui Huang

Dramatizing the Classics: Parody and Rewriting of Confucian Texts in Late Ming Drama

Yingyu Li

Sound in Transit: Art Tune Records and the Afterlife of Chinese Opera

Chengjin Su

Xiqu Reform and Market Stagnation in China (1980–2024)

Zijian Zhou

F.03: Perspectives on Japanese Literary and Performance Culture – Room 105

Chair: Kaori Fushiki

Amateur Night at the Somei Estate – Reading the 'Records of Banquets and Pleasures'

Tove Bjoerk

Itō Noe 100 years After

Shayne Bowden

Beyond Aesthetics: The Epistemological Turn of Mono no Aware in Japanese Kokugaku

Yujiao Shen

F.04: Philology and Epigraphy – Room 100

Chair: Adrian Vickers

The Epigraphy of Buddhist Relic Practice in Gandhāra: The Language of Establishment

Kate Howell

Transnational Afterlives of Sanskrit Epics: The Ramayana Across Southeast Asia

Jiva Lamsal

New Traces of East Asia's Musical Beginnings: Verse Albums and Music Charts in Warring States Chinese Manuscripts

David Lebovitz

A Newly Identified Islamic Text from Sixteenth-Century Java: Fulda Codex Ba 7

Wayan Jarrah Sastrawan, Ali Aldahesh, Adrian Vickers

F.05: Gender, Diaspora, and the Traffic Between Secularism and Transcendence – Room 442

Chair: Mei-fen Kuo

Re-orienting the Knowledge of Capitalism: The Straits Chinese's social and cultural reproduction

Zhengyuan Ling

Women's mobility and the search for authenticity in colonial Java and the Straits Settlements (1910s–1940s)

Guo-Quan Seng

Divorce Notices, Sexual Morality, and Gendered Power in Overseas Chinese Families, Southern Fujian, 1930s–40s

Lijun Zhang

F.06: Mid-Century Conflicts – Room 107

Chair: Yasuko Hassall Kobayashi

Whither the Revolution: the Chinese Communist Party in Java Confronts Madiun

Leo Barry

The Politics of 'Comfort Women' Commemoration and Representation in China and South Korea

Fan Bu

A Brief Analysis of the Oral History of the China-Burma-India Theater

Haokai Zhao

F.07: Memory, Virtue, and Narrative of Personhood in Chinese Cultural Texts – Room 440

Chair: Yushan Zhao

Zhuangzian Virtue in the Political Thought of the Zhuangzi

Yi Gong

Erotics of Remembering: Desire, Memory, and the Female Body in Vicissitudes of Life

Yushan Zhao

Torrents in a Courtyard: Ba Jin's Family, Spring and Autumn (1931–1940)

Yi Zheng

F.08: Chinese Classrooms – Room 102

Chair: David Goodman

Queering the Mainstream: Gender and Sexuality in Chinese College English Classrooms

Chen Liu

Digital Heritage Education in Chinese Context: Practices, Impacts, and Implications

Xiaochun Ma

Pedagogical Constructions of National Identity in Chinese Junior Secondary History Textbooks since the Reform Era

Bruce Xin Tao

F.09: Asia and the Modern – Room 442

Chair: Yu Tao

The Cantonese Funeral Industry in transition: Sago Lane and the Socio-Economic Change in 1970s Singapore

Donald Hong Yin Chan

City that Never Sleeps: the Urban Lighting and Visual Modernity in Shanghai, 1860–1949

Jiayin Wan

The Crisis of Survival Order and Aesthetic Enlightenment in Modern China

Yan Yu

Prostitution in 1920s Chinese fiction

Yiwen Li

F.10: Chinese Theatre and Modernity – Room 022

Chair: Chaomei Chen

Femininity, National Identities and the Imaginary of Modernity in Yuan Changying's and Bai Wei's Plays

Jen-Hao Walter Hsu

Embodying Purpose: Avocational Kunqu and an Asian Liberal Arts

Kim Hunter Gordon

Reimagining Republican History through Youth, Memory, and Cultural Re-Narration in The Nine's Theatre

Ting Zhang

F.12: Palestinian Civil Society and Solidarity Networks Across the Asia Pacific – Room 024

Chair: Lynda Ng

Against the transnational Military-Industrial Complex: Global Solidarity with Palestine

Lina Koleilat

Palestine and Third World Solidarity at UP Diliman

Yi-hung Liu

Grassroots practices of sumud across Palestinian communities and across Asia

Joshua Rickard

Law Building Annex (F10A)

Level 02 (Street Level)



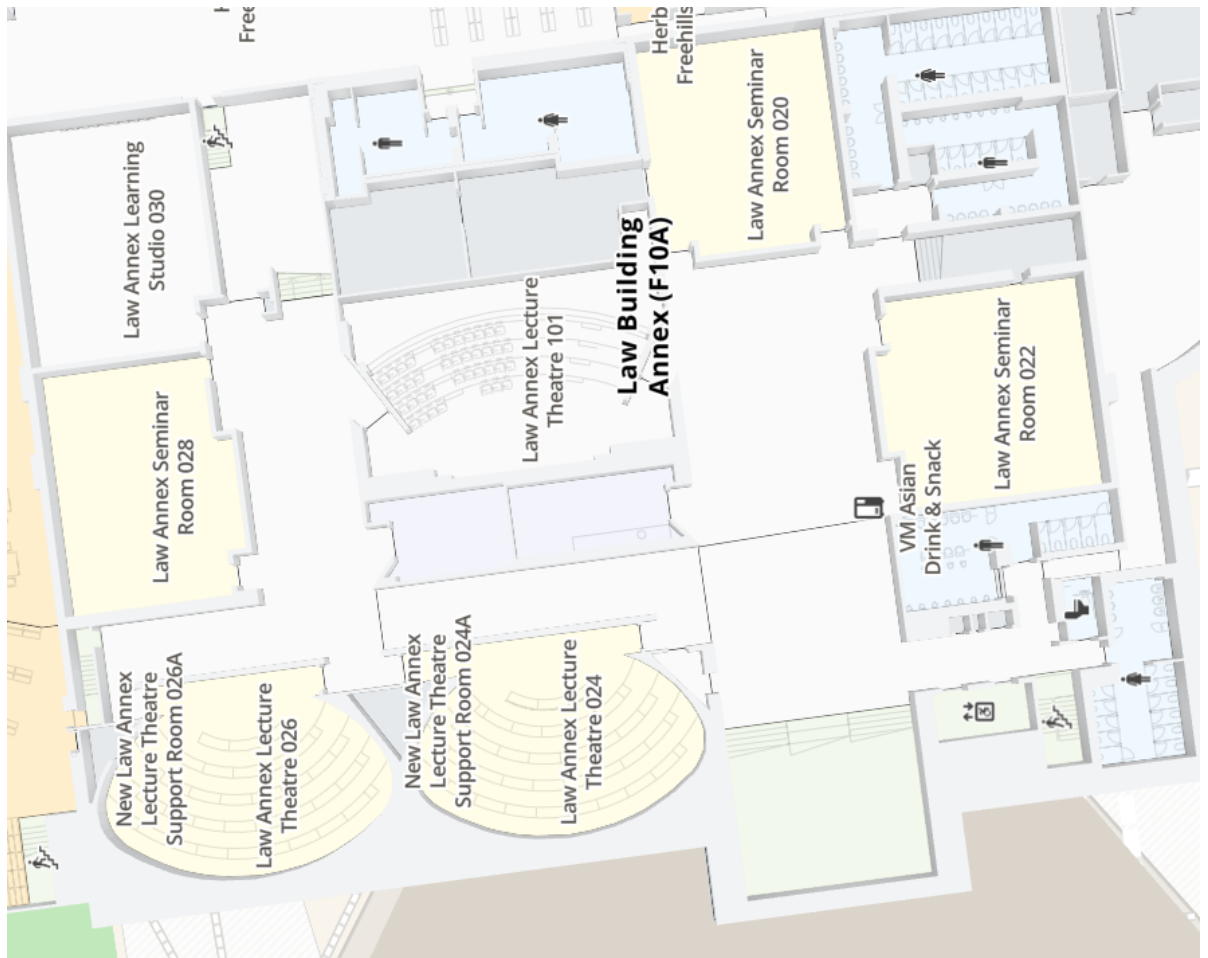
Level 04



Level 01



Ground





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