

Master's degree in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

Graduate faculty

Updated: February 2024

MA in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

Core faculty

- **Stephen Bokenkamp**, Regents Professor, Chinese
- **Huaiyu Chen**, Professor of Chinese, SHPRS
- **Lucas Klein**, Associate professor of Chinese
- **Jianling Liao**, Associate professor of Chinese
- **Xiaoqiao Ling**, Associate professor of Chinese
- **Young Kyun Oh**, Associate professor of Chinese and Sino-Korean
- **Nicholas Morrow Williams**, Associate professor of Chinese
- **Xia Zhang**, Teaching professor of Chinese
- **Joanne Tsao**, Associate teaching professor, Chinese

MA students are also welcome to study with our research faculty not listed above.
A full list of faculty may be found at: <https://silc.asu.edu/about/people>.

MA in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

Core faculty: East and South East Asian



Stephen Bokenkamp

PhD in Classical Chinese
Regents Professor, Chinese
SHPRS Religious studies faculty
Affiliate faculty, Center for the Study of
Religion and Conflict
Affiliated faculty, Center For Asian Research

Stephen R. Bokenkamp specializes in the study of medieval Chinese Daoism, with a special emphasis on its literatures and its relations with Buddhism. He is author of *Early Daoist Scriptures* and *Ancestors and Anxiety* as well as more than 35 articles and book chapters on Daoism and literature. Among his awards are the Guggenheim Award for the Translation of a medieval Daoist text and a National Endowment for the Humanities Translation grants. In addition to his position at Arizona State University, he has taught at Indiana University, Stanford University and short courses for graduate students at Princeton and Fudan Universities. He was also part of the National 985 project at the Institute of Religious Studies, Sichuan University from 2006–2013.

Research interests:

Chinese, religious studies

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Daoist studies and traditional Chinese religion. Bokenkamp's graduate courses include primary readings in the Daoist canon, such as the Zhengao and teachings of the Heavenly Master. He also teaches Tang prosody and other related topics of medieval China.

MA in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

Core faculty: SHPRS religious studies



Huaiyu Chen

PhD in Religious studies
Associate head of undergraduate studies
Affiliate faculty, Center for the Study of
Religion and Conflict
Affiliated faculty, Center For Asian Research

Huaiyu Chen is professor of religious studies at the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, with a joint appointment at the School of International Letters and Cultures. He has also held several visiting positions in North America, Europe and Asia, such as a membership of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton in 2011–2012, a Spalding Visiting Fellowship at Clare Hall of Cambridge University in 2014–2015, a visiting professorship at Beijing Normal University in June–July 2015, a visiting scholarship at Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin in June–July, 2018 and a visiting scholarship at Institute for Religions and Ethics of Tsinghua University in August 2018. He is the author of *Animals and Plants in Chinese Religions and Science* and *In the Land of Tigers and Snakes: Living with Animals in Medieval Chinese Religions*.

Research interests:

Animal studies, Asian studies, Buddhism, Chinese religion

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Chen's teaching focuses on theory and practice of Buddhism and traditional Chinese religion. He also teaches broadly about ritual, symbol and myth.

MA in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

Core faculty: East and South East Asian



Lucas Klein

PhD East Asian languages and literatures

Associate professor of Chinese

Faculty head of East and South East Asian

Lucas Klein is a father, writer and translator. He is associate editor of the Hsu-Tang Library of Classical Chinese Literature; author of *The Organization of Distance*; co-editor of *Chinese Poetry and Translation* and the *Bloomsbury Handbook of Modern Chinese Literature in Translation*; and translator of *Mang Ke* 芒克, *Li Shangyin* 李商隱, *Duo Duo* 多多, *Xi Chuan* 西川 and *Yu Xuanji* 魚玄機 (forthcoming). Read more about his works and research at [ASU](#), [Google Scholar](#) and [ORCID](#).

Research interests:

Chinese, Chinese literature, literary translation, poetics, poetry.

Graduate teaching:

At ASU he teaches classes on modern and premodern Chinese literature; Chinese writing on work and labor and nature and the environment; and translation and meta-sinology.

MA in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

Core faculty: East and South East Asian



Jianling Liao

PhD in second language acquisition

Professor of Chinese

Director of Chinese Flagship Program

Affiliated faculty, Center For Asian Research

Liao, Jianling's research includes areas of interlanguage development, assessment, CALL and curriculum design. She has written on the topics of L2 writing development; linguistic and discourse resources in L2 speech and writing performance; assessment and assessment literacy; and social, individual and instructional variables that affect L2 learning. She has published books and articles with journals such as Journal of Second Language Writing, System, Foreign Language Annals, Canadian Modern Language Review, Chinese as a Second Language, Chinese as a Second Language Research, Chinese Language and Discourse, Chinese Teaching in the World, etc., and publishers such as Foreign Language Teaching & Research Press, Higher Education Press, and Routledge. Jianling has developed substantial experience in the development and management of domestic and overseas language programs, served as an evaluator for various language programs in the United States and provided teacher training to diverse pre-service and in-service teacher groups. She has taught in L2 teaching methodologies, assessment, curriculum design and Chinese language at all levels.

Research interests:

Chinese, applied linguistics, second language acquisition.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Second language writing and speaking, second and foreign language assessment, computer-assisted language learning (CALL), teacher training and language curriculum design.

MA in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

Core faculty: East and South East Asian



Xiaoqiao Ling

PhD in East Asian languages and civilizations
Associate professor of Chinese
Associate director of graduate studies
Affiliated faculty, Center For Asian Research

Xiaoqiao Ling's main field of interest is late imperial Chinese literature with a focus on performance texts, vernacular fiction and the print culture. She has published in both Chinese and English on fiction and drama commentary, legal imagination in literature, memory and trauma in 17th century China. Her first book, *Feeling the Past in Seventeenth-Century China*, explores traumatic memories and their transmission across generations during the Manchu conquest of China. She is currently working on a second book-length project on the romantic play *The Story of the Western Wing*. She is also editor of *Minor Discourses: Aesthetics of the Everyday in Traditional China*.

Research interests:

Late 19th and 20th century French literature and intellectual culture, gender studies and art history.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Late 19th and 20th century French literature and intellectual culture, gender studies and art history.

MA in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

Core faculty: East and South East Asian



Young Oh

PhD in Chinese linguistics (historical phonology)

Associate professor of Chinese and Sino-Korean

Affiliated faculty of Center For Asian Research

Young Kyun Oh graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a doctorate in Chinese linguistics after his master's degree in philosophy at Sogang University, Seoul, Korea. He works on the cultural connection among East Asian societies, focusing on the language and the book. His ultimate interest lies in how cultures interact to influence each other; how language, books and other kind of media function as vehicles of cultural transmission and exchange; and how different geographical regions come to be seen as forming a continuous cultural space. He published a book, *Engraving Virtue: The Print History of a Premodern Moral Primer*, which explores the print history of the "Samgang Haengsil-to", one of the most frequently printed, reprinted, reedited and distributed texts in Chosŏn Korean (1398–1910). In this, he examined how the canonical Sinitic-Confucian ethics of filial piety, loyalty and uxorial devotion planted their roots in the Korean society through books and literacy. His next projects include the cultural history of books in Korea, and the development and spread of encyclopedic knowledge in East Asia from the 14th to 19th century.

Research interests:

Chinese, Korean, book history, language and culture, linguistics (language change and historical comparative linguistics).

Areas of graduate mentoring:

History of Chinese language and historical phonology, book history, encyclopedia.

MA in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

Core faculty: East and South East Asian



**Nicholas Morrow
Williams**

PhD in Chinese literature

Associate professor of Chinese

Nicholas Morrow Williams is an associate professor of Chinese literature. He studies and translates classical Chinese poetry, and also works in related areas such as medieval Buddhism, Sino-Japanese literature and translation studies. His publications include a monograph on Chinese Poetry as Soul Summoning and a translation of the Elegies of Chu for the Oxford World's Classics series. He is the editor of the journal Tang Studies. Read more about his works on [Google Scholar](#) and [ORCID](#).

Research interests:

Modern and contemporary Italian literature; environmental humanities; urban soundscapes; the city in literature; digital humanities; Italian surrealist novels, graphic novels and short stories; literature and mental illness.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Chinese, Chinese literature, Chinese religion, comparative literature translation.

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Xia Zhang

PhD in linguistics

Teaching professor, MY, Chinese

Xia Zhang, teaching professor in Chinese, received her doctorate in linguistics from the University of Alberta, Canada and her bachelor's from Sichuan University, China. She started her career in Chinese language instruction in 1995. Since she joined ASU in 2002, she has offered various undergraduate Chinese language courses as well as graduate courses in Chinese linguistics and teaching Chinese as a second language. In addition to teaching, Zhang has been working as a coordinator and TA supervisor for lower division Chinese language classes. For 10 years, she has worked as the principal investigator and program director of the ASU STARTALK Chinese Language Summer Camp: From STARTALK to Flagship.

Research interests:

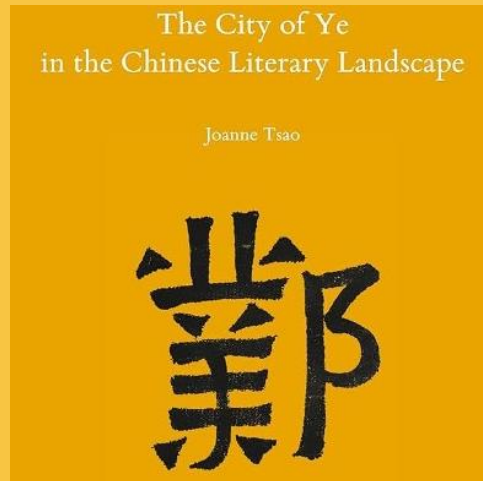
Chinese, applied linguistics, second language acquisition.

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Applied linguistics and pedagogy in teaching Chinese as second language.

MA in Asian languages and civilizations (Chinese)

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Joanne Tsao

PhD in Chinese literature

Associate teaching professor,
Chinese

Affiliate faculty, the Asia Center

Joanne Tsao's primary research focus is on early medieval and medieval Chinese literature and culture. Her book, *The City of Ye in the Chinese Literary Landscape*, examines the changing literary representation and interpretation of the physical and imaginary spaces of Ye, a short-lived city first planned by Cao Cao (155–220). Her research has also been published in the *Journal of Early Medieval China* and the *Journal of Society for Chinese Studies Librarians*.

Research interests:

Chinese literature and culture, literacy and writing

Areas of graduate mentoring:

Academic writing and research methodology