SKILLS

[Note: This category consists of seven sections, each including a brief and a few links. Please publish each section as a separate webpage which leads to separate PDF files linked with book titles or article titles. ]

As Historian

As Bibliographer

As Curator

As Consultant

As Translator

As Instructor

As Poet

**As Historian**

As a cultural and social historian, my central question is how Confucian literati produced their knowledge of society and culture in 1200 – 1800 China. History of the book is my first field and the first perspective I took to answer this question. It allured me to other academic fields – analytical bibliography, textual scholarship, history of reading, intellectual history, and history of knowledge.

My academic interest in book production and collection began during the decade (1992 – 2002) I worked as a book editor for People’s Publishing House in Beijing, where I managed publishing projects in Chinese history, archaeology, and the art. When I went abroad to pursue a doctorate at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver, Canada), I wanted to study how the texts around which Chinese intellectual traditions were formed came into being. This led me to book history and my first major publication in *T’oung pao*, the leading European academic journal in Chinese history, on the publication of the Jiaxing Buddhist *Tripitaka* (*Jiaxing zang* 嘉興藏) in the 16th – 18th centuries. Several years later I completed a case study of the household publishing (*jiake* 家刻) in the gentry society in Ming Hangzhou.

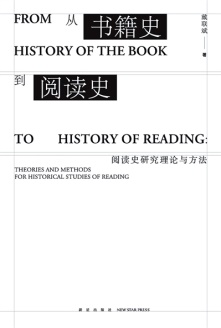
I continued this line of research when I transferred to the University of Oxford, but shifted from book history, which I found too constrained by the particular history of the European book, to a history of reading. My dissertation is thus far the only work to examine this topic as a problem for traditional Chinese knowledge acquisition and innovation.

In the meantime, I wrote and published the first book in Chinese on the theoretical assumptions and methods in historical studies of European reading practices.

In 2016 I began to focus my work on Neo-Confucian knowledge culture in late imperial China, in particular the knowledge-power relationship. Those preliminary studies are being integrated into my book-length manuscript in progress.

**Related publications**

[Note: These following titles are available in PDF in the folder “04-Publications.”]

[](閲讀史-cover.jpg)2017. *Cong shuji shi dao yuedu shi: yuedu shi yanjiu lilun yu fangfa* 从书籍史到阅读史：阅读史研究理论与方法 [From history of the book to history of reading: theories and methods for historical studies of reading]. Beijing: Xinxing chubanshe.

2016. “From Philology to Philosophy: Zhu Xi (1130 – 1200) as a Reader-Annotator.” In *Canonical Texts and Scholarly Practices: A Global Comparative Approach*, 136-63, eds. Anthony Grafton and Glenn W. Most. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

2016. Review of *Writing, Publishing, and Reading Local Gazetteers in Imperial China, 1100-1700* by Joseph Dennis (Cambridge, MA: The Harvard University Asia Center, distributed by Harvard University Press, 2015). *Ming Studies* (Fall) 74:72-86.

2015. “Household Publications in the Society of Ming Hangzhou.” In *Imprimer sans profit? Le livre non commercial dans la chine impériale*, 339-414, eds. Michela Bussotti and Jean Pierre Drège. Genève: Librairie Droz.

2014. Review of *The History of the Book in East Asia*, edited by Cynthia Brokaw and Peter Kornicki (The History of the Book in the East Series. Farnham, England: Ashgate, 2013). *Library & Information History* 30.4 (November): 297-99.

2014. Review of *Home and the World: Editing the “Glorious Ming” in Woodblock-Printed Books of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries* by Yuming He (Cambridge, MA: The Harvard University Asia Center, distributed by Harvard University Press, 2013). *The* *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 77.2 (June): 415-17.

2008. “The Economics of the Jiaxing Edition of the Buddhist *Tripitaka*.” *T’oung Pao* 94.4-5:306-59.

Video

“The Book: Print and Manuscript in Asia”

A conversation with Professor Ann Blair (Harvard, History) on Chinese books and printing, taped in Harvard-Yenching Library, Harvard University on June 23, 2014, and launched at EdX (HarvardX, HUM1.3x) on September 21, 2015,

[Please pasted this video from URL: https://www.edx.org/course/book-print-manuscript-western-europe-harvardx-hum1-3x]

**As Bibliographer**

I spent two years (2012 – 2014), as a consultant, appraiser, and bibliographer for the University of British Columbia, first in the Asian Library and then in Rare Books & Special Collections (RBSC). One outcome of that bibliographic work was the publication in 2013 of a descriptive annotated bibliography on traditional Chinese medicine based on the collection of rare medical books in the UBC Asian Library.

Analytical bibliography is one of my skills as a historian of the Chinese book.

[Please insert the link

To “Asian Library”, <https://asian.library.ubc.ca/>

To “Rare Books & Special Collections”, https://rbsc.library.ubc.ca/]

Related publications:

2014. “China’s Bibliographic Tradition and the History of the Book.” *Book History* 17:1-50. [Note: This article is available in the folder “04-Publications.”]

[](中醫古籍目錄-cover.jpg) 2013. *Buliedian Gelunbiya Daxue Yazhou Tushuguan cang zhongyi guji xuanmu chubian* 不列顛哥倫比亞大學亞洲圖書館藏中醫古籍選目初編 [A Draft of the Annotated Bibliography of Traditional Chinese Medical Literature Collected in the Asian Library of the University of British Columbia]. Vancouver: Asian Library of UBC.

[Please insert to this book title the link: http://guides.library.ubc.ca/rarechinese/leung]

**As Curator**

I had the opportunity to work for a year and a half (2015 – 2016) as a postdoctoral curator of the Mactaggart Art Collection at the University of Alberta Museums. I investigated, described, and catalogued about twenty Ming and Qing paintings and calligraphic works from the Mactaggart Collection.

In addition to this scholarly bibliographic work, I co-organized a public lecture series and an international symposium to highlight works in the Collection for the public and as well to bring them to the attention of historians and art-history researchers. Working with Professor Timothy Brook, I am editing a volume based on the lecture series and symposium, tentatively entitled [*Visualizing China’s Imperial Power*](Visualizing%20China's%20Imperial%20Order.docx). [Note: This title links to the description in “03-Projects”]

[Please insert the following links:

To “Mactaggart Art Collection”, http://mactaggart.museums.ualberta.ca/mac/index.aspx

To “University of Alberta Museums”, https://www.ualberta.ca/museums/]

Selected works:

[Note: These following samples are available in the folder “AsCurator.”]

Zhang Mengfu 趙孟頫 (1254 – 1322. Attributed). *Twenty-Four Poems on the Pictures of Tilling and Weaving* (*Geng zhi tu shi* 耕織圖詩)

Shen Zhou 沈周 (1427 – 1509). *Farewell Party* [for Wang Ao (1450-1524)] (*Jianbie tu* 餞別圖. Dated 1492)

Wen Zhengming 文徵明 (1470 – 1559). *River Landscape* by Wen Zhengming (*Wen Zhengming shanshui*文徵明山水. Dated 1499)

Wang Jian 王鑑 (1509 – 1677). *Painting of Reading among Nine Peaks in the Style of Wang Meng* (*Fang [Wang] Shuming Jiu Feng dushu tu* 仿叔明九峰讀書圖. 1666)

Ma Shouzhen 馬守貞 (1548 – 1604. Attributed). *Orchids and Bamboo by Ma Xianglan* (*Ma Xianglan lan zhu* 馬湘蘭蘭竹. Dated 1576 [Section 1] & 1566 [Section 2])

Dong Qichang 董其昌 (1555 – 1636. Attributed). [*Four Tang Poems on Morning Court Audience*] ([*Tang zaochao shi si shou* 唐早朝詩四首])

Huang Zeng 黃增 (ca. 1706 – ca. 1772). *The Ding-Xin Rustic House* (*Ding xin laowu tu* 丁辛老屋圖. Date 1755)

Qian Weicheng 錢維城 (1720 – 1772). *Complete View of the Lion Grove Garden* (*Shilin quanjing tu* 獅林全景圖. 1757)

**As Consultant**

When I was a consultant for the UBC Library, I catalogued and appraised a donation of Chinese materials from the Pang Jingtang Collection to UBC. I also worked through part of the collection in the Asian Library to uncover, authenticate, and catalogue “hidden” items, including rare books, manuscripts, maps, rubbings, paintings, and calligraphic works that had been left unnoticed in the open stacks.

[Please insert the link to the “Pang Jingtang Collection”: <http://guides.library.ubc.ca/rarechinese/pang>]

Selected works:

[Note: These samples are available in the folder “AsConsultant.”]

*Jiuzhou fenye yutu gujin renwu shiji* 九州分野輿圖古今人物事跡 (Cosmological Map of the Nine Regions [of China], Noting Celebrities and Cultural Remains Past and Present)

*Wu shi xiaocao* 蕪史小艸 (A Short Draft of the Miscellaneous History)

[*Shi Chen xiang Kongmiao bei taben* 史晨饗孔廟碑拓本]([The Stele for the Sacrifice to the Confucius Temple by Shi Chen, Rubbing])

[*Song shike Jingang jing taben* 宋石刻金剛經拓本]([Rubbing of the Song Inscription of the Diamond Sutra])

*Tang Daya ji Youjun shu Wu Jiangjun bei* 唐大雅集右軍書吳將軍碑 (The Stele for General Wu with Calligraphy by Daya of the Tang in Wang Xizhi’s Style, Rubbing)

[*Xu Zhangshi jiuguan tanbei taben canye* 許長史舊館壇碑拓本殘葉]([A Rubbing of the Stele for Administrator Xu’s Site Altar, Fragments])

*Liu Wenzheng gong shouzha xingshu ershi ye* 劉文正公手札行書二十頁 (Personal Letters from Liu Tongxun in running style, twenty sheets)

*Zhao Qiugu xiansheng moji* 趙秌谷先生墨跡 (Zhao Zhishen’s Original Hand Scripts [of Two Letters])

**As Translator**

My earlier training in China gave me fluency in literary Chinese and a strong knowledge of traditional and modern bibliographic practices and tools, as well as the then-emerging tools available for digital scholarship. Those linguistic skills and bibliographic tools enable me to efficiently and effectively translate documents from literary / modern Chinese into English, from English into modern Chinese (and literary Chinese, if necessary).

Selected translations:

**From Classical Chinese to English**

Submitted. “Storage of Books and Registers” (*tuji zhi chu* 圖籍之儲), from Qiu Jun, *The Supplement to the Explication of the Great Learning* (*Daxue yanyi bu*), *juan* 94, in *Ming Statecraft: Chinese Agendas of Political Economy*, 2 vols., eds. Timothy Brook, Kent Guy, and Lianbin Dai. Leiden: Brill.

**From English to Chinese**, including those I approved and co-translated

2008. Brook, Timothy, and Andre Schmid, eds. *Nation Work: Asian Elites and National Identities*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: University of Michigan Press, 2000. Chinese translation, Changchun: Jilin chuban jituan.

2007. Brook, Timothy, ed. *Documents on the Rape of Nanking*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: University of Michigan Press, 1999. Chinese translation, Taibei: Taiwan shangwu yinshuguan.

2005. King, Perter J. *One Hundred Philosophers: A Guide to the World’s Greatest Thinkers*. Hove: Apple, 2004. Chinese translation, Hong Kong: Joint Publishing; Beijing: Sanlian shudian, 2007.

2005. Swatek, Catherine (Shi Kaiti). “Tiao deng xian kan Feng Xiaoqing.” In *Tang Xianzu yu Mudanting* [Tang Xianzu and the Peony Pavilion], pp. 537-589, ed. Hua Wei. Taibei: Zhongyang yanjiuyuan Zhongguo wenzhe yanjiusuo.

2003. Turnbull, Neil. *Get A Grip on Philosophy*. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1999. Chinese translation, Hong Kong, Joint Publishing, 2002; Beijing: Sanlian shudian.

2001. McMahon, Keith. *Misers, Shrews, and Polygamists: Sexuality and Male-Female Relations in Eighteenth-Century Chinese Fiction*. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1995. Chinese translation, Beijing: Renmin wenxue chubanshe.

**As Instructor**

I taught both lower- and upper-level courses on Chinese history, culture, language, and literature at University of Alberta (2016), Harvard University (2013 – 2014), Simon Fraser University (2011), University of Oxford (2008 – 2009), and the University of British Columbia (2002 - 2006, as a teaching assistant). I am also prepared to teach more courses in East Asian civilization, Chinese history and culture, and literary Chinese.

Teaching experience

Prepared to teach

**Teaching experience**

*University of Alberta*, Edmonton, Canada

**Sessional Instructor**, Department of History & Classics, 09/01 – 12/31, 2016

* Taught *Imperial China, ca. 600* – *1911* (HIST 390), Fall 2016 – 2017, a survey course for undergraduates. 55 students enrolled from different ethnic and academic backgrounds.
* Taught *Knowledge and Power in Late Imperial China (1200* – *1800)* (HIST 481), Fall 2016 – 2017, a seminar for senior undergraduates focusing on the interactions between knowledge and power in these six centuries. 12 students enrolled from different ethnic and academic backgrounds.

*Harvard University*, Cambridge, MA

**College Fellow**, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, 2013 – 2014

* Directed reading in late imperial Chinese history, Spring 2013 – 2014, for Mr. Philip A. Gant (Ph.D student) and Ms. Norzin Dickyi (MA student)
* Reader of undergraduate theses, Spring 2013 – 2014
* Taught *Late Imperial Chinese Elite Reading Practices and Knowledge Acquisition (the 16th* – *18th Centuries)* (CHNSHIS 210), Spring 2013 – 2014, a graduate seminar focusing on reading and contextualizing primary materials in Classical Chinese.
* Taught *Culture and Society in Late Imperial China* (750 – 1800) (CHNSHIS 116), Spring 2013 – 2014, a survey course designed for undergraduates. The central question was what forces shaped continuity and discontinuity, both cultural and social, from the mid-eighth to eighteenth centuries in China.
* Taught *Topics in Book History of Late Imperial China* (CHNSHIS 115), Fall 2013 – 2014, a seminar designed for senior undergraduates and graduates. The central question was how to develop book history of late imperial China as a modern discipline. Theoretical assumptions, approaches, and materials for exploring those topics were highlighted.

*Simon Fraser University*, Burnaby and Surrey, BC, Canada

**Sessional Instructor**, Department of History, 2011

* Taught *China to 1800* (HIST 254), Fall 2011 – 2012, a survey course designed to help the undergraduates of history and other interested students to have a general understanding of Chinese history prior to 1800, totalling 200 students in two classes.

*University of Oxford*, Oxford, U.K., 10/2008 – 04/2009

**Departmental Instructor**, Faculty of Oriental Studies

* Taught *Unseen Translation of Classical Chinese Texts*, 10/2008 – 04/2009, a course designed to help the senior undergraduates of Chinese and graduates of Chinese history to expand their vocabulary and to familiarize themselves to various genres, with 36 students in class.
* Taught *Reading* the Memoir of the Massacre of Ten Days in Yangzhou [*Yangzhou shiri ji*], 10/2008 – 12/2008, a core course for the senior undergraduates of Chinese and graduates of Chinese history helping them to relate the text with the historical context.

**Tutor**, Institute for Chinese Studies and St. Catherine’s College, 05/2008 – 06/2008

* Taught *Society and Rebellion in Late Imperial China*, a tutorial for Miss Dorota Poplawsk, a visiting student from Yale University interested in rebellions in Ming and Qing China.

*The University of British Columbia*, Vancouver, Canada, 2002 – 2006

**Teaching Assistant**, Department of Asian Studies, with responsibilities entailing individual tutorials, occasional lectures, and grading exams, in the following courses:

* *Chinese Literature in Translation*, Professor Catherine Swatek, 2005 – 2006
* *Classical Chinese Language*, Dr. Mou Huaichuan, 2004 – 2005
* *Modern Chinese Language*, Mr. Zheng Zhining, 2003 – 2004
* *History of Early China*, Professor Leo K. Shin, 2002 – 2003

**Prepared to teach**

**Survey Courses in History**

Chinese civilization

East Asian civilizations

Pre-1800 Chinese history

History of late imperial China (1368 – 1911)

Modern China (1800 – present)

**Seminars in Chinese History / Culture**

Chinese historiography

Confucian canons

Neo-Confucianism in history

Social history of late imperial China (1368 – 1911))

Cultural history of late imperial China (1368 – 1911)

History of the book of traditional China

Print culture of late imperial China

History of reading of late imperial China

Knowledge system of imperial China (1200 – 1800)

Materials and methods for classical Chinese studies

Chinese bibliography

Textual scholarship of traditional China

**Language Courses**

Classical Chinese language

Classical Chinese reading

As Poet

Only when spared and secluded, I play a role of amateur-poet, enjoying self-expression for fun to the neglect of any meter and format. A few are dedicated to friends, and most were composed for myself and my family.

**燭影搖紅 / 錦瑟** (2018)

飛雪離鸞，驛亭酒冷相思浣。尊前誰與唱陽關，空按瀟湘管。浦裏舟橫月滿，夢驚迴，書抛意懶。萬山遮斷，斷處徘徊，何時可斷。

錦瑟紅燭，夜闌曲罷春宵短。髻釵初上畫眉山，聽雨芙蓉館。牕下波嬌步緩，覷菱花，雙情漸款。郁金香暖，錦帳無人，風流雲散。

**再題塞氏航海圖步前韻** (2017)

君歷劫波吾去狂，

般若心性同浣腸。

歸帆已自齊生死，

爲雲爲雨別高唐。其一

聚如飛蓬散如萍，

忍心話舊語零星。

偏覺漏長聽窗雨，

獨對空箋待天明。其二

**引蒙辭** (2016)

吾家有小女，閨名喚引蒙。丙申方四歲，菱花偷腮紅。竹馬騁廚竈，指星問蒼穹。偶聞初誕事，驚歡又騰瞢。卯臘微霜雪，酉日喜晴風。鹽泉暫家寄，藉名志本衷，君子以果行，唐聲先曲中。雙親忘家園，汝生即轉蓬。一歲兩遷徙，四年三送鴻。阿爺尋生計，就館如征戎。阿娘充下婢，長兄漸逾弓。夤夜忽歸來，經旬猶惕忡。近午扮茶會，臨睡求書諷。詠鵝三兩句，番語五六通。閑時漫塗壁，媽咪得毛蟲。爹地愧伴舞，藍燮承贈虹。芭比新墮髻，安娜戀冰宮。對影踱裙裾，忍心饜甘豐。苦雨望晴日，走陂又登崇。靜時多淺笑，嗔起競長雄。奔竟呼腿乏，騎肩自比嵩。返家天已暮，少憩興復隆。可嘆吾力竭，幽憂待日終。老牛行苦遲，不敢止途窮。

**借題牛津飽蠹樓藏塞氏航海圖** (2016)

曲罷歌闌遠帆輕，

天涯不忍求友聲。

此去迢遞巫山路，

不關雲雨總關情。其一

芙蓉帳暖郁金香，

宿酒殘脂空斷腸。

莫道山海重萬里，

漫天風雪爲誰狂？其二

**讀板橋雜記** (2015)

聚如浮萍散如蓬，

白首不堪對殘紅。

畫船剝落夜笛遠，

采石烟雨說艟艨。其一

陌上纖塵亂離中，

猶憶嬌眼回燭紅。

蕭郎薄倖香冢遠，

淚酒驀然惱秋風。其二

**讀大都會藏徐文長墨荷圖** (2015)

癲狂青藤走神筆，

此物最能惹相思。

花開葉殘心尚在，

涼風吹雨淚絲絲。

**題鬱金香** (2015)

綠蘿半掩誰家院，紅袖白韈踏春煙。

斜徑花蔭聲醉軟，短鉏玉珮步輕纖。

黃蕊紫露何相似，蒼苔青甎故依然。

舊門不識芙蓉面，好處相逢無一言。

**賀新郎 / 別竟君安否** (2015)

別竟君安否。錦衾寒、風霜凜冽，月闌聼漏。念海艢風波隱沒，夢醒魂驚綺透。樹影瘦、無應獨叩。豈怨關山重萬里，意何寧、枉羡歌擊缶。人已杳，歡難又。

纙紗半掩香襲袖。步白堤、天青水碧，亂雲陁逗。小院春花嬌夜雨，淺唱低吟酒後。日已莫、猶執君手。平曉長亭說遠道，曲堪終、快馬抛煙柳。寒暑易，枉白首。

**乙未元日** (2015)

高堂重元日，置酒望遊子。大兒阻關山，二兒方歸里。么女頻相問，先奉小大衣。月前撒網罾，稱量圈中豕。漏夜熬芽糖，烈火蒸糯米。階前綠蔥蒿，簷下香風雞。撣塵廳南北，肅徑院東西。白首懸桃符，青衿整窻几。相約四更起，明香引霹靂。左鄰長喧笑，五老正宴集。吾家列杯柈，團欒猶空席。爺娘列上行，忍別逾一紀。書劍獨蕭瑟，彷徨在辛巳。歲暮忽遠遊，叩請傷未及。浮海至雲城，寒門居不易。數米綴五彩，無力探嚴慈。三遷破篋簏，五鼓備粥糜。書蠹嗜故紙，庸才吟殘詩。何曾見當饁？把卷星已稀。新規折舊尺，老牛困路歧。僥幸開青眼，馬帳得親炙。黽學入門階，徘徊近奧室。一試稍顛躓，瀛洲身暫寄。再試已辛卯，夏日方投筆。困厄且輾轉，幼子堪慰籍。但得吾正誠，慎獨難求齊。師友幸扶持，免號寒與飢。河畔風晚立，海濱鳥雙啼。癸巳忘生死，甲午傷合離。青階破蒼苔，倦寫斷腸詞。幽風動湘簾，對影問相知。兒女歡明月，不解長相思。相聚甫六月，復出為生齒。雙手牽襞積，稚聲問歸期。雪天墨未凍，念想無已時。人情有冷暖，世事任高低。堪憐椿萱老，苦作又憂戚。天井伐月桂，符籙劃祝辭。兒孫盡胡語，寫真亦解頤。音訊疏迢遞，訴情如棼絲。身家與故舊，漂泊何所依。欲問人已杳，此地春來遲。